









2023 was an important year of reflection for me.

It was about 45 years since the diversity movement launched; a time when U.S. organizations were reckoning with the value proposition of diversity, exploring the power of representation, and learning to embrace differences.

I reflected on my role in diversity work back then. I recalled the complexities of organizational environments as they entered a world navigating the dismantling of its systems of exclusion. It was a complicated time. All those years later, 2023 became a time to pause to answer the question: how far have we really come since the diversity movement?

2023 was also 7 years since I launched The Equity Project. I had a dream of creating my own organization in a way that modeled equity and the competencies to teach others to do the same. I envisioned a world where my firm could work across sectors, regardless of organizational size, to help leaders and teams operationalize the culture and structures they wanted to see. I wanted to see equity as the outcome of the strategic work our clients would embark upon. I also wanted my employees, some for the very first time, to see and feel what equity looked like and felt like for themselves. This was a year to think about how far our own company had come since we opened in 2016.

It has been 3 years since we witnessed and experienced a racial reckoning in the U.S. We watched the juxtaposition of both hate and collectiveness wherever we looked. We saw organizations react in a range of ways. Some were noticeably silent, some were performative in their actions, and others were active and authentic. The range of understanding and response was diverse and complicated. Again, I took the time to pause to answer the question: how far have we really come?

In 2023 we witnessed a year of operationalizing the many learning journeys our clients engaged in across the country. We saw a dramatic increase in the number of clients who moved from awareness to action in their work. We worked with organizations across the U.S. on organizational assessments, equity blueprinting lens development, and implementation plans. It was the year of institutionalizing what they had learned.

My team and I were reminded about the evolutionary nature of equity, inclusion, diversity and belonging work. The work is fluid, everchanging, culture-strengthening, complicated, strategic work.

We are grateful to be a part of the fabric of so many organizations. The weaving of the beautiful tapestry called equity depends on all of us, and we are proud to be a part of it.

With honor and gratitude,

Dwinita Mosby Tyler, Ph.D.

Chief Catalyst and Founder The Equity Project





REFLECTIONS
FROM OUR TEAM

"2023 provided a unique opportunity for me to watch our clients move into the action phase of EDI work. The trajectory of awareness to capacity building to action was a joy to watch and guide.

It is a complicated time in history to navigate this type of trajectory, so I also saw a refreshed commitment, strong examples of courage, and meaningful

ways to express new strategies in accessible ways."

Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

FOUNDER & CHIEF CATALYST





"Gratefully, I am doing my life's work every day. 2023 was a year that confirmed equity work is not waning after the "great awakening" or "racial reckoning" of 2020-2022 because our clients haven't stopped. They are committed and doing the work to disrupt systems of inequity and building organizational cultures where everyone can thrive.

There's still much to be done, but we are steadfast. One of my favorite James Baldwin quotes: "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Monica Williams
CHIEF CONSULTING OFFICER

"In 2023, we continued to build the foundation "of the plane as we fly it" by strengthening our ability to track our progress in providing services, timely deliverables and client engagement. It has allowed us to identify trends, pivot to more precise prescribing of services, and adapt to fulfilling client needs and desired outcomes. I'm excited about what's to come in 2024 as we add more self-evaluation processes and quality improvement opportunities.

Little by little, our plane is soaring higher and higher."

Wylia Sims

CHIEF ZEN OFFICER (AKA COO)







"My first year as a consultant with TEP has been a very fulfilling one. I learned what it really means to meet clients where they're at and not where I want them to be all while remaining authentic to who I am. This ranged from having a client that was ready to deconstruct white supremacy traits to supporting an organization with alignment around terminology and meaning of what EDI looked like for them.

I am excited to continue to support clients that are moving into action-oriented steps as we are beginning to see from many organizations."

Quill Phillips-Carter

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVITY CONSULTANT

"2023 was a year of watching our clients move from a place of learning into action.

