

Racial Justice 101

Facilitators



Zakiyah Ansari (she/her) is the Advocacy Director of the New York State Alliance for Quality Education (AQE), the leading statewide organization that has been fighting for educational justice in New York State. Zakiyah is the mother of 8 children and grandparent of 4. Zakiyah has dedicated 20 years of her life to the fight for educational justice and ending the oppression of Black and brown people. Zakiyah volunteers her time with Justice League NYC and as the Rapid Response Coordinator for the Resistance Revival Chorus.



Maria Bautista (she/her/ella) is the Alliance for Quality Education's Campaigns Director. She has been at AQE for 7 years and previously worked as a community organizer for a City Councilperson for 3 years. She co-directs our statewide campaigns, leads our NYC organizing work and directs our Education Warriors leadership development program. She has a Masters in Social Work with a community organizing focus and has taught a college level course in community organizing for social work students. She has expertise in community organizing, leadership development, strategy, campaign direction and coalition building. She has strong policy knowledge in a number of key areas.



Rasheedah Harris (she/her) is an active Parent Leader, heavily involved in the PTA, SLT, CEC4, D4 Presidents' Council & CPAC. She has been a PTA Executive board member for 4 years at her daughter's school. She is a parent participant of NYC DOE + NYU Metro Center's Critically Conscious Educators Rising program to help dismantle racism in schools. She also works with Parent Led organizations such as (RAPP) Race and Privilege Parent Alliance, CEJ (Coalition for Educational Justice), AQE (Alliance for Quality Education) and PAC (New Settlement Parent Action Committee). Rasheedah is an advocate for equity in education and a community builder.



Asamia (she/her) is a first generation Gambian-American who is very proud of her dual identity as a Gambian and as someone who was born and raised in The Bronx. She majored in African and African American Studies and Political Science while at Lehman College. She is currently working full-time with the Alliance for Quality Education as the NYC organizer to fight for educational and racial justice. Her political home is @BYP100. She is the co-chair of the NYC chapter and this year she will be working with her fellow Black organizers on issues that impact Black people in NYC. She spent the summer of 2019 in Georgia working on a labor justice campaign with Atlanta Jobs with Justice.

American Sign Language (ASL) Facilitators

Camryn King (she/her/hers) is a recent interpreting graduate from Lamar University. She has a diverse internship background and is currently honing her skill. She is a strong advocate for the Deaf community and parallels her passion with working for and providing access to the Deaf community.

Gloshanda Lawyer (she/her/ella) is a trilingual ASL, Spanish, English interpreter. She believes language justice is a necessary part of social justice and provides interpretation with the goals of centering the needs of those often marginalized/excluded in our society and providing more representation that reflects members of our communities.

Nora Rodriguez (she/her/hers) is a hearing, Afro-latina American Sign Language interpreter born in New York and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is fortunate to find a sense of home on both the East and West Coasts. Thanks to the support of Deaf and interpreting communities in Boston, DC, and the Bay she has had the opportunity to grow as an interpreter and individual within these amazing communities. She believes language justice and language access are imperative to all social justice movements