

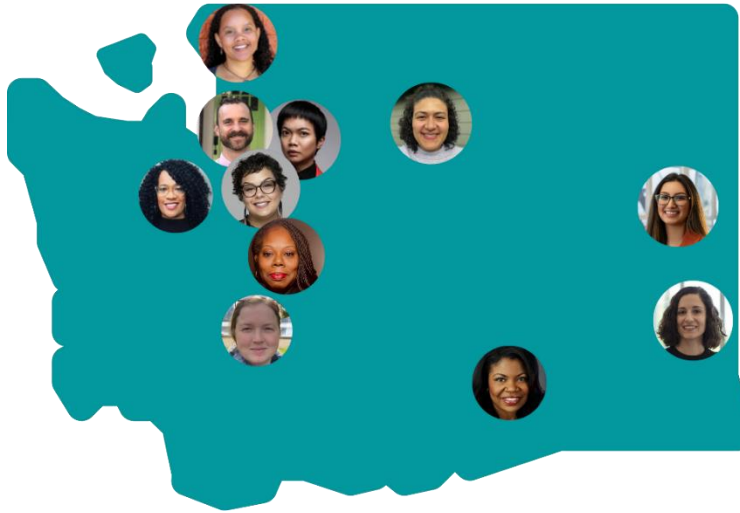


Equity Ambassador Cohort 2 Summary

In 12 weeks, 11 Nonprofit Association of Washington Equity Ambassadors have accomplished big things! They bring a variety of lived experiences, have diverse specialties, together speak 7 languages, and are connected to widespread areas of the State from east to west, north to south, urban to rural. Cohort 2 Equity Ambassadors reached nearly every nonprofit sector, logging over 300 hours. They increased the visibility of the nonprofit sector, identified unmet needs, enhanced program relevance, and extended the reach of programming within underserved communities. They used a variety of modalities to achieve this: coffee meetings, Zoom calls, emails, social media, writing editorials, holding focus groups, reviewing NAWA materials, and much more.

Logged
300+
Hours

Reached
90% of
Sectors



- Deanna Lane**, Bellingham
- Richard Lamanna**, Seattle
- Victor Loo**, Seattle
- Lucretia Robertson**, Kitsap
- Melodie Garcia**, Burien
- Pamela Williams**, Federal Way
- Melissa Rasmussen**, Olympia
- Eada Al-Soodani**, Peshastin
- Chauné Fitzgerald**, Richland
- Denisse Guerrero**, Spokane
- Elizabeth Perez**, Pullman

“My experience as an equity ambassador has also made me realize how important roles like this are. It is easy to forget what the real meaning of equity and diversity are but this network of ambassadors has shown how deeply there are roots and commitment across the state to increase access and representation.”

“The role has made it possible to discuss tips for nonprofit leadership about the supports needed for DEI/EDI staff. In essence this role has opened dialogue in spaces where there were none or minimal opportunities before.”

“My role is not simply to ‘spread the word’ or make connections. It’s to bridge the gap – ‘equity’ not only assumes a gap, but that the gap exists because of systemic barriers. So ‘equity ambassadors’ to me suggests that my role is to be the voice and incite voice for otherwise ‘invisible’ organizations, leverage existing opportunities to bridge the gap and to advocate for BIPOC orgs in order to CLOSE the gap.”

“As a member of our team who resides in eastern Washington, I strive to ensure that eastern WA communities feel heard and seen by NAWA. I like that our team is comprised of individuals from many different personal and professional backgrounds, and that we are located throughout the state.”

“Being a Southeast Asian first generation and gender non-conforming individual from the LGBTQ community, I place equity front and centered. As part of NAWA's Equity Ambassadors' Program, it aligns with my values to enhance capacity to build innovative and intersectional solutions for agencies/ communities/ providers who lack resources/ infrastructure that NAWA can provide through learning events/SLACK's engagement, and collaborative partnership.”

Learn more about the Equity Ambassador program at nonprofitwa.org/collaborate/equity-ambassadors/