We saw several organizations dive into the "doing" of EDI work and have worked with them to develop tangible, actionable, and realistic plans that honor their employees and workplace cultures. It's inspiring to see our clients work hard to create inclusive new systems that creatively tackle the challenges of our day."

Hannah Galgiani

MANAGER OF PROJECTS & ENGAGEMENT





"I have utilized various facets of my professional background to help clients navigate complicated internal dynamics, respond to the latest current events. and find a path to making substantive changes to their practices that have meaningful impacts on their employees and communitybased constituencies. I am excited to tackle new challenges in the coming year, and continue to partner with clients who seek to create equitable outcomes and lasting changes to their organizational cultures.

Ariana Flores

EQUITY ARCHITECT

NEW TEAM MEMBER

Lauren Epps

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT & OFFICE MANAGER

With a passion for education and a commitment to fostering inclusive environments, Lauren has dedicated the past 15 years to the field of teaching and mentorship. Armed with a wealth of



experience, she has not only shaped the minds of countless students but has also inspired and guided fellow teachers on their professional journeys. Her leadership and advocacy for diversity and equity in education have been evident throughout her career. Eager to broaden her scope and contribute to the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, she has recently embraced a new role as the Executive Assistant and Office Manager.

"2023 was a pivotal year for me. I was able to release the notion that as an EA I couldn't contribute to our EDI work and highlight ways admin support is an essential part to an organization's EDI blueprint. I also led discussions with the TEP team around how to ensure that our clients' admin support staff was included in their EDI efforts. I look forward to continuing to integrate diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice into my future endeavors.

Anna Roberson



Equity and Justice-Centered

We drive just, inclusive, and equitable outcomes.

Growth Mindset

We position ourselves to lead transformation and change.

Systems Focus

We challenge inequitable systems and processes.

Authentic Relationships

We collaborate internally as a team and externally with our client partners in every aspect of our work.

Humble Expertise

We commit to a posture of feedback, listening, and growth.



DEC 2016

The Equity Project was formed by Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler



JAN 2017

Opened first office space in the Taxi building



2018

Our sister company, The HR Shop was formed, a boutique HR consulting firm



FEB 2017

Served first client. Center for Trauma & Resilience



2020

148 clients served to date

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Influencing systems is at the core of our equity work. We help organizations examine and reimagine their systems to ensure each colleague has what they need to thrive.

Our mission is to be transformational, not transactional. At TEP we recognize that equity work is a continuous journey, and we value the strength of our ongoing partnerships.

As facilitators our goal is to create equitable and inclusive spaces where all voices and experiences are heard and considered. Our approach is centered around "creating spaces filled with grace," an understanding that everyone is coming to the table with a unique set of experiences, identities and understanding. We allow everyone to show up as they are, without experiencing shame or judgment. Our objective is to strengthen the culture of organizations.

From individual transformation to systems change, we are in the business of impact. Whether it's a one-time workshop, equity assessment, or strategic blueprint – we strive to guide organizations towards lasting and meaningful change.



FEB 2022

Purchased new headquarters in Denver, Colorado at 1718 Gaylord Street



2022

353 clients served to date



2023

101 new clients served



2023

Wins first TEP award from The Denver Business Journal







Hired first full-time consultant

NOTABLE ACCOLADES



Remarkable Young Women's Conference, Honoree

DR. DWINITA MOSBY TYLER

THE FULL PROJECT Winner of the Denver Business Journal's 2023
Diversity, Equity CBIZ & Awards program

THE EQUITY PROJECT TEAM

Rhodes Scholarship Chair, 2023, Selection Committee for 2024 Scholars

DR. DWINITA MOSBY TYLER

Girl Scouts Women of Distinction

DR. DWINITA MOSBY TYLER



Appreciation of Faculty Excellence Honor from North Carolina A&T

DR. DWINITA MOSBY TYLER

MSU Honors Heroes in Advocacy at the Annual MLK Peace Awards PBS ROCKY MOUNTAIN, JANUARY 1, 2023

