

Kei Graves, Ph.D. Candidate

Kei Graves (he, him, his) serves as Director of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Programs for School & Youth at The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio. Kei's work at The Diversity Center focuses on developing and facilitating meaningful professional development opportunities for educators on a variety of subjects, emphasizing diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies; culturally responsive teaching/pedagogy, and best practices. Kei also provides consultation for other organizations in the for-profit and non-profit sector.

A scholar-practitioner and grassroots organizer, Kei is devoted to the eradication of oppression, prejudice, and bigotry. He believes that change can occur through dedicated education, intentional engagement, and purposeful dialogue around sometimes difficult topics.

Kei's praxis (a blend of theory and practice) is driven by liberatory theories and culturally responsive pedagogy. He believes in a collaborative and transformative approach to change and actively works to drive progress in Northeast Ohio.

BACKGROUND:

Kei's passion for social justice ignited during his two service terms in AmeriCorps. In AmeriCorps, Kei coached first-year and marginalized students in community college towards setting and meeting their completion goals. He serves as an adjunct faculty at several institutions teaching: Diversity and the Liberal Arts, Liberal Arts, Introduction to Humanities, and First-Year Experience. Kei has also led the design and implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic planning for a Northeast Ohio college. Throughout his career, he has worked within educational institutions and the community to improve conditions for marginalized groups. Kei current serves as the Board President of a local, grassroots LGBTQ+ advocacy organization.

EXPERIENCE:

- *Leadership, development, and implementation of strategic plans centered on diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within educational settings.*
- *Curriculum development and program facilitation for classes and workshops (including non-profits, for-profits, and educational institutions).*
- *One-on-one coaching on a variety of subjects, including diversity, equity, and inclusion, goal setting, and more.*



EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATES

Ph.D. Candidate: Social Justice Education and Leadership

Union Institute & University,
Cincinnati, OH

Masters of Humanities

Tiffin University
Tiffin, OH

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Rocky Mountain College of Art &
Design
Lakewood, CO

Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring

Lorain County Community
College
Elyria, OH

TRAINING

Latinx Challenges Training

Racial Equity Institute (REI)

Groundwater Training

Racial Equity Institute (REI)

Bridges Out of Poverty

Lorain County Community
College