

# 2021 GOLDIN GLOBAL FELLOWS

I have always thought what is needed is the development of people who are interested not in being leaders as much as in developing leadership in others.

~ Ella Baker

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# Executive Summary

The 2021 Goldin Global Fellows program convened
24 grassroots leaders from 18 countries to learn
and work together as a global community of practice
dedicated to community driven social change. The Goldin
Global Fellows program is central to our mission to inspire,
equip and connect grassroots leaders that work together
to build their own solutions and determine their own
futures.

The Goldin Global Fellows program leverages our **GATHER Platform for shared learning and collaboration** across boundaries. Designed in collaboration with our global network, the GATHER course allows Fellows to explore a series of core social change concepts and tools for authentic community engagement.

Our community-driven approach is critical to developing creative and effective grassroots strategies that balance community building and social action. This approach focuses on bringing often neglected perspectives and voices to the table for creative exchanges. By linking grassroots efforts from around the world in our global network, we provide opportunities to build innovative multisector relationships and solutions that both adapt to particular local contexts and draw from creative solutions and approaches from around the globe.

Throughout the program, Fellows learn to build on what works by inviting their neighbors to share their talents and activating community assets. Together, we learn to start with what we have and focus on what's working rather than what we lack and what's broken. Fellows focus on strategies to get at the root causes of the issues we face and ensure that people who are too often left out take leadership roles in our future. We know that our diversity helps us to see and change the system.

Since 2002, the Goldin Institute has inspired, equipped and connected grassroots leaders in over 60 countries to promote community driven social change. With their graduation, the 2021 Goldin Global Fellows join a robust and growing global Alumni network with 100 grassroots leaders in 30 countries around the world.



Andy Alegre Philippines



Arpeeta Shams Mizan Bangladesh



**Berry Behr** South Africa



**Blake Stoner** Atlanta, USA



Chhavi Bhatia India



David Orjuela Fierro Argentina



Fatmire Ajdari Macedonia



Gopal Iyer United Kingdom



Ismail Auwal Nigeria



Jennifer Kuwa Henshaw



John Kamma



Lilian Efobi Nigeria



Luc Mukamba
Democratic Republic
of Congo



Lupai Samuel Stephen Kenyi



Luz Jennifer Divantoque Naranjo



Mahdar Tahir Malaysia



Mathias Ngong Njoya Cameroon



Munyaradzi P Dzimunwe Zimbabwe



Nicholas Songora Odoll Kenya



Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson Fort Myers, USA



Shazmin Rafeeq Malaysia



Sri Ram Timilsina Nepal



Valerie Gordon-Williams Canada



Zeenat Ebrahim South Africa



### The Goldin Institute



Since 2002, the Chicago-based Goldin Institute has inspired, equipped and connected grassroots leaders in over 60 countries to lead community-driven social change. By linking grassroots efforts from around the world in our global network, we provide opportunities to build broad partnerships that both adapt to particular local contexts and draw from creative solutions and approaches from around the globe.

Over the past 20 years, we've seen first-hand how real and sustainable change is rooted in the power of communities working together to build on their own assets, where everyone can contribute, and where the people most impacted by a challenge take the lead in designing the solution.

Our work has always been **shoulder-to-shoulder** with grassroots leaders who are making a real difference in their communities. At the same time, we **leverage new technologies** to connect our global network and deepen collaboration between them.

In this spirit, we launched **GATHER** to empower communities of practice. We applied the experience we gained from working alongside our partners to an online platform that connects them with other grassroots leaders across the world. GATHER allows them to learn and work together using practical tools with global peers.

We are proud to bring insights from peace building around the world to this latest **Goldin Global Fellows** cohort.

# **GATHER**

GATHER is an **online learning platform** designed to support shared learning and collaboration between a community of practice. The suite of tools on the GATHER platform enables Fellows to learn, work and reflect together on real issues facing their communities.

# In our world, divide and conquer must become define and empower.

~ Audre Lorde



WELCOME



DASHBOARD



**Discussion Boards:** A chance for the group to share reflections with each other about topics and practices.

**Peer to Peer Chat:** We invite Fellows to communicate with each other informally as well as through required interactive assignments with peers.

**Resource Library:** Fellows can dive deeper on key topics with curated resources and add their own knowledge and materials to the growing shared library.

**Field Guides:** Fellows have access to "just in time" summaries of key ideas and new skills that are easily accessible for use in the community.

**Contacts:** As Fellows meet new people through practical assignments, they capture contact information to grow their network and expand local partnerships.

**Budget Tracker:** Fellows can keep track of their expenses using the budget tracker app to help them build a track record of fiscal management.

**Weekly Roundtables:** Through periodic workshops, key ideas and skills covered in the curriculum are presented and discussed with leading experts on the theme.

**Digestible**: Interactive content is designed to be mobile friendly so that Fellows can complete the curriculum and related activities in 2 - 4 hours per week.

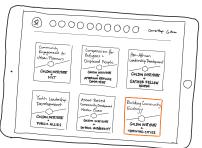
**Interactive:** Private journaling, discussion boards and practical assignments help Fellows learn, practice and reflect together.

**Audio-Visual:** Each chapter includes a mix of writings, videos, illustrations, photos and other forms of content to reach a wide variety of learning styles.

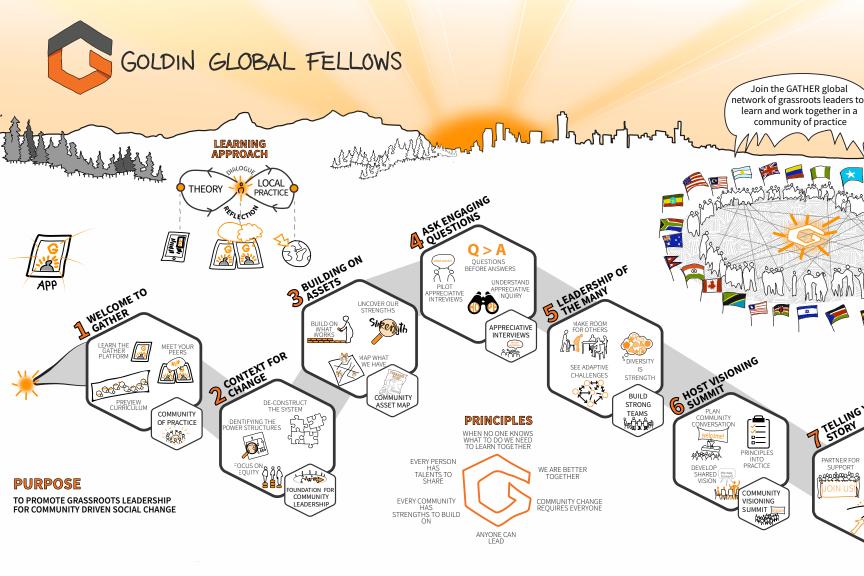




**MESSAGING** 



**COURSES** 





### 1 WELCOME TO GATHER

Meet our peers and determine the principles and practices for our shared learning community.

### **2** CONTEXT FOR CHANGE

Commit to inclusion and equity in our approach to community leadership.

### (3) BUILD ON ASSETS

Shift from a deficit mindset to an assetbased approach.

