

Meet the RICJ Staff

Nanda Shewmangal

Assistant
Director for
Programs



Nanda is in charge of our Youth, Leadership and Diversity programs.

She facilitates trainings and outreach to high schools, mentoring and supporting the youth in our programs. She oversees the Youth Action Council and directs the youth Leadership camp and Leadership for a Future for adult leaders.

A native of Guyana whose parents immigrated to the US, before joining RICJ Nanda worked on

human rights issues including women's rights; abuse and violence prevention; health education; and diversity trainings.

While at ROCA, Inc., she did street outreach work, and trained youth to become peer leaders.

At the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, Nanda developed and implemented cultural trainings and conducted outreach for domestic violence awareness in Asian communities.

More recently at the National Network of Forest Practitioners, Nanda worked across the US to

improve capacity of forest practitioners to overcome racial and class discrimination, increase diversity of workers and implement cultural diversity education. Among other initiatives, she created a venue for African American and Latino farm workers and landowners to share their voices nationally on issues of forest policy and community development.

Nanda holds a BA degree in Business Management from Johnson & Wales University.

Contact Nanda at (401) 467-1717 ext. 103, or nandas@etal.uri.edu.

Ann Clanton

Program Coordinator



Ann is in charge of event planning and public relations.

Ann coordinates the RICJ Metcalf Diversity in the Media Awards in May, and the October Community & Justice Awards.

She led our collaborative project with the "Traces of the Trade" documentary about RI's slave trade legacy, coordinating screenings and dialogues across our state related to this Rhode Island story.

Ann came to us from the East Providence Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force where she was Community Organizer for the Campaign for a Healthy Rhode Island.

A Rhode Island native, she worked in the District of Columbia coordinating Grassroots/Political Programs for the National Association of Realtors, and was a program administrator for the DC Department of Recreation and Parks.

Ann worked in media relations for the Greater Washington Urban League and Roberta Segal

and Associates; and as a Conference Planner.

Ann serves on the Boards of the RI Black Heritage Society, RI Juvenile Justice Commission and RI State Council on the Arts. She is a founding member of the Greater Providence RI Chapter of Links Inc., and currently serves as Vice President.

Ann studied journalism at Howard University and holds a BS in Public Administration from Roger Williams University.

Contact Ann at RICJ at ext. 101 or 996-3796 or winyah35@yahoo.com

Please welcome a new RICJ staff member

Ken Amoriggi, JD

Coordinator, Juvenile Justice DMC Project



Ken is in charge of our Juvenile Justice DMC Diversionary Project. This project's goal is to reduce disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in the Rhode Island juvenile justice system.

A Rhode Island native, Ken, upon graduating college, moved to East Lansing, MI and worked for a regional communication provider, Corecomm, managing their strategic alliance department.

Upon his return to RI, Ken helped run the family business, a wholesale seafood operation. After a few years of helping to grow the business, he left to focus on his legal studies.

While Ken was studying law at Roger Williams University School of Law his desire to become a public interest lawyer led him to join RICJ as a volunteer intern in May 2008, working closely with the Rhode Island Civil Rights Roundtable on issues of racial profiling. In time, he transitioned to working on the juvenile justice project as a paid intern.

Funded by grants from the RI Justice Commission and others, Ken's project brings together community, police, courts, educators, mental health clinicians and juveniles to make system changes and to develop alternatives to incarceration for juveniles.

Ken holds a BA degree in Philosophy from the University of Rhode Island, and a JD from Roger Williams University School of Law. He is a certified mediator in the State

of RI and has mediated a variety of cases in Family Court and District Court as part of the RWU School of Law Mediation Clinic.

Contact Ken at (401) 467-1717 ext. 100 or kamorigi045@barrister.rwu.edu.

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*"Be the change
you'd like to see in the world!"*

Toby Ayers, PhD

Executive Director



Toby directs RICJ and is the link to our Board of Directors, Advisors and donors. She is responsible for strategic plans, policy, legislation, fundraising, and building our consulting service.

Toby leads the Civil Rights Roundtable and works with the Juvenile Justice collaboration between community, youth, police, courts, schools and mental health professionals. She teams with Nanda on Leadership for a Future and on our diversity workplace consulting service.

A community activist and former academic, Toby's past work included de-

veloping multicultural education programs in Guam and directing research, advocacy and service for a university-community health partnership in Boston. In 1995, responding to the murder of a family member, Toby founded and directed domestic violence programs in health centers across Boston, then joined the RI women's commission as its director. She came to NCCJ in late 2003. Past faculty affiliations include RISD, Northeastern University and Schools of Medicine at University of Illinois at Chicago, Boston University and Brown University.

Dr. Ayers is a Community Psychologist with Ph.D. from Washington State University and postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The 1987 Rhode Island State awardee for Outstanding Young Woman of America, Toby's goal is to help all Rhode Islanders find common ground.

Toby can be contacted at 467-1717 Ext. 102 or RICJ@cox.net.

Meet RICJ's Lead Volunteers

*"Volunteers are worth
their weight in gold"
RICJ is rich in our wonderful
volunteers!*



Deanna Brown
Volunteer Wall of
Hope Design Project



Dave Wasser, April Samuels & Rich
Tarlian, Project Respect adult staff.



Harry, LG, Camblin, Ritchie, Amiee,
Anabel, (Nanda at back), & Michael,
2008 youth staff (Rob Jones at right).



Leah Nollenberger, volunteer and
Lucie Burdick, Board volunteer.



Our friend Rob Jones,
youth programs Advisor