Honoring Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

DEI Awards Winner: The Equity Project

DENVER
BUSINESS
JOURNAL,
JUNE 22, 2023



Meet Dwinita Mosby Tyler

INTERVIEW WITH CANVASREBEL, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

Dwinita Mosby Tyler Radio Interview with Vince Brown in the Morning

BIGGS RADION CHICAGO-INDIANAPOLIS, MARCH 16, 2023

20 Unique Ways to Give Employees the Flexibility They Crave

NEWSWEEK EXPERT FORUM LEADER, JULY 27, 2023

Featuring Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler OUR MEDIA

Town Council Approves a New Breckenridge Equity and Inclusion Comprehensive Plan

SUMMIT DAILY NEWS, JANUARY 18, 2024

Featuring Monica Williams







BOARD SERVICE

Bonfils Stanton, Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

Colorado Village Collaborative, Wylia Sims

Denver Metro Chamber Of Commerce Leadership Foundation, Monica Williams

Historic Denver, Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

Signal Behavioral Health, Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

TIED Leadership Roundtable, Monica Williams, President & Co-Founder

SPONSORSHIP

Donated to **Mu Omega Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority** to sponsor their food insecurity initiative which supports an elementary school with a high rate of free/reduced lunches.

Provided a financial donation to **The Other Side Academy**.

South African Medical Clinic building in honor of The Equity Project.

Sponsored two students to participate in the fall HBCU (Historically Black Colleges & Universities) tour.

Provided **East High School Ladies First Program** mentorship and a monetary donation.



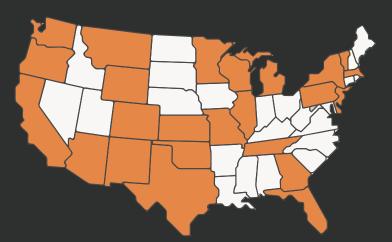
OUR IMPACT

101

TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED IN 2023

RETURNING CLIENTS IN 2023 61

NEW CLIENTS IN 2023



IMPACT BY STATE

Arizona • California • Colorado • Connecticut Florida • Georgia • Illinois • Kansas Massachusetts • Michigan • Minnesota Mississippi • Montana • New Jersey New Mexico • New York • Oklahoma • Oregon Pennsylvania • Tennessee • Texas • Washington Wisconsin • Wyoming • District of Columbia*

395

TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED IN 2016-2023

213

INQUIRIES IN 2023 8

STATES REACHED

121

REFERRALS IN 2023 302

SERVICES DELIVERED IN 2023

We are advancing equity across diverse industries

Accounting & Tax Advertising Affordable Housing Aging Arts & Culture Aviation & Aerospace Banking Beverage & Food Bioscience & Life Sciences Broadcast Media Production **Business Consulting** & Services Civil & Social Service Clean Energy Finance Communications Community Services Conservancy Dental Services Housing & Development Education Electronics Manufacturing Environment Federal Government Financial Services Healthcare & Social

Assistance

Hotel & Hospitality **Human Services** International Affairs IT Services & Consulting Labor Union Legal Manufacturing Member Association Non-profit & Foundation **Pharmaceuticals** Professional Training & Coaching Professional & Member Associations Public Media Religion Retail & Trade Software Development State & Local Government Technology



CASE STUDY: AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY INTERNAL MEDICINE

Erin Luethke, Volunteer Engagement Senior Specialist Lead Consultant: Ariana Flores



How did your work with The Equity Project impact your organization, staff, board, communities, or clients?

TEP provided us with an in-depth assessment report that gave us a clearer picture of what our members are going through every day in their professional lives. This information helped us put together a comprehensive strategy that allows us to make tangible progress towards making the veterinary profession more diverse, inclusive, and equitable.

Share aspects of your strategic work with The Equity Project that were notable, impactful, or helpful in your operationalization of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

TEP gave us a framework that helped us dig into the conversations that we needed to have organizationally in order to create a strong foundation to move forward with. We were able to create our strongest strategy to date because of the conversations we had.