### 4 ASK ENGAGING QUESTIONS

Learn how to frame issues and ask questions that produce insights and motivate action.

### **(5)** LEADERSHIP OF THE MANY

Explore how our team's diversity is a strength to help us see and change the system.

### **6** HOST VISIONING SUMMIT

Convene your neighbors to envision next steps in leveraging your assets to make progress towards shared aspirations.

### **7** TELLING YOUR STORY

Learn to engage the head, heart and hands and share your vision in ways to invite support.

### **8** SHARING OUR WISDOM

Share what you learned and achieved as a Global Fellow and invite potential allies to get involved at a global Graduation ceremony.

# **Building a Community** of Practice

The **GATHER** curriculum is not a traditional teacher-to-student course, but rather an opportunity for a community of practice to learn and work together. Interactive chapters guide Fellows through key concepts and provide them space for shared reflection after they put those methods into practice. In addition to the baseline curriculum. Fellows also participated in several workshops to learn new digital tools and online facilitation techniques, skills that have become even more critical with remote working and social distancing.

Start where you are.

*Use what you have.* 

Do what you can.

~ Arthur Ashe

Each chapter of the curriculum was organized around a key question or theme that is critical to community-driven social change. Through robust conversations about both theory and practice, Fellows' were able to learn together and authentically adapt approaches to meet the unique social, political, economic, and environmental context of each community.

As we explored key themes like intersectionality, Asset Based Community Development, the nature of community leadership, and tools for uncovering shared visions for the future, the readings and videos were always complemented by practical applications of these ideas in the real world and weekly roundtable conversations to reflect together on what we learned from our experience.

Complementing the materials covering a wide range of tools and approaches to community driven social change content on the GATHER platform, the Global Fellows participated in 20 workshops, shared insights with each other in over 24 of GATHER's discussion boards around key questions, and completed more than 20 practical assignments such as appreciative inquiry interviews, mapping assets in their communities, and leading community visioning summits.

The workshops, discussions and tasks were designed to blend theory and practice to allow Fellows to dive deeply into the core themes and create connections with community members interested in centering those neighbors too often cut out from civic life.



# Community Visioning Summits



Lilian Efobi hosts Community Visioning Summit in Nigeria

The Community Visioning Summits (CVS) were hosted by each Global Fellow as an opportunity to convene their neighbors and reflect together on how to leverage their collective assets to address their shared goals. Fellows used various outreach techniques to bring together a diverse group from their local community, with special attention placed on bringing in voices too frequently left out of the conversation. Fellows were tasked with creating an agenda and facilitating exercises and dialogues that would help their neighbors get at the root of the issues facing the community and develop realistic, actionable responses they might take together based on the skills and assets they already have.



Sri Ram leads a Community Summit with local school children

As part of the CVS, Fellows engaged their neighbors in expanding the Community Asset Maps they developed in the GATHER Platform. Through this work, the community looked inwards and identified both known and unexpected assets in the neighborhood and uncovered the talents and skills that could be activated. Fellows used Appreciative Inquiry to encourage participants to share their stories about what is working well in the community and to clarify aspirations shared by the group.

Following the Summit, Fellows continued to work with their local learning partner teams to design meaningful next steps that they will take together towards their broadly shared aspirations.



Community Visioning Summit in Malaysia co-facilitated by Mahdar Tahir and Shazmin Rafeeq



Community Visioning Summit on youth welfare in Lagos, Nigeria facilitated by Lilian Efobi



Community Visioning Summit at Anika Community Hub in Mombasa, Kenya facilitated by Nicholas Songora Odoll



Community Visioning Summit with residents in Glass Factory Community in Liberia facilitated by John Kamma

# Collective Campaign



Goldin Global Fellows Collective Campaign

Following their Community Visioning Summits each Fellow worked with their local teams to outline meaningful and measurable next steps they could take. With these plans in place, the Fellows worked together to create a **Collective Campaign aimed at raising awareness and support** for these efforts. The Fellows decided to share equally any funds raised through the campaign to ensure that all Fellows could make progress and no one was left behind, even if they did not have a large base of support.

The Fellows created three teams to design and launch the campaign, one focused on developing a compelling narrative, one an outreach strategy and the third developed an audiovisual approach to bring the campaign to life.

The Narrative team used both text and images to share the story of their learning journey and highlighted how the principles and tools explored in the curriculum were being used to promote community driven social change derived from the assets and aspirations of their neighbors. The Outreach team created a sophisticated social media strategy to raise awareness about the power of grassroots leadership and to invite local and global support. The Audio-Visual team pulled together key concepts from the narrative and outreach teams by highlighting images and videos from Fellows to create a compelling video to introduce the campaign.

The resulting collective multimedia campaign documented the journey of the 2021 Global Fellows and provided a vision for future grassroots work across the globe.



Thank You in Filipino



Thank You in Vengo

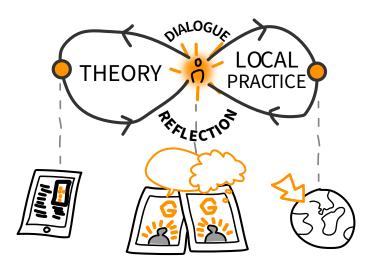


Thank You in Bengali



Thank You in Spanish

# **LEARNING APPROACH**



### **Core Workshops**

These core workshops allowed the Global Fellows to explore the key themes of the GATHER curriculum.



