

# PIH ENGAGE NETWORK LEADERSHIP TEAM 2024-25



## WHAT IS OUR NETWORK LEADERSHIP PURPOSE?

The purpose of the PIH Engage Network Leadership Team is to facilitate the development of a network of leaders and teams that will help advance the right to health through their roles as students, professionals, and organizers, culminating in the mitigation of global health inequities. We aim to accomplish this by coaching leads through effective organizing strategy and potential challenges, committing to the highest level of mutual accountability and consistent communication, and fostering meaningful relationships that promote growth and sustain impactful change.

## WHO ARE WE?

The Network Leadership Team is composed of coaches grouped into five “Small Groups.” Each Small Group has one Lead. The five Leads and the PIH Engage staff team compose of the Core Team.

# SMALL GROUP #1



**Jordan Reif (SG Lead) (Core Team) (DEI Team):** I have been part of PIHE for five years, first at Case Western Reserve University and for the last two years with the NLT. I live in New York City working with medical students at the intersection of humanities, bioethics, and healthcare. Outside of PIHE, I love cooking, reading, Muay Thai, and every type of tea and coffee. I'm excited to continue coaching this year and be part of Core Team—the people in PIHE always motivate me and I'm thrilled for us all to organize together for universal healthcare.



**Sadia Demby:** I'm Sadia (she/her) and I joined PIH Engage in 2018, serving as the Team Coordinator and Advocacy Lead for the Harvard team. I have been a coach since 2021 and was also the full-time grassroots advocacy specialist at PIH for two years. Currently, I'm an MD-PhD student in medical anthropology at UCSF. I'm constantly inspired by the organizing, advocacy, and education efforts of the network, and am confident that we are slowly but surely bending that moral arc towards a more caring and just society. In my free time, I enjoy listening to music and watching/playing tennis, soccer, and formula 1.



**Rosie Poling:** I joined the PIH Engage Harvard team in 2017 and have been a coach since 2020! I'm currently living in Washington DC, where I work at PIH on global health workforce policy and advocacy priorities while working on a part-time Masters in Public Policy at Georgetown. When not annoying members of Congress, I can be found running, listening to podcasts, and trying to find cute dogs to pet. I am thrilled to be a coach this year and work with such amazing people in the fight for the right to health!



**Geetika Yelugoti:** I am a senior at The University of Texas at Austin studying Neuroscience with a certificate in Social Inequality, Health, and Policy. I got my start with the UT Austin PIH Engage team as a member of the advocacy team, and I later served as the Advocacy Coordinator. Outside of Engage, I work to reconnect with unhoused folks in Austin with loved ones they have lost touch with through Miracle Messages. I also enjoy running and am currently attempting to learn to play tennis.



**Caitlin Nguyen:** Hi everyone! My name is Caitlin, and I'm from Walnut, California. I've served as the community building & education lead, fundraising lead, and then team coordinator for the University of Southern California team. I recently graduated with a B.S in Human Biology and M.S in Global Medicine this past May. I am a new coach with the Network Leadership Team and am incredibly excited to empower this movement forward with others. I am currently on my growth years, working as a CNA locally and as a research assistant at the USC Leonard School of Gerontology. Outside of Engage, I am a dog mom, meditation enthusiast, book lover, and ice skater. If you need skating lessons, hit me up.

# SMALL GROUP #2



**Queeny Jose (SG Lead) (Core Team):** Queeny Jose (She/Her) - I'm the Fundraising Senior Community Organizer for Engage at PIH. My journey with PIH Engage began nearly four years ago when I started a team at the University of Florida, where I earned my BS in Health Sciences with a minor in Health Disparities in Society. After leading a PIH Engage team for two years, I transitioned into coaching other teams as part of the Engage Network Leadership Team. For the past year, I've been a core volunteer with Engage, focusing on training and coaching. In my downtime, I'm trying to find time for more creative hobbies but currently enjoy reading and listening to my favorite podcasts when I have the time!



**Chloe Dahleen:** I'm originally from Seattle, Washington, and I've been organizing with PIH Engage since starting at the University of Washington team in 2019. After graduating, I moved to Boston where I'm a member of the Boston City Engage team and work full time at Partners In Health leading our economic justice advocacy campaigns. My favorite thing about PIH Engage is working side-by-side with this incredible community to learn more about health equity and pursue a more just world. In my free time, I love to explore nature, find cute animals to pet, and hunt for four-leaf clovers.



**Catherine Wenger:** I am from Royersford, PA, a semi-rural town outside of Philadelphia. I went to Northeastern University for undergrad, studying international affairs, and this is where I first found Engage, became a TC, and decided to continue on as a coach! Engage also inspired me to get my Masters in Public Health from Yale University where I specialized in epidemiology and public health modeling. I am currently working at Yale doing typhoid vaccine disease modeling and economic analysis. I also love cooking, running, and rock climbing!



**Prudny Bonnaire-Fils (DEI Team):** (he/him) - I'm from Bradenton, FL and attended the University of Florida, where I studied Public Health and Geography. While there, I became involved in their Engage Team, serving as Team Coordinator this past year. This coming year, I'll be a Coach and a member of the DEI Working Group. Being in Engage, I've appreciated the opportunity to learn about the factors that make communities especially vulnerable to poor health, and mobilize to support long-term, sustainable change. In my free time, I enjoy trying new recipes and discovering new music.



**Stuti Thakkar:** (she/her)—I graduated from the University of Minnesota this spring with a degree in Genetics. At my university's chapter of PIH Engage, I served as the Fundraising Lead and then transitioned into the role of Team Coordinator. I am excited to work with Engage this year as a coach, as I can work with teams throughout the U.S. to advocate for accessibility to care in their local communities. Outside of PIH Engage, I enjoy baking and exploring new podcasts. I am also getting into running and trying new creative hobbies.

# SMALL GROUP #3



**Michael Britt (SG Lead) (Core Team) (DEI Team):** I graduated from Boston College in 2023 with a degree in Biology and Global Public Health. I served as the Community Building/Education lead for the Boston College PIH Engage chapter during the 2021-2022 academic year, which was the chapter's first year of existence. During the 2022-2023 academic year, I served as Team Coordinator. I feel deeply passionