

SEL CIRCLE:

SOCIAL AWARENESS SESSION

FACILITATOR BIOGRAPHIES

C. PAYAL SHARMA

(she/her/hers) is a racial justice consultant, facilitator, and trainer, who believes in the power of empathy, knowledge, courage, and action to create lasting equity. She has over 15 years of experience in the Boston area leading workshops, trainings, and facilitated conversations. Having partnered with numerous Boston Public Schools, organizations, state agencies, and corporations, Payal works closely and intentionally with groups to “move the needle” - individually and collectively.

BLOODINE BARTHELUS

joined the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) in 2012 where she worked as a Student Discipline and School Climate specialist and supported schools to develop effective systems to help minimize student infractions. She became Manager of School Climate in 2015 and led the development and implementation of a new School Climate Initiative with 20 of DCPS' most challenged schools focused on effective systems, warm and engaging relationships within schools, and explicit SEL opportunities for students. At the culmination of the initiative, 73 DCPS schools had been a part of the School Climate Initiative, which has been shown to support a decrease in suspensions and increase in student satisfaction. Bloodine most recently served as the Director of School Climate and Social Emotional Learning (SEL), where she led DCPS' work around student behavior, bullying prevention, Restorative Justice, the School Climate Initiative, and SEL. She led the development of a 5-year districtwide SEL implementation plan, designed adult SEL PD sessions for teachers and school leaders designed to create common language and understanding of SEL, co-created an SEL module designed to support teachers with developing equitable Social, Emotional, and Academic Development (SEAD) learning spaces, and led the launch of SEL for all schools through an integrated and supported process. Throughout her tenure in education, her passion has consistently brought effective systems and care into schools which supported leveling the playing field and increasing equity for students who have been historically furthest from opportunity. She holds a Master of Human Relations with a concentration in Counseling from the University of Oklahoma and a Doctorate of Education from the College of William and Mary where her research focus was on The Relationship Between Student Infractions and Social Emotional Learning.

JAMAAL WILLIAMS

strives to serve others and to help them unlock their full potential. A native of Queens, NY, he graduated from Cornell University and has used his talents in service-learning programming, group facilitation, and professional development throughout his career. Jamaal served as an AmeriCorps member with City Year for two years. Afterwards, he served as the National Recruitment Director for City Year, informing City Year's strategy to recruit talented and diverse AmeriCorps members to serve as tutors, mentors, and role models in 28 cities across the country. He is now a SEL Support Coach for The PEAR Institute, supporting schools and youth programs in building their capacity for social-emotional learning and development.