Welcome to GATHER

Roundtable: Defining our shared principles

Making the Most of Zoom

Roundtable: Understanding our communities in their fullness

**Documenting Your Experience** 

Roundtable: ABCD for community change

Sharing our Asset Maps

Tools for Digital Facilitation

Roundtable: Questions that make a

difference

Tools for Digital Facilitation: Boosting clarity and engagement with visuals

Roundtable: Shared leadership for real community change

How To Host A Community Visioning
Summit

Community Visioning Check In

Roundtable: Vision for our shared

aspirations

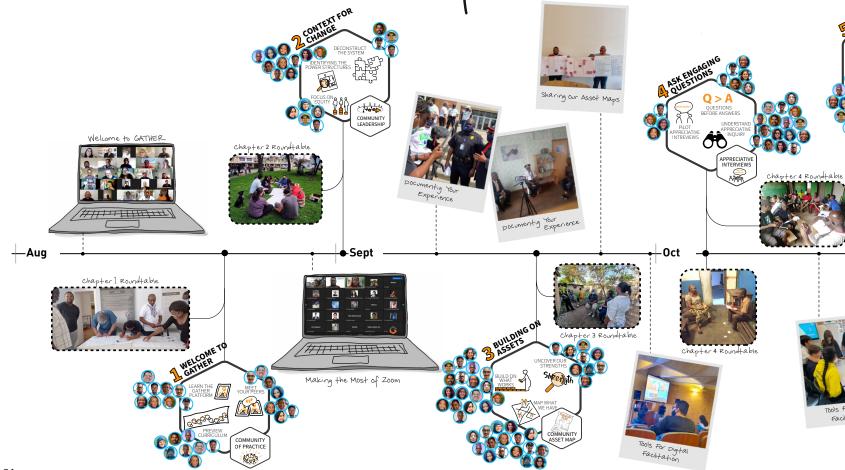
Power of Storytelling

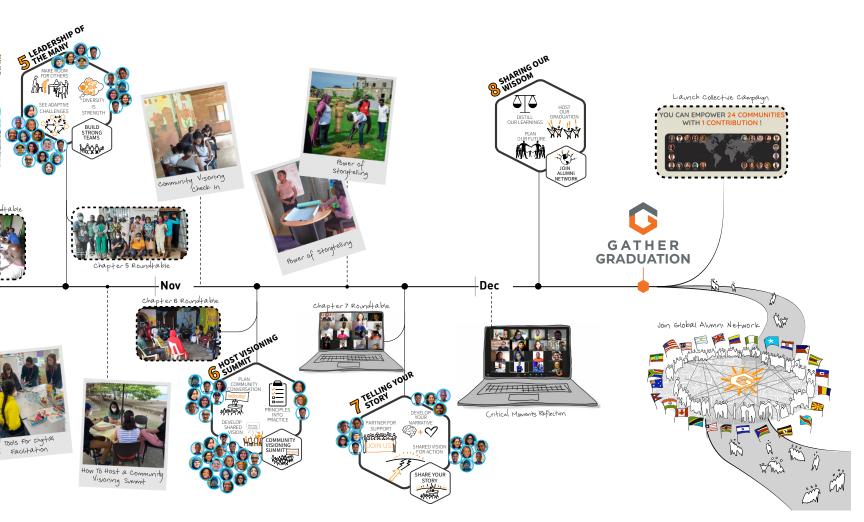
Roundtable: Our collective campaign

Critical Moments Reflection

Roundtable: Sharing our wisdom

Critical Moments Reflections





## **Meet the Fellows**

The **24 Goldin Global Fellows** were selected from a pool of nearly 100 applicants from around the world. The Fellows cohort was selected to ensure a broad diversity of perspectives and backgrounds as a critical component of learning as a community of practice.

If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there.

~ Lewis Carroll



Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson Fort Myers, USA



Blake Stoner Atlanta, USA



Valerie Gordon-Williams Canada



**Gopal lyer** United Kingdom



Fatmire Ajdari Macedonia



Luz Jennifer Divantoque Naranjo Colombia



Jennifer Kuwa Henshaw Liberia



John Kamma Liberia



**Lilian Efobi** Nigeria



Zeenat Ebrahim South Africa



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**Andy Alegre** Philippines



Ismail Auwal Nigeria



Munyaradzi P Dzimunwe Zimbabwe



Luc Mukamba Democratic Republic of Congo



Nicholas Songora Odoll Kenya



Mathias Ngong Njoya Cameroon



Lupai Samuel Stephen Kenyi South Sudan



### ANDY ALEGRE

### Philippines

organization

International Justice Mission (IJM) Philippines

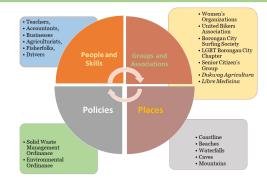
position

Senior Strategist for Church Partnerships

Andy is the Senior Strategist for Church Partnerships at International Justice Mission (IJM) in Manila, a global anti-slavery organization protecting people in poverty from violence. He develops, maintains, and strengthens partnerships in the Philippines with churches, faith-based organizations, communities, coalitions, ministries, and leaders regarding their work against online sexual exploitation of children. Andy is also a Social Engagement Lecturer at De La Salle University (DLSU) in Manila, teaching civic welfare, and literacy and formation programs to first year students.

Andy holds an MA in International Law and Human Rights from the United Nations (UN) - Mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and an MA in Political Science, with a Major in Global Politics from Ateneo de Manila University where he was an Asian Peacebuilder Scholar. He is a registered nurse by profession.

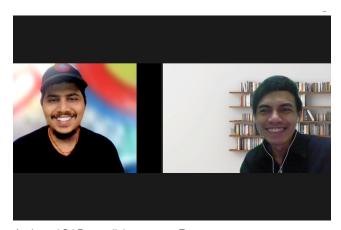
### Asset Map in Borongan City



Asset Map in Borongan City



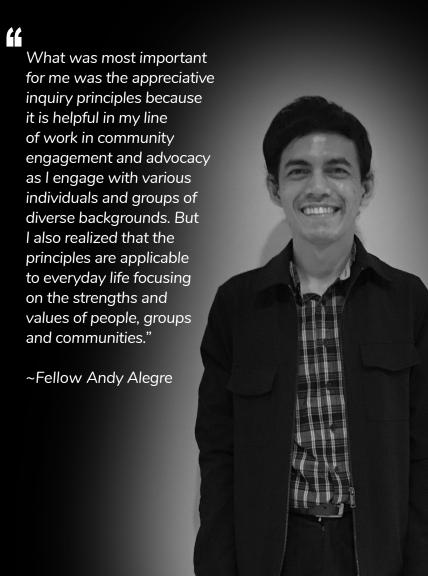
Participants in the Community Visioning Summit discuss community assets



Andy and Sri Ram collaborate over Zoom



Participants in the Community Visioning Summit share their thoughts on their community





### ARPEETA SHAMS MIZAN

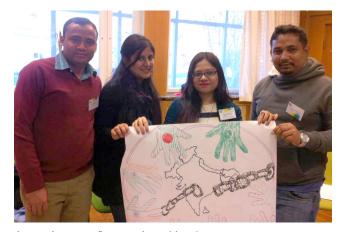
### Bangladesh

organization
iProbono Bangladesh

position Legal Analyst Arpeeta Shams Mizan is a socio-legal researcher and teacher from Dhaka, Bangladesh. Arpeeta is interested in qualitative studies of the human experience and the understanding of law as a lived reality. Her areas of academic interest include colonial legal history, human rights, law and religion, and legal education.

Arpeeta is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Bristol, UK, where she is investigating legal consciousness in postcolonial South Asian contexts.

Arpeeta is a faculty member at the Department of Law, University of Dhaka, and holds an LLM from Harvard Law School. Arpeeta designs human rights fact-finding simulation workshops and works as the Bangladesh Legal Analyst for iProbono, a UK based non-profit providing legal services. Arpeeta won the 2017 University Grants Commission Gold Medal for her field research on Street Law programs.



Arpeeta's team reflects on Asset Mapping process



Working with the handloom weavers of Bangladesh



Arpeeta leading a program with children engaged in hazardous labor practices in Bangladesh



Arpeeta working with Rohingya Refugee children through UNHCR





### BERRY BEHR

### South Africa

organization

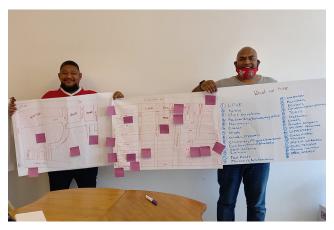
Cape Town Interfaith Initiative

position

Chair

Rev. Berry Behr is Chairperson of the Cape Town Interfaith Initiative and currently serves as Faith Leader Liaison for the Southern African Faith Communities Environment Institute (SAFCEI). In 2019, Berry graduated from One Spirit Interfaith Seminary in New York (USA) where she was ordained as an Interfaith/Interspiritual Minister.