CASE STUDY: VINTAGE

Erin Fisher, Director

Lead Consultant: Quill Phillips-Carter



How did your work with The Equity Project impact your organization, staff, board, or clients?

The biggest impact is how we think about EDI now. EDI is no longer tied to an event or project; it's a change in the way we work and think. Before, we may have tiptoed around conversations about diversity, but now we hold space for the difficult conversations and differing opinions. We've refocused on relationship building and not just checking boxes. The ultimate goal is that through our work with The Equity Project, we have incorporated EDI into our culture and processes, not just use the terms as empty buzzwords.

Share aspects of your strategic work with The Equity Project that were notable, impactful, or helpful in your operationalization of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

We're just at the beginning of implementing an equity lens within our department, but there already has been a shift in our way of thinking that is reflective of our newfound understanding and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion after working with The Equity

Project. We have made changes to our RFP process, our

Board membership application, and outreach, and this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Would you recommend that other organizations engage with The Equity Project and if so, why?

From the very beginning, The Equity Project staff and our consultant, Quill, have been a joy to work with. They have been communicative and provided timely, thoughtful answers to our multitude of questions. I would recommend The Equity Project to any organization that is ready to take an intentional inventory of their policies and culture with the goal of integrating an authentic EDI strategy that is sustainable and transformational.

"Equity, diversity, and inclusion is no longer tied to an event or project; it's a change in the way we work and think."



CASE STUDY: COLORADO FUNDERS FOR INCLUSIVENESS AND EQUITY (COFIE)

Kristi Petrie, Co-Executive Director - AJL Foundation Lead Consultant: Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler

How did your work with The Equity Project impact your organization, staff, board, communities, or clients? COFIE is a network membership organization that provides equity-centered education and networking across the field of philanthropy in Colorado. Since engaging with The Equity Project in 2020, our membership has grown from an estimate of about 150 members to 300 members who influence capital flows across all three sectors, and we now have the support of nine sponsors compared to around 3 in 2020. Meeting attendance has increased from about 15-20 people to 25 - 45 people each session and surveys show that members are using learnings from COFIE/TEP to shift to more inclusive and equitable practices in their workplaces and personal lives. We credit much of that growth to The Equity Project's expert and loving facilitation and teaching of equity-centered principles, philosophies, strategies, evaluation and related topics. Thanks to this partnership, we are able to provide consistent and ongoing professional development with the specific mission to support, educate and embolden Colorado funders to lead the movement toward inclusivity and equity in philanthropy.

Share aspects of your strategic work with The Equity Project that were notable, impactful, or helpful in your operationalization of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

COFIE is led by a volunteer steering committee and while we have not engaged with TEP for specific strategic work for the organization itself, COFIE's structure, processes and people are heavily influenced by the learnings and education provided by TEP in COFIE meetings.

Would you recommend that other organizations engage with The Equity Project and if so, why?

Absolutely - TEP has played an integral role in helping to carry out COFIE's mission to support, educate and embolden Colorado funders to lead the movement toward inclusivity and equity in philanthropy. We recommend other organizations engage with TEP for their effectiveness in helping organizations to understand and make the shift toward more inclusive and equitable practices, their loving, personable and direct approach to the work, and the ease of engaging with them (prompt and clear communication).

CASE STUDY: COLORADO TRIAL LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION

Julie Whitacre, Executive Director Lead Consultant: Monica Williams



How did your work with The Equity Project impact your organization, staff, board, or clients?

During a very challenging time in our association, Monica created a space where all voices could be heard and brought down barriers so meaningful conversations could happen, and change could occur. The Equity Project's approach, and Monica's expertise, made what seemed like an overwhelming task achievable. As a result of surveys and focus groups, objective organizational assessments, and spaces filled with grace, we have a strong foundation for our board of directors to build institutional change for current and future members, while staying true to our mission.

"Without hesitation I would recommend other organizations engage with The Equity Project if they are considering equity, diversity, and inclusion work. Their partnership and expertise make what can seem like an overwhelming process achievable."

