Committee on Racial Equity

Member appointment – member biographies

Daniela Ortiz

Affiliation: Adelante Mujeres Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Washington County

About: I grew up in a low-income community, first generation immigrant along with my parents. I had the wonderful opportunity of volunteering in different parts of our barrio, thanks to my mother who was always an active leader in the community. My brothers and I would volunteer at schools, churches, cultural centers, and even attend marches alongside my parents. I have seen what collaborative action from the people can do, and I'm excited to see what we will accomplish working together.

Mahmood Jawad

Affiliation: Muslim Educational Trust and Momentum Alliance Pronouns: he/him/his

County of residence: Washington County

About: As a refugee from Iraq and junior at Oregon Islamic Academy, my ambitions and skills motivate me to empower and transform the marginalized and underrepresented community I come from. Beginning my journey at the Muslim Educational Trust, I was fortunate enough to be surrounded by community and avid leadership amid the 2016 Presidential Election where our social and political order was tested. Furthering my deep dive into social reform and enforcement of public accountability I decided to join the Urban League of Portland where I achieved political and community change that advances equity, social and economic justice and civil rights for minority communities in Oregon.

Maria Magallon

Affiliation: Clackamas County

Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Clackamas County

About: I come from a migrant farmworker family; my parents are from small countryside villages in Mexico. I was born in Texas; my parents moved with the seasonal crops so I consider Mt. Angel Oregon my home town. I have been employed with Clackamas County for almost 25 years; for twenty years I worked in public health and social services providing direct case management to farmworker families and families who were houseless. For the past five years my focus has been on evaluating services, policies and procedures to assure they are equitable and there is meaningful community involvement for underrepresented populations.

Nura Elmagbari

Affiliation: Portland Refugee Support Group

Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Washington County

About: I am a Muslim woman who arrived into this country as a refugee. I have been in this country since I was a child but not much has changed in terms of how people perceive me and what I can accomplish. I want to change the perception about Muslim women as well as do my part to improve my community, all while encouraging other Muslim women to become more involved. I have years of

experience in community and system building, non-profit work, youth development, and working with minority groups. The experience and knowledge I would bring is how to communicate with different communities by developing relationships and taking the time to humbly learn about people, their needs, their struggles, and their desires to live in an inclusive community.

Quincy Brown

Pronouns: he/him/his

County of residence: Multnomah County

About: I grew up in Northeast always learning about structural and historical inequalities deeply nested within Portland's History. From an early age I wanted to challenge perspectives around school access, housing security, and environmental justice. My academic research focuses on the effects of gentrification and displacement on communities of color. I am the Co-Founder and COO of Seiji's Bridge, an educational technology company that develops devices and curriculum for children in special education, and work as a planner at Alta Planning + Design.

Saara Hirsi

Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Multnomah County

About: I am a disabled immigrant/refugee community and person of color. I am a community organizer, mentor, and working as advocacy consulting for disabled refugee community. I was addressing racial equity barrier impact disabled refugee community during the course of my education, trainings, and volunteers. I had ability to create program and did awareness events support for disabled refugee community. I served on the Oregon Commission for the Blind and Portland Commission on Disability.

Tristan Penn

Affiliation: Nonprofit Technology Enterprise Network

Pronouns: he/him/his

County of residence: Washington County

About: My lived experience as a Diné (Navajo) Man, as well as a Black Man growing up in Central Kansas profoundly shaped my deep and unshakable relationship with racial equity. Indeed, my family, felt the impact of structural, systemic, and institutionalized racism throughout our lives. I began my professional DEI work with Pacific Educational Group's three-year cohort/professional development initiative "Beyond Diversity: Courageous Conversations I & II" while working for Boys & Girls Club and Lawrence Public Schools. Additionally, the work that I have most recently worked on in my current role at NTEN has been the implementation of Racial Affinity Spaces at the annual national conference my organization puts on, The Nonprofit Technology Conference; as well as the formation of a DEI committee on our organization's board.