Rev. Berry coordinates multifaith and multicultural events aimed at promoting an inclusive society based on understanding, compassion and respect. Rev. Berry is passionate about helping people of diverse religious, ethnic, socio-economic backgrounds and education levels unite with a common purpose. Through her work, Rev. Berry helps to build relationships and communities that are inclusive and benefit everybody.



Participants in the Community Visioning Summit share their Asset Maps



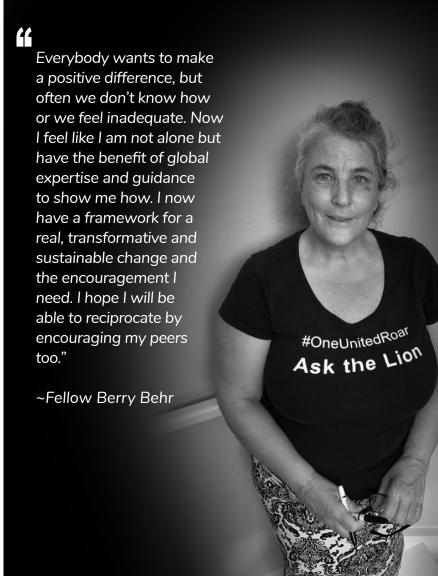
Rev. Berry's local learning partners in South Africa discussing assets discovered from the community walk



Participants in the Community Visioning Summit work together to identify neighborhood assets



Rev. Berry facilitates a Community Walk where they discuss building a community garden at this site





### BLAKE STONER

**USA** 

organization

Vngle

position

Founder and CEO

Blake Stoner is a grassroots reporter, social entrepreneur, and tech enthusiast with a history of community advocacy. After working on over 10 grassroots campaigns, he noticed that many communities across the United States of America needed more representation to highlight their culture and concerns. He believes that an important challenge to address right now is the growing crisis of news deserts that disproportionately leave communities of color ill-represented and uninformed.

In response, he founded Vngle, a grassroots news network which provides an equitable decentralized approach to local reporting and brings nonpartisan coverage to underreported geographic and demographic areas. Through a gig-economy model, it verifies and trains local citizens with smartphones to serve as reporters and editors. Vngle seeks to make verifiable news mainstream.



Brainstorming session with the Vngle team



Members of the Vngle team doing onsite interviews



Blake with members of the Vngle team



Blake in the middle of an interview

The overall connection and reception I've received towards my work from my fellow Global Fellows has been powerful. I've been working on the concept for "grassroots reporting" for almost 5 years and it has been a road with serious ups & downs. This was the 1st time a collective group really understood the need for my work and encouraged me to continue it. This reception has given me the encouragement I needed to extend my focus to eventually support international communities with culturally relevant grassroots reporting processes." ~Fellow Blake Stoner



# **CHHAVI BHATIA**

#### India

position

Freelance Journalist

Chhavi Bhatia considers herself a Plain Speak Journalist. She is a leading columnist and independent journalist based in Delhi, India. Since November 2020, she has been actively covering one of the largest protests in human history: the Indian farmers' protest.

Chhavi focuses her work on providing accurate and unbiased information and news on both traditional media platforms, i.e., print media, as well as more accessible spaces such as social media. Chhavi is working to share the stories of these communities and to amplify their voices to broader audiences. Her motivations to document these stories and struggles comes from her understanding of the social issues in Punjab, and the interconnectedness with such problems as drug abuse, mental health challenges, water conservation, environmental degradation, and unjust laws and policies which disenfranchise rural communities.



An elderly farmer blesses me during one of the visits at Tikri



Protesting farmers holding placards at Tikri border where the farmers' agitation has been going on for a year





Assisting with daily chores like cooking and engaging in dialogues



Chhavi Bhatia with farmers on the last days of one of the protests

Seeing so many people from different countries and communities working for fellow beings with no agenda but just to make mankind better, has given me a lot of hope that we aren't losing ourselves to a highly individual-driven world. I learned that there are people out there who believe in the concept of Community living and Community building and are working to sustain it. Goldin also gave me a support system through all these fellows in the most crucial of my projects: the farmers' protest."

~Fellow Chhavi Bhatia





### DAVID ORJUELA FIERRO

#### Argentina

organization

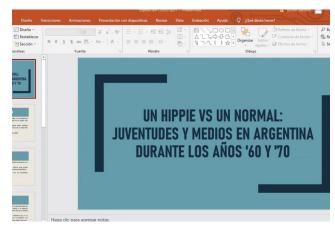
C.E.C. Academico

position

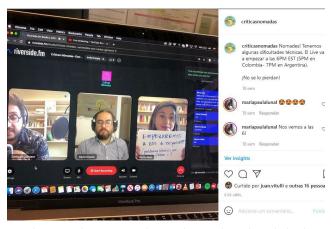
Co-Founder and CEO

David Orjuela is a teacher at Universidad Nacional de Jose C. Paz, where he is passionate about understanding students motivations, strengths, and ways of learning, as well as experimenting with various pedagogical approaches. He is currently working on a Latin American literary and cultural criticism project which looks at promoting Spanish reading, analysis, and debate around written narrations from emerging authors from the Latin American continent.

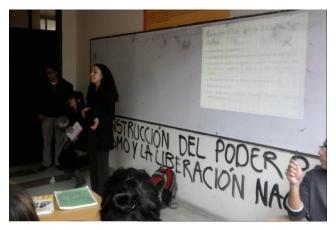
David is passionate about decentralized academic and institutionalized knowledge for a bigger, more plural community, as he believes this is the only way to use it as tool for social change. He holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Master degree in Discourse Analysis, and has experience as Systems Analyst.



David and his virtual community of learners explore themes around the Hippie movements in Argentina during the 60s



David in one of his efforts to decentralize academic knowledge by targeting virtual communities



A teaching event at the University where David studied



David working with aboriginal children on language learning strategies in school





# FATMIRE AJDARI

#### Macedonia

organization

The First Children's Embassy in the World Megjashi

position

Peace Worker

Fatmire Ajdari is a peace worker and program coordinator at the Children's Embassy Megjashi in Macedonia's capital, Skopje. Here she facilitates projects on providing peace education to secondary school teachers of varying backgrounds and ethnicities. She is passionate about nonviolent conflict resolution methods and facilitating a peaceful coexistence between the various ethnicities in Macedonia, in an effort to combat nationalism and hate speech in the country.

Fatmire also volunteers to improve the refugee crisis in Macedonia, and works on connecting different communities in her neighborhood by using nonviolence and building friendships. She holds a Master of Political Science in the Field of Foreign Policy and Diplomacy, and is an Accredited Court translator for Albanian-Macedonian and vice versa.



Attending a protest for climate action



Fatmire in an energizer activity in one of the training sessions



Fatmire taking part in the march to commemorate the Srembrenica genocide on 11th July in Skopje, Macedonia



Fatmire participating in a conference organized by the Children's embassy (Megjashi) and the Arigatou International

"

The Goldin Global
Fellowship and their
support gave me the
opportunity to learn new
approaches to peace
building and community
development, and to meet
people from different parts
of the world with whom
I share similar values for
community improvement.
This fellowship is one
step of our journey
named Peace!"

