Humans of CDI

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What is your role at MGH? Please describe your journey to getting here.

My role is as the Manager of Trainee Affairs at the Center for Diversity ad Inclusion. It's been a tremendous honor to serve in this role since 2015. Beginning as a general internal medicine hospitalist and clinician-educator within the Hospital Medicine Unit of the Division of General Internal Medicine, I was delighted to learn about the unique and incredibly important work that CDI does and was thrilled to come aboard in this capacity. I was then and remain passionate about addressing training and career equity in healthcare for students, trainees, and faculty. As Manager of Trainee Affairs, I have had the opportunity to contribute to numerous programs including the MGH CDI Summer Research Training Program, Career Development Liaison Program, and the HMS Visiting Clerkship Program, while enhancing efforts to uplift trainees and faculty that are underrepresented in medicine. The journey continues as we redesign and tailor resources in keeping with emerging CDI community and UIM trainee needs. I just can't wait to see the emerging implementation of many of CDI's newest initiatives.

How does it make you feel to be a groundbreaker at this institution?

So much of the work that CDI has done over the years is groundbreaking and look no further than the 30-year tenure of deliverables, programming, and resources that has been well-established as a bedrock of the MGH and CDI community. I am incredibly proud of the work that CDI has done and continues to do in this space and very grateful that I have had the fortune to be a part of the forward momentum over the course of the last years.

Who inspires you to do this work?

There are so many that have come before us that laid the foundation for much of the mission and vision of CDI. It's really only upon the backs of those individuals that a center as powerful as CDI could be built. Very grateful to Win Williams, who is the founding father of what we now know as the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and who will always be an incredible advocate and a distinguished emeritus of CDI. Elena Olson, Executive Director of CDI, has been tireless in her efforts to enrich our environment over the last 20 years and she, along with Dr. Joe Betancourt have truly been visionaries in terms to expanding our disparities efforts while promoting equity both hear with our walls and in surrounding communities writ large.

What message would you give to others?

My message would be that, as a healthcare institution, doing our work well means that we must contribute to and improve that work with respect to outcomes in quality, safety, and equity. Until that truth is realized, we have much to do and what better way to do achieve our goal than to partner with entities like CDI that understand the challenges at hand.