Share aspects of your strategic work with The Equity Project that were notable, impactful, or helpful in your operationalization of equity, diversity, and inclusivity.

All aspects of the work done with The Equity Project are impactful to our association. The formal work (i.e., surveys, focus groups, assessments, and plans) is not only instrumental in operationalizing equity, diversity, and inclusivity in our association, but also the informal conversations we have with Monica throughout the process.

Would you recommend that other organizations engage with The Equity Project and if so, why?

Without hesitation I would recommend other organizations engage with The Equity Project if they are considering equity, diversity, and inclusion work. Their partnership and expertise make what can seem like an overwhelming process achievable.



Denver Zoo highly recommends The Equity Project (TEP) for their exceptional work in promoting EDI within our organization.

Their expertise and commitment to fostering a more inclusive workplace have had a profound impact on our approach to culture and operations. TEP conducted a comprehensive assessment of our organization's EDI landscape, utilizing a range of effective methodologies such as surveys, interviews, and focus groups. This thorough analysis provided invaluable insights into our strengths and areas for improvement. The resulting EDI strategy they helped us craft was not only well-researched but also tailored to our specific needs and organizational goals.

In addition, TEP consistently reviews and updates our HR policies to align with best practices. Their commitment to staying current with evolving standards ensures that our organization remains at the forefront of inclusivity and belonging.

Their professionalism, expertise, and commitment to creating more inclusive workplaces make them an invaluable partner in any organization's journey toward Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

Elkin Alfred, Director of Equity & Culture "The Equity Project's
expertise and commitment
to fostering a more
inclusive workplace have
had a profound impact on
our approach to culture
and operations."



The Colorado Department of Local Affairs strongly believes that developing an equity lens in all that we do is critical to our mission of supporting and strengthening local communities. Over the last two years we have enjoyed the partnership and collaboration with The Equity Project on reviewing and assessing our internal equity development, improving our culture, and building a strong skill set amongst our employees to better serve every community in Colorado.



Dionne Stroter, Deputy Executive Director



Over the past year we have been working with our consultant Quill Phillips-Carter from The Equity Project. Being a community mental health organization, many of our clinicians have undergone DEI training, workshops, and practice, so as the Accountability Coalition for Equity (ACE) team, we knew we had to have an expert to bolster our learning and growth in these areas. Through our commitment to evidenced based practice, Savio also understands the value of an outside entity guiding this assessment and growth process.

While TEP provided a menu of service options for us to choose from, they also were extremely flexible in allowing us to assert our needs. They partnered with us to find strategies that would help our agency learn and grow and were within our budget as a nonprofit agency. Quill challenged us to first identify a DEI framework. She offered us a presentation that included multiple frameworks and allowed for discussion to assess which framework would fit and challenge our agency. Next, she helped us to teach this framework within the agency by helping us launch a series of training opportunities.

During our consultations, she regularly models ways to initiate, sustain, and evaluate conversations related to identity. She helps us to think beyond doing this work only in sessions with clients and how to make sure our outreach touches every department at Savio.

We look forward to continuing our work with The Equity Project as we strive to create an agency culture of accountability, conversation, respect, and learning opportunities.

Beth Humphrey, Supervisor



We value our partnership with The Equity Project so very much and I cannot imagine doing this work with anyone else but Dwinita. Our work is rooted in strong values, a sophisticated and rigorous approach to the work and a commitment to outcomes. And, I personally show up to this work from a place of generosity, humility and kindness. Dwinita and I share that same style of engagement, which is why our "How to be an Anti-Racist Organization: A Conversation with Dwinita & Tariana" is so popular. People feel encouraged to learn in an unjudgmental environment.

Tariana Navas-Nieves,
Director of Cultural Affairs







Monica and The Equity Project have been a valued thought partner at the Denver Art Museum since 2018. Most recently Monica supported our organization through a very difficult time for relationships within the organization. Her experience and advice helped us to relaunch our DEI supervision trainings and has brought our teams together. Our supervisors have expressed feeling united and equipped with the skills they need to work towards better decisionmaking processes. Monica has given us the opportunity to continue our dialogue around EDI and we look forward to a continued partnership in our work to become an anti-racist organization.