~Fellow Fatmire Ajdari





# GOPAL IYER

#### **United Kingdom**

organization

Newcastle University

position

Research Associate

Gopal lyer is an Educational Specialist at the GCRF Water Security and Sustainability Development Hub at the University of Newcastle. At the Hub he is responsible for developing the educational portfolio through hands-on curriculum focused on some of the most pressing problems including climate change, gender equality and the challenges of achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in emerging parts of the globe.

Prior to his academic career, he worked with developmental organizations such as AC Nielsen, World Bank, and Xseed, where he was involved in education policy research. At the World Bank he managed the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) which focused on measuring learning outcomes in young adults and school children.



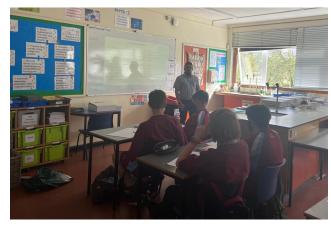
Gopal discussing climate change with students



Gopal lyer at a meeting with the head of school discussing effective leadership in low fee private schools



Gopal collaborating with his Goldin Global Fellow peers



Engaging with a group of children at the Corbridge middle school

"

Appreciative Inquiry helped me understand that it's important to begin with 'what we have' rather than simply focusing on the issue and trying to resolve the problem. I have implemented this in my educational programme, appreciating what children know, rather than beginning with the notion that children may not be aware of a concept. When children are appreciated for what they know, they immerse themselves in the lessons, they exude confidence and become more inquisitive."

~Fellow Gopal lyer





# ISMAIL AUWAL

### Nigeria

organization

Make Kano Green

position Founder Ismail Auwal is a 28 year-old from Kano, North-West Nigeria, with a strong passion for creating a greener environment and addressing the negative impacts of climate change within his community. He currently manages an online news platform called Sahelian Times, and leads a tree planting campaign team called Make Kano Green. He was one of the three winners of the 2019 sustainable development goal 16 innovation challenge organized by Accountability Lab Nigeria. He was also the state team leader of the Youth Video Campaign supported by Population Reference Bureau (PRB).

In 2018 Ismail was the pioneer Anti-Corruption thematic lead of the Open Governance Partnership (OGP) initiative in Kano. He has also worked as a Program Manager with African Center for Transparency and Anti-Corruption Advocacy. He spends his leisure time with Noor, learning something new, or reading books.



Community members begin the work of planting new trees



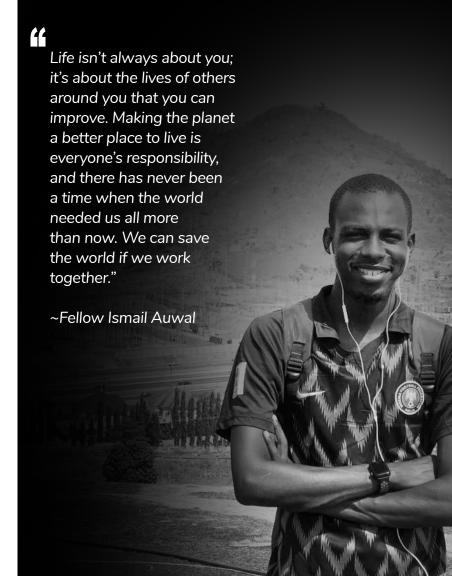
Neighbors participate in a tree planting campaign



Community youth help with the tree planting efforts



Ismail and his colleagues at a climate protest





# JENNIFER KUWA HENSHAW

#### Liberia

organization

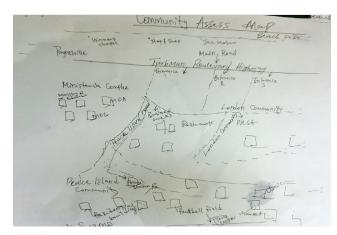
Lesbian and Gay Association of Liberia

position

**Executive Director** 

Jennifer Kuwa Henshaw is the Executive Director of the Lesbian and Gay Association of Liberia (LEGAL), a rights-based organization that serves as the voice of the LGBTIQ Community and other vulnerable groups in Liberia. Jennifer oversees and coordinates the organization's programs and strategic direction. Over the years, her work has improved the advocacy role of LEGAL nationally and internationally, and her work to engage stakeholders has increased their willingness to support policy changes beneficial to the LGBTIQ Community.

Jennifer's advocacy surrounding issues affecting the LGBTIQ community in Liberia focuses on access to justice and social protection under the rule of law, access to health and sexual and reproductive health rights, particularly under HIV and AIDS frameworks and prevention strategies, and other basic rights to protect stigmatized and marginalized members of the LGBTIQ community.



Community members worked on maps highlighting the assets in their environment



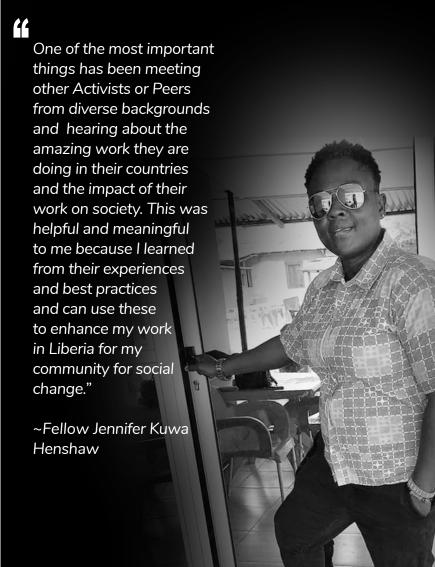
Jennifer and her team at an Art Exhibition commemoration the international day for human rights and the 16 days of activism to end sexual gender based violence



Successful field work on sexuality education and non-discrimination



Successful meeting with the Traditional Leaders in Grand Bassa





# JOHN KAMMA

#### Liberia

organization

Citizens Bureau for Development and Productivity

position

Founding Executive Director

John W. Kamma belongs to the Liberian Grebo tribe and is from Maryland County. He is the Founding Executive Director of Citizens Bureau for Development and Productivity, a non-profit and nonpolitical civil society and humanitarian organization seeking to advance the rule of law, promote civil justice, improve citizens police relations and eradicate poverty in Liberia through community justice initiatives. The organization works to address local disputes and needs in collaboration with civil society partners and members of the formal legal system.

Following the end of Liberia's civil war, John joined the Liberia National Police Training Academy in 2004 where he received the Distinguished Leadership Award for exhibiting outstanding qualities of leadership. He regularly undertakes several initiatives from cleaning up campaigns in central Monrovia to community justice projects.



Participants in the Community Visioning Summit discuss their Asset Maps



Law and justice training workshop with the ministry of Justice in Liberia and the Hague Institute



Members of the community come together for a Visioning Summit



John engages with community leaders and residents most affected by social challenges during a Community Visioning Summit

"

I came to understand that those most affected or experiencing a social challenge are capable in thinking and finding a solution using the assets, gifts and talents already available to members of the community. This thinking attaches value to the community most impacted and looks for solutions by listening to them and incorporating their thoughts rather than looking to external intervention without the involvement of those most affected by the social challenge."

~Fellow John Kamma





# LILIAN EFOBI

#### Nigeria

organization

Nigerian Global Affairs Council

position

Chief Operating Officer

Lilian Efobi is a public policy professional and serves as the Chief Operating Officer at the Nigerian Global Affairs Council (NiGAC), a Nigerian-based non-partisan policy think-tank that focuses on policy design and advocacy, policy simplification, and policy leadership development. Passionate about policy advocacy and formulation, Lilian uses behavioral insight tools to design socio-governance projects that entrench accountability and enhance open governance. She has been involved in executing monitoring and evaluation projects that seek to measure and evaluate the expected and unintended outcomes of government policies on the citizens.

