



# Angela Clinton

## Capacity Building Training Partner Vision and Program Alignment

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I am a fiercely loving racial equity organizer, coach, trainer and facilitator committed to large systemic and individual level change; to movement building and deep healing; to justice and joy.

### What was your journey to this work?

I am from the Philadelphia area, and for many years was the lead organizer of the Southeastern Pennsylvania First Suburbs Project, a regional equity organization composed of municipal, school, faith and civic member institutions. The organization won racial equity campaigns in housing and education funding at the state and federal levels, using a bipartisan approach. My path has included community organizing, electoral politics, teaching, sexual health advocacy, needle exchange, women's leadership, global policy, dance and exploring pleasure and healing practices. I was raised in a faith tradition (Unitarian Universalist) that taught me about justice and spirit, and in a family where systems change (in families, organizations, and society) was part of the dinner table discussion.

A drive for justice and wholeness brought me to CEIO. In 2010 I was a part of the project development team that guided CEIO's creation. A full-time racial equity organizer at the time, I took the train from Philadelphia to New Haven once a month because I believed in what Niyonu Spann and Bill Graustein were creating. So many things felt aligned and had my curious mind hopeful: the belief that the more we can bring our whole selves to our work, the more effective we are; the commitment to not replicate the very systems we seek to transform; the belief that conscious use of power leads to transformation.

I am a white, queer, cisgender, middle-class woman without a visible disability who is committed to racial justice, healing and liberation for all. I am passionate about supporting and coaching ALL people in their processes towards liberation and healing,



with a recognition of the importance of my role in supporting white people on our journeys to becoming more whole and dismantling racism in systems including ourselves – a journey I know I'll be on for my lifetime. My relationship with my body is deep, driven by both my love of movement and my long-term experience with chronic pain. I have an intense love and respect for bodies of all forms, shapes and sizes and for the information, healing and potential freedom that our bodies provide us. I run monthly movement release sessions for womxn.

As part of CEIO, from 2014-2019, I co-designed and directed the CEIO Organizer's Path, an intensive, intentional support and training cohort-based program for Connecticut organizers to become more effective and reflect on themselves and their ways of being as organizers

## Training

I have had the honor of studying with Niyonu Spann through Beyond Diversity 101 since 2009, where I am a facilitator of the 5-day Intensive. I trained as a community organizing trainer through Building One America and as a yoga teacher through Yoga Spirit. I trained as a coach through the Coaching with Spirit program at The Graduate Institute and I am currently expanding my studies of somatic coaching at the Tantric Institute of Integrated Sexuality.

## What is your role with CEIO?

In addition to serving as a Capacity Building and Training Partner, I guide the implementation of vision and program alignment across the full range of our offerings and within our CEIO team. Alignment between “who we say we be” (our vision and values) and what we do (our programming and our actions) is the ends and the means of CEIO and the responsibility of all of who sign up to be part of our work. This alignment is what drew me to the CEIO project development team. My particular role is to keep my eyes, ears, mind and heart focused on our whole system and to monitor both our internal and external alignment with the core values that guide our work: conscious co-creation; co-learning/teaching in communities of practice; whole systems transformation; inviting, listening, honoring people's stories, and justice – equitable sharing of power throughout the community.

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