

Marissa's Bio:

Marissa Martin is the Executive Director of the Advocacy Institute. Prior to joining the Advocacy Institute, she served as the Northeast Director of Young Invincibles, leading policy and advocacy efforts around higher education, workforce development and healthcare for young adults.

Marissa has always had a passion for social justice and making larger systemic change to increase access and equity, holding several leadership positions overseeing Policy, Operations and Data teams. These positions include serving as the Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives at the NYC Public Engagement Unit; the Director of Policy and Government Relations at ExpandedED Schools (formerly TASC), as well as the Director of Government Affairs for the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families where she led CACF's New York State and City budget advocacy campaigns.

Marissa is a Licensed Social Worker (LMSW) and holds a Masters in Social Work from Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, with concentrations in Community Organizing, Planning and Development.

Marissa's pronouns are she/her/hers.

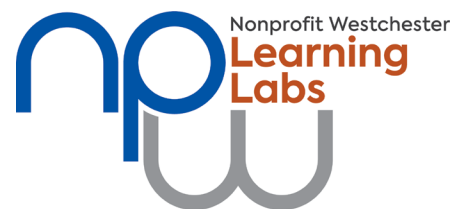
Contact Marissa at marissa@advocacy-institute.org.

Nia's Bio:

Nia is a community organizer in the Long Island/metro-NY area, a self-identified liberationist & pan-Africanist. As a member of several social justice organizations her work is rooted in an multidisciplinary, intersectional, and inter-generational approach to end the carceral system, build solidarity movements, & a commitment to Black liberation.

Prior to joining the Advocacy Institute as a Trainer, Nia served as a NY State Delegate for the 2020 [Black National Convention](#) and has been featured in publications such as the [Gothamist](#) & [ShondaLand](#).

It is through her experience collaborating with community members & activists in NY State



that she has learned the significance of building cross-cultural-movements and how to navigate systems in order to enact more just & equitable change.

Nia's Pronouns: she/her/hers

Contact Nia at nia@advocacy-institute.org.