

Samantha Phillips

Samantha comes with a background in Cultural and Visual Anthropology from Temple University and diverse work experience in the nonprofit sector. Joining Color Of Change in 2015, Samantha now serves as the Director of Talent & Recruitment where she develops strategy and leads the effort of recruiting, developing, and retaining a talented and powerful team that wins real-world change for Black people.

Keeping equity at the forefront while using best practice, Samantha is a strategic leader that operates equally in the present and future to drive, organize, and manage the implementation of Color Of Change's talent and leadership development systems.



"Know why you want to be in that specific mission driven organization. Know what brings you and keeps you in the specific work that the organization is geared towards."

Theresa Thanjan '97, MSW

Theresa Thanjan is the Senior Manager of Member Engagement NYC at the New York Immigration Coalition. In this role, she manages over 130 NYC member organizations and plugs them into the NYC's top city, state and federal campaigns. Theresa has over nearly two decades of experience working with immigrant communities in NYC.

Theresa started her career working with Catholic Charities as a community organizer in Queens conducting needs assessments and creating culturally sensitive programming.

"Always ask for and be open to feedback. It's the best way to grow."

She then directed programs for immigrant youth in the areas of leadership development and community service at South Asian Youth Action, Citizens Committee for New York City, and Interfaith Neighbors respectively. Soon after, she directed award-winning documentaries highlighting immigrant stories and profiling their ongoing fight for justice and civil rights. She served as the National Co-Chair of South Asians for Obama during the 2012 election and lead a task force fighting for comprehensive immigration reform post-election. Most recently, Theresa worked at the Interpublic Group of Companies providing corporate training and creating diversity programming for their employees. Theresa received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Rochester and her Masters in Social Work from Columbia University. She lives with her husband and daughter in Staten Island.

Hannah Green '18, MSW

Hannah is a program associate on Vera's Ending Girls' Incarceration team, within the Center on Youth Justice. The Ending Girls' Incarceration Initiative works with New York City and other jurisdictions around the country to disrupt the unique pathways that lead to the incarceration of girls and gender expansive youth. Hannah came to Vera with a background in philanthropy and policy, having worked most recently for the JPMorgan Chase Foundation. Previously, she served as a legislative correspondent for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill working on issues relating to defense and foreign policy, including legislation to reform how sexual assault is handled within the military justice system.

Hannah also has experience in direct service with women and girls. Prior to joining Vera, she worked with survivor defendants awaiting trial in New York City and volunteered as a rape crisis advocate, supporting survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault during their time in the emergency room following a violent incident. Hannah has a bachelor's degree in history and art history from New York University and a master's in social work from Columbia University.



"A supportive and inclusive team is really critical to doing your best work - when you're interviewing, try to ask questions to get a sense of how your potential colleagues support and show up for each other."