Lilian is committed to a better Nigeria with a functioning democracy through active community engagement in the political process. She is also a Resident Policy Fellow at the Nigerian Global Affairs Council.



Asset Mapping with community members



Feedback session from the team showcased their cooperation

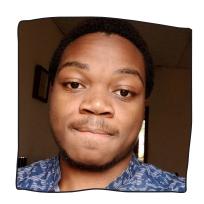


Lilian using Appreciative Inquiry and Asset Based Community Development approaches with young students



Community Summit Meeting

What is the essence of knowledge if not to make a difference in the world and that is what the Goldin Global Fellowship has empowered me with, the knowledge, skills, network and exposure to make a positive difference in my community and globally. The Fellowship has transformed my life and helped me see challenges in my community from a positive perspective and how I can leverage the assets and people to cause a developmental transformation in my country." ~Fellow Lilian Efobi



# LUC MUKAMBA

### Democratic Republic of Congo

organization
University of Kinshasa

position

Diploma Student

Luc Mukamba is a 21-year old Congolese based in Kinshasa, DRC, where he is completing his University studies. When he was a child, Luc was fascinated with fixing devices and learning about electrical mechanics, and fixing devices and machines with his father. This led to him pursue his studies in General Electronics at college. Using what he learned, Luc mobilized his classmates to offer training to young people on household electricity installations.

Luc is passionate about mobilizing educated and trained individuals, such as his classmates, to come together to start programs to empower and train youth who have no access to education, and providing them with technical skills which they can use as a means of earning an income.



Luc with team members from the Foundation les Débatteurs Sans Frontière (FDSF) in Kinshasa, DRC



Visiting a plot that supports the foundation's work to end famine



Meeting with a group of ambitious young people to help them build more influence in the community



Official launch of the FDSF foundation in Kinshasa





### LUPAI SAMUEL KENYI STEPHEN

#### South Sudan

organization

I AM PEACE

position

Founding Executive Director

Lupai Samuel is the Founding Executive Director of "I AM PEACE", a non-governmental organization based in South Sudan which focuses on promoting peace, health, protection, and arts and entertainment. I AM PEACE works to influence policies through civic engagement, development, and the building of resilience by providing opportunities for youth, and women and girls to actively participate in the promotion of peace in South Sudan.

Lupai is also a radio consultant in Juba where he focuses on amplifying youth voices and creating a platform for discussions around social change and peacebuilding through media.

Lupai is a certified International Facilitator for the British Council Active Citizens program and was selected as a delegate to the 2018 Concordia Summit, a UN General Assembly side event in New York.



Lupai leading a training for artists and creatives on how to create change by understanding the cycle of socialization



Lupai facilitating a peace building training as part of the "Pen and Pass Project," focused on enhancing students' efforts to resolve conflicts



Lupai leading youth and community leaders in Nonviolent Action and Peacebuilding training



Lupai during a youth dialogue with the Dalai Lama in Dharamshala India





### LUZ JENNIFER DIVANTOQUE NARANJO

#### Colombia

organization

Mingaia / Bagüe

position Manager Luz Jennifer Divantoque Naranjo is a Manager at Mingaia, a community environmental project in Bogota Colombia. Luz supports her organization by designing projects, organizing activities, and working on communications. Mingaia organizes free workshops every weekend for community residents on various topics (environmental, cultural, sports, social and emotional growth).

Luz Jennifer also works to care for a local Wetland and shares free courses with institutions such as the Botanical Garden of Bogotá so that they can obtain training in additional methods of environmental care. She is keen to see the community in not just Bogota but Colombia as a whole unite and develop better social and community cohesion, with greater linkages between communities and institutions so they can collaborate on community development activities.



Community members participate in an asset mapping exercise



Teaching youth about the environment and water conservation



Community members of all age share their thoughts on their assets



Luz Jennifer teaching physical and mental flexibility as part of her neighborhood outreach

"

There were several concepts that helped me, however, "get on the balcony," helped me when I began to feel frustrated and did not know what to do next. Using this technique, I was able to see the situation from another point of view and little by little come back."

~Fellow Luz Jennifer Divantoque Naranjo





# MAHDAR TAHIR

#### Malaysia

organization

Crescent Collective

position Founder Mahdar Tahir is a Social Worker and Founder of Crescent Collective, a non-profit social organization that guides Malaysian youth towards spiritual awareness and understanding by grounding moral values through talks, community projects, and volunteerism on arts and culture. Although the vision of Crescent Collective has always been to prioritize marginalized or disenfranchised youth, its non-judgmental and inclusive approach has resulted in participants from all walks of life joining the activities.

Mahdar also actively promotes social and spiritual community events and is often seen lending his expertise in a wide array of projects with local schools, media, charity and refugee programs. He is also one of the directors of I CAN Malaysia, a regional partner of Arigatou International, and an alumnus of the 2015 IVLP on Youth & Community Conflict Resolution.



Mahdar leading a Community Visioning Summit with the Ampang Rohingyans Community



Mahdar and his team celebrate the Prophet Muhammad Peace be Upon Him Birthday as a way to bridge community love





Mahdar working with online vintage clothing collectors and local musicians to raise awareness and around community issues



Poetry workshop for high school students featuring American spoken word artist Barakah Blue in partnership the US embassy

In a time of strife, injustice and desperation all over the world, there are times as a social worker that I feel hopeless and helpless, but the love spirit and vibes from the Goldin Global Fellows is a light... a light that tells me there is always hope, hope for the present and future. I see in this people and collective, the beauty of life. If you ask where is God in this trouble world I say God is in them."

~Fellow Mahdar Tahir





# MATHIAS NGONG NJOYA

#### Cameroon

organization

Youth Against Drug Abuse

position

Founding Executive Director

Mathias Njoya is an environmentalist, drug abuse activist and a promoter of youth capacity-building. He is a holder of a Diploma in Pharmaceutical Technology and is currently doing a BSc Degree in Public Health at the University of the People. He is the Founder and Executive Director of Youth Against Drug Abuse (YADA) International and African Youth Empowerment and Capacity Building Academy (AYECBA).

His passion for combating and addressing mental health concerns is due to the influence drug abuse has on mental health and wellbeing. He was nominated for a social media award for the best advocate for SDG 3 by Digital Citizenship and SDGs Project (DigCit SDG) Cameroon in 2019. In December 2020, he was recognized as the Best Social Justice Activist by Global Institute of Peace Justice and Liberty, Liberia.



Community members worked to create asset maps of their neighborhood  $\label{eq:community} % \begin{subarray}{ll} \end{subarray} % \begin{subarray$ 



Youth education program on the dangers of drug abuse



Youth Against Drug Abuse has trained over 20 youth as Drug-Free World Ambassadors



Mathias speaking to young people about mental health and drug addiction

Connections are what bring about change. My connection with a youth group in my community through the program has helped me understand what the community needs and that in every process of planning or implementing a project the youth must be involved. My personal connection with the Fellows helped me to appreciate our circumstances and to see the similarities and differences between our countries. We see our diversity as a strength and want to work together to help our communities."

