**Narrative Fellowship**

**Fellows Bio**

**BARBIE IZQUIERDO**

Barbie Izquierdo is a courageous mother who uses her story to raise awareness and help make substantial legislative changes regarding food insecurity and poverty. Born and raised in North Philadelphia, her family experienced food insecurity first-hand, which ignited her desperation for change and passion to take action! As a result, Barbie has been a community activist and advocate for the past 13 years attempting to end the cycle. Barbie is recognized by Google as an "American Spokesperson"; She can be found in the documentary that urges a call to action "A Place at the Table” and has been a keynote speaker at the White House. She has also been featured on BBC World News, CNN, Associated Press, Washington Post, People Magazine, and much more. She has spoken alongside President Joe Biden, has worked with Maria Shriver, The Moth Storytelling, and many others. She looks forward to running for office during the next state elections in Pennsylvania.

**DEVON**

Devon was born in West Chester Pa, but if home is where the heart is, her heart lies in Wilmington Delaware. Devon graduated from University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor’s degree in Broadcast Communications and a minor in writing. This would make sense for her to get a communications degree because she talked at an early age. A lot. Devon is passionate about fashion and politics. She loves speaking out and fighting for the justice of women and she loves to look good while doing it. Devon has been working with Lutheran Settlement House for the last three years as a member of their survivor network. She has participated in surveys and panels in hopes that sharing her experience will bring awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence. Devon’s future aspiration is to get signed with a popular modelling agency! She wants to be a representation for all curve dark skinned women. She wants to change the standard of beauty and inspire women to be their own definition of beauty. Devon decided to participate in this fellowship because before her grandmother died, she told her three things:

1. If you have a case, you don’t need money for a lawyer.

2. You’re really good at modelling, keep it up

3. Staying in touch with Lutheran they are a great resource.

Devon learned how to be a strong, intelligent, outspoken, bold, smart, fearless woman from her grandmother and by choosing to honor her she applied for the fellowship when Lutheran gave her the heads up about it!

**KATHRYN HOY**

Kathryn “Kate” Hoy resides in lower Bucks County where she works as a Paralegal in a Family Law Firm specializing in trauma victims. It’s in this area Kate really shines. Through trauma, Kate has found her gift, and really focuses on helping others as a way of healing. It doesn’t end with the two-legged kind either, Kate is actively fostering puppies and dogs pulled from high kill shelters in the South.

Kate believes strongly in raising her son, Logan, in a way that will lead to him being an amazing human. Being actively engaged in Politics, and even having aspirations of passing her own Protection from Abuse nationwide registry, similar to the Megan’s Law registry, are what fuel her to seek work toward social change. Kate sees no limits as to where the future will take her.

**KELLEY BURNETT**

Kelley D. Burnett is originally from Pittsburgh but resides in Northeast Philadelphia. Kelley has been the owner and teacher of a childcare facility for over 12 years. She has earned master’s degrees in Higher Education from Drexel University and in Early Childhood Education from Arcadia University. She also has a certification in Infant and Toddler Mental Health from Arcadia University as well. Kelley is an assembly member of the William Penn Pipeline, a leader and mentor in the Childcare Providers United Union along with other early childhood organizations. She is a strong proponent for the advancement of childcare providers and teachers. On behalf of these organizations, Kelley has spoken to the Philadelphia City Council and gone to Harrisburg to speak with the legislature about the plight of childcare in the state of Pennsylvania. She is extremely passionate about children, how they learn and helping their families advocate for quality learning environments for their children. Kelley aspires to continue her public speaking, advocating for the field of early childhood and mentoring her peers. Kelley is participating in the WESI fellowship because the fellowship and the women involved all have a story to tell and she feels that this is an awesome way to get the right people to listen.

**MARINA CIFUENTES**

Marina Dominguez Cifuentes is from Buenos Aires, Argentina, she immigrated to the United States in 2013. Is a mother. Earned her LLM for foreign trained lawyers from Temple University in 2019. Has been active at different niches which advocates for social justice in the Philadelphia area.

She believes that a better and inclusive world is possible, and it starts with awareness and education in values. Specially interested in Children's rights.

Looks forward to furthering her education to study "Community Trauma" and she is participating in WESI Fellowship with the conviction that it will make a difference for the community that she wishes to serve.

**NICOLE HEARY**

Nicole Heary is 46-year-old college freshmen at Bucks County Community College residing in Levittown, PA. She has worked in Grocery Retail Management for the last 21 years. She is currently the Bookkeeper and Front-End Manager at Redner’s Wholesale Markets. Her goal is to get an Associate of Art, Business Administration Degree from Bucks County Community College and then continue to get her Bachelor of Science, Business Administration with a Major in Human Resources from Rider University. She is the CEO and sole proprietor of the Heary Household. She Balances a full-time work schedule and full-time school schedule with raising 6 children. She currently volunteers with The Women’s Place. She is a graduate of their rise program which helps victims of abuse develop and change their lives permanently by “Redefining Independence, Safety and Empowerment”. She speaks to new volunteers and gives a victim’s perspective on how learning and engagement is different for victims of abuse. She also works with The Salvation Army during the annual Angel Tree program and has participated in their Pathway to Hope initiative. Her passion is changing the narrative on what abuse looks like. She wants to highlight financial abuse and the effect it has on the probability of re-victimization. She would like to redefine systemic assistance programs to promote financial security and independence instead as supplementation.

**TAINA ESTREMERA**

Taina Estremera is a master’s level behavioural health professional. She practiced family therapy in Philadelphia where she is originally from, with a goal to always give back to her community. Taina was the assistant director of an outpatient program that focused on trauma informed care for children who experienced trauma. Taina is now providing clinical training and technical assistance to behavioural health providers in the Philadelphia region, with a mission to enhance the quality of care being provided to community members. In addition to behavioural health, Taina has a strong connection to supporting women and children. Taina is a mother who is determined to change the trajectory for her child and all young children growing up in Philadelphia.

**TRACEY WALLINGTON**

Tracey Wallington currently resides in Philadelphia, PA. She has been a long-time resident, even though she has lived throughout the United States, in her youth. She is a woman of faith and as such volunteers at Elevation Church. As one of the leaders of their Welcome Team, it is her job to help her team celebrate people coming to Christ. She has been an unofficial mentor to many young girls and women. She aspires to further help them in a more official capacity, in the near future. She has a profound passion of wanting to provide financial literacy and general navigation of life. With her hope with

the help and knowledge acquired from the Narrative Fellowship; she can do just that!