Alisha Andrews, Director of Equity & Employee Experience



The Equity Project brought expertise to our team that we would not otherwise have had. They customized their content and approach based on where our group was in their learning journey. We greatly benefited from them framing difficult and emotional subjects in a safe way that engendered productive dialogue and advanced our organization's commitment to DEIJ.

Ariana's facilitation style was much appreciated by our staff and Chapter Board of Trustees. She was able to balance a very wide range of experience and understanding of DEI and why it matters for conservation. She was able to ground the principles of equity by encouraging us to have deeper conversations about how we can shift our perspective and disrupt the majority, western approach we have been deploying.

The most effective content presented was focused on the different types of power and how this shows up in specific ways for people personally and professionally.

Hayley Mortimer, Executive Director The Nature Conservancy Wyoming

"Just wanted to send a note of sincere thanks and gratitude for the workshop this morning. It is EXACTLY what we needed and as I said when you were leaving, it's just the beginning. I felt like there was wide participation, openness, and honesty, and it's a great step forward for us. I also think your style really helped people feel safe."

Leigh Chandler, Executive Director



The Colorado Photographic Arts Center fills a unique niche in Denver's arts landscape as the only nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of photography. With our recent move to a beautiful new arts and education center in Denver's Golden Triangle Creative District, we saw an opportunity to work with The Equity Project to evaluate and improve CPAC's EDI practices as we start this exciting chapter in our new space.

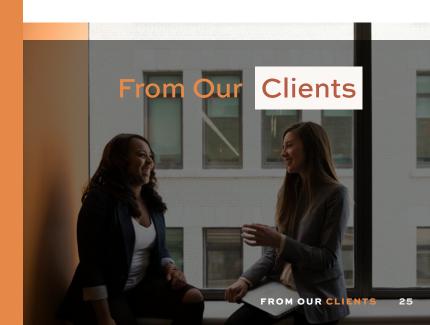
The Equity Project guided our staff and board through a series of virtual sessions. Lessons were informative, professional, and covered topics such as EDI definitions, equity literacy principles, celebrating diversity, barriers to equity, and inclusivity.

We participated in helpful exercises and breakout sessions that helped us identify equity detours and barriers and were given course materials that will be useful in the future. The timing of these lectures was important as we begin the process of updating CPAC's next 5-year Strategic Plan in 2024, and will help us improve and implement policies to better serve our diverse community of artists, members, students, and visitors.

Samantha Johnston
Executive Director
& Curator



"The lessons were informative, professional, and covered topics such as EDI definitions, equity literacy principles, celebrating diversity, barriers to equity, and inclusivity."





As the world changes, so will the nature of what equity, inclusion, diversity and belonging work looks like. We forecast an important shift in what teams will need to strengthen their competencies and navigate change.

We see 2024 as a year of encouragement in the work of equity, inclusion, diversity and belonging. Though we see strong commitment to the work across the U.S., we also want to be sure there is a formula, for staying encouraged to continue the journey. Even with strong commitments and champions, the work will always need fueling. Using an innovative communication strategy, The Equity Project will work diligently and intentionally to create a means for this to happen.

Over the next two years, The Equity Project will continue to strengthen its current offerings while adding:

- Equity, Inclusion, Diversity and Belonging Practitioner coaching models
- · An accessible model for online learning
- EDI Executive Coaching and Leadership Labs
- Enhanced EDI learning journeys and capacity-building opportunities

The Equity Project team looks forward to the future and the many ways we can influence outcomes, strategies and learning journeys. We know that the world is calling for a refreshed way to tackle the complexities of this work. We look forward to shining a light on the myriad ways to move from awareness to capacity building to action.

We are proud to be a bright light for the future we want to see!

Dwinita Mosby Tyler, Ph.D., Chief Catalyst and Founder



EQUITY. REDEFINED. ACTUALIZED.

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