~Fellow Mathias Ngong Njoya





# MUNYARADZI P DZIMUNWE

#### Zimbabwe

organization

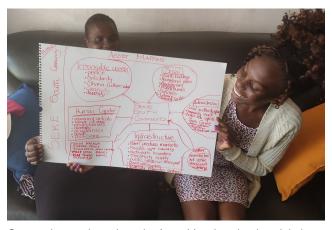
Empowered Woman Excel Savings and Credit Cooperative

position

**Provincial Coordinator** 

Munyaradzi P Dzimunwe is a wife, and mother to two handsome boys. She is currently a high school teacher by professional training, and an upcoming social entrepreneur, counselor, and motivational speaker by passion. Her interests are women's empowerment through training in entrepreneurship, climate change, and sustainable development. She believes teaching and training are the best tools for empowering people, and that through empowering women we can bring about tremendous social change, from local communities to the global level.

Munyaradzi is also a member of various non-governmental organizations in Harare working towards empowering women in business. She holds a BA degree in Arts, Post Graduate Diploma in Education, and is currently a Global Master of Business Administration Impact Entrepreneurship student.



Community members share the Asset Map they developed during a Community Visioning Summit



First big market exhibition held at the Girls High school in Harare



Munyaradzi attending a Comesa Federation of Women in Business Leaders briefing



Conference with CEO of COMFWB, Dr Ruth Negash

Appreciative Inquiry and **Asset Based Approaches** have empowered me with a totally new dimension of solving problems in the community and in my personal life. As a motivational speaker, the concept is proving worthy, shifting from a 'lacking' to a 'having' point of view. Human beings cherish having and some sense of hope is instilled by realizing that you have something." ~Fellow Munyaradzi P Dzimunwe



### NICHOLAS SONGORA ODOLL

#### Kenya

organization

Manyatta Youth Entertainment

position

Founding Executive Director

Nicholas is the Founding Director of Manyatta Youth Entertainment CBO-MAYE— an arts for social change non-profit which is youth-led and grounded in human rights principles. MAYE has been involved in social accountability, civic education, and social justice using creative arts, innovation, and technology as a mode of communication. It is through MAYE that Nicholas addresses concerns revolving around gender-based violence, violent extremism, and armed juvenile crime.

Nicholas is also a founder of ANIKA Community Media; an online audiovisual media platform managed by young people. ANIKA focuses on sharing untold stories within the community such as narratives on social accountability and highlighting emerging leaders' struggles and success stories.



Community members work on identifying local assets during a Community Visioning Summit



Community members participate in a Community Visioning Summit



Nicholas helps lead Appreciative Inquiry interviews with his neighbors



Nicholas marching in Day of Peace rally





# NONNEL GALAVIZ-JOHNSON

#### **USA**

organization

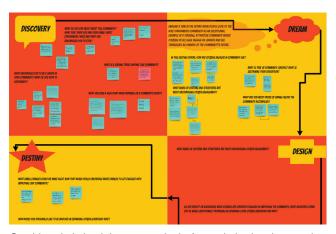
Design Studio for Social Intervention

position

Summer Fellow

Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson is a first generation Venezuelan-American and has always dreamed of returning to her roots in Venezuela. While working towards her degree in Environmental studies from Florida Gulf Coast University, she was heavily engaged in the Southern Scholarship Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides rent free communal living opportunities to students in financial need. Following a oneyear civic design program, Nonnel's focus on environmental work has transformed into a more intersectional approach with a focus on community engagement.

Nonnel has designed and taught a course called Politics & the Citizens, in collaboration with AJ Nunes-Zaller and Lewis Gopher. She is also heavily involved with Action Corps, a grassroots organization championing global solidarity with those most affected by violent conflict and climate disaster.



Graphic to help lead the community in Appreciative Inquiry exercises



Nonnel and her team celebrate after completing a civic design workshop in collaboration with MIT





Nonnel posing with a crew at New Image Youth Center as they plan for an impactful spring break under COVID restrictions



New Image Youth Center collaborative art piece made from found materials around the neighborhood

Those who came before us centered their lives around collaboration as well as connection with one another and the environment. I am thankful to have joined in a learning journey with 24 other people from around the world who choose to honor this way of life. In today's society we experience endless needs not being met. What I appreciate most about Global Peace Fellows is that we all recognize the power our communities hold to not only meet these needs, but to imagine and then lead ourselves to a future of abundance."

~Fellow Nonnel Galaviz-Johnson



# SHAZMIN RAFEEQ

### Malaysia

organization I CAN Malaysia

position

Co-Founder and Managing Director

Shazmin Rafeeg is an Education Psychologist and the CEO and Co-Founder of I CAN Malaysia. I CAN is a non-profit based in Kuala Lumpur which seeks to support refugee children achieve their full potential of being independent and productive individuals who will benefit their community as well as preserve their own culture. Shazmin is responsible for supervising multiple projects undertaken by the charity, involving programs that support child refugee rehabilitation, organizing soft skill sessions for orphans, setting up volunteer workshops, and training Rohingya refugee women in financial literacy.

Shazmin is an advocate for the rights of Rohingya refugees and believes that quality education for Rohingya children and youth is the most vital way of bettering the future of the Rohingya community in Malaysia.



Shazmin provides instruction and free meals to Rohingyan Children



Shazmin distributing completion certificates to the students at the end of their term



Shazmin attends a conference in Dubai on prayer and action for children



Learning center in Malaysia. Many of these children had never been to or seen a school owing to their undocumented status

I see all of the Goldin Fellows is an important connection I made along this journey. They have allowed me to understand that there are many and creative ways to approach community. Each Fellow, in different parts of the world, empowering community in a different way inspires me everyday." ~Fellow Shazmin Rafeeq



# SRI RAM TIMILSINA

#### Nepal

organization

Sharing Nonviolent Communication

position

Trainer

Sri Ram Timilsina is a Nonviolent Communication (NVC) Practitioner from Nepal currently engaged with NVC Practise Group Nepal, Good Deeds Day Nepal and Civil Peace Service, Pro Public. Sri Ram works with young, ambitious, growthminded leaders, as well as school and university students, to build greater emotional intelligence so that they can connect better with themselves and with others.

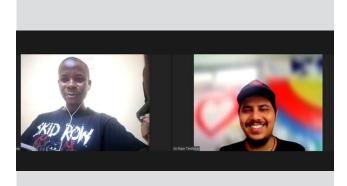
Since 2009, Sri Ram has been organizing national campaigns to create a culture of peace and nonviolence in schools and communities. These efforts have required helping people with NVC practice sessions, seminars, meetings and workshops to create personal growth – encouraging success and resilience in their lives.



Community members work together on an Asset Map



Community members share and discuss their Asset Maps



Fellow Sri Ram and Fellow John collaborate over Zoom



Assets Mapping with local womens groups and building a vision of the community together

We all want change and most of us want to change others. But what I realized after attending this Goldin Global Fellowship is that to achieve systemic changes with sustainability, I must know myself and my community better, and I must help my community know themselves better and to see the assets all around them." ~Fellow Sri Ram Timilsina



## VALERIE GORDON-WILLIAMS

#### Canada

organization

Quebec Board of Black Educators

position

**Program Director** 

Valerie Gordon-Williams is an award winning Project Management professional from the Small Island Developing State of Grenada in the Caribbean. At present she is the Program Director of the Quebec Board of Black Educations whose work is guided by the principles of "No student left behind" and "Families First," providing academic and parenting support to minority, low income families in Montreal.

Valerie's career has focused on managing country and regional programs aimed at poverty alleviation and community development. "Putting People at the Center of Development" is the primary guiding principle for her work. She holds an Industrial Management Diploma at the College of Arts, Science and Technology (Jamaica), and a Trained Teachers Certificate from the University of the West Indies.



Co-facilitating the Roadmap conference



An African Drumming lesson with neighborhood youth



Valerie participates in the Roadmap to Leadership Development Retreat for community leaders in Montreal



Valerie's team leads the closing ceremony for their local Summer Camp

"

Connecting with others in the field has given me a sense of support and company and confidence. It's reassuring that there are resources directly relevant to my work that I can easily access. This work can sometimes be very lonely and exhausting. This forum gives me company, courage and encouragement to persevere. I am very appreciative of the opportunities this program has offered."

~Fellow Valerie Gordon-Williams





## ZEENAT EBRAHIM

### South Africa

organization

Ansari Youth Club

position Secretary Zeenat Ebrahim, a pharmacist by profession, volunteers at several organizations, all of which ultimately aim for the empowerment of her community in Durban, South Africa. She is currently active with two grassroots organizations, within which the programs center around youth social issues and youth empowerment, and include valuebased teaching, skills development and fun activities such as sports days and 'mini Olympics', working with some of the most marginalized communities including children from informal settlements.

Zeenat believes she is lucky to have been surrounded by people who are passionate about helping others in many different ways, and feels it is a privilege to be able to be of service to others. This is something that has helped direct many facets of who she is, from the workplace to her social circles.



Zeenat participates in a vaccine education program



Zeenat's projects focused at improving the welfare of youth through value-based education and an inclusive environment for learning



The Happiness project where youth groups distribute food to people in need



School based forum where Zeenat and her team created interfaith vouth peace clubs

"

This fellowship has helped me change my perspective from looking at what we constantly need and don't have, to what we do have and how to foster positive and productive conversation. Even with other projects and different facets in my life now, I find myself questioning what I am imposing on myself and others and in what way. It's helped to make me actively aware of my decisions and whether they're positive or not."

~Fellow Zeenat Ebrahim



# A Global Network

Upon graduation, the 2021 Goldin Global Fellows will join the **Global Alumni Network**, an ongoing platform for shared learning and collaboration with 100 Fellows in 30 countries.

The Global Fellows will meet monthly for mutual support, ongoing learning and global cooperation. If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.

~ Toni Morrison

We know that systemic and adaptive challenges facing our communities will require **new approaches to see** and change the system by building on our local assets and unlocking the potential of emerging leaders.

The GATHER Global Alumni network meets online each month for workshops and discussions on themes selected by the alumni themselves.

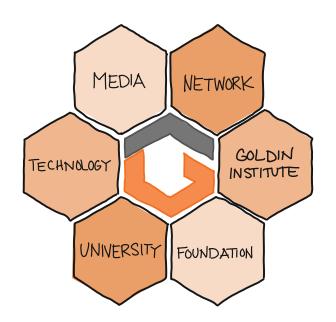
Goldin Institute's



# Global Alumni Network







#### THE FUTURE OF GATHER

The Goldin Institute is seeking partners who are committed to a new vision of shared learning and collaboration that upends the current models of distance learning, philanthropy and leadership development.

We know that systemic and adaptive challenges facing our communities will require new approaches that help us see and change the system by building on our local assets and unlocking the potential of emerging leaders.

By linking grassroots efforts from around the world in our global network, we provide opportunities to build innovative multi-sector relationships and solutions that both adapt to particular local contexts and draw from creative solutions and approaches from around the globe.

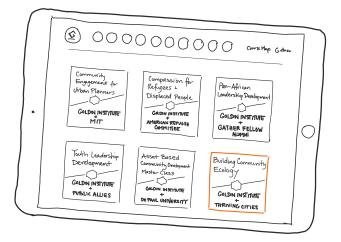
We invite new partners from the fields of technology, academia, philanthropy and the media to join us and our global network of allied organizations so we can make bottom up strategies add up to real change across the globe.

#### PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are committed to expanding the GATHER curriculum in partnership with leading organizations in a variety of fields who can bring unique assets and insights to the shared vision of helping people learn and work together to solve tough issues.

Please reach out to us to learn how the GATHER platform can serve your community or organization. We are eager expand the curriculum available to our global network and connect new communities to the GATHER Alumni Network.

We look forward to continuing to build on the growing network of Goldin Fellows — now 100 strong — who are working on the front lines to build a more just and sustainable future.



### Thank You

The Goldin Institute inspires, equips and connects grassroots leaders who help their communities build on their strengths and collaborate to determine their own future. We help communities achieve their goals through a combination of on-line and on-the-ground initiatives that promote innovative, community-driven partnerships between a wide range of stakeholders and sectors of civil society.

We know that real and lasting progress towards a more just, peaceful and sustainable world requires that those closest to the issue, especially often excluded voices with the most at stake in making progress, have leadership roles in any social change movement.

To support community-driven social change, the Goldin Institute built the **GATHER platform** to support communities of practice who can learn from each other and collaborate across boundaries.

The Goldin Institute is proud to share the learnings from the last 20 years of experience gained by partnering with grassroots leaders and their communities across the globe. Thousands of conversations with community leaders from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, the streets of Port au Prince to the Boardrooms of international agencies, have informed the curriculum and improved the GATHER platform.

We wish to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our global team. We want to begin by thanking the **2021 class of Goldin Global Fellows** whose hard work, dedication, and insightful conversations have made hosting the course deeply meaningful and have expanded the network of leaders who together make the world a more peaceful, just and equitable place. It was an honor to learn and work alongside you during this course and we look forward to our continued relationship as you join the **Global Alumni Network**.

The Goldin Global Fellows was made possible by an incredible, dedicated, and talented team to whom we express our deepest appreciation:

#### **Goldin Institute Board**

Aziz Asphahani Jimmie Briggs Timothy Child Frank Cohen Mimi Frankel Thomas Hinshaw Akif Irfan Gaye Johnson Rosina Mahabeer Nathan Shapiro

#### **Goldin Institute Team**

Burrell Poe, Director, Chicago Peace Fellows
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Ethan Michaeli, Senior Advisor, Communications
Faraj Khasib, GATHER Development
Janet Hanley, Accounting
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John Zeigler, Senior Advisor, Programs
Lavinia Owens, Development Consultant
Lissette Mateus Roa, Global Alumni Co-Facilitator
Oz Ozburn, Senior Advisor, Design
Tyler Stober, GATHER UI
Yusuph Masanja, Global Alumni Co-Facilitator

#### With appreciation,

Diane Goldin
Founder & Board Chair

Travis Rejman
Executive Director

Look closely at the present you are constructing: it should look like the future you are dreaming.

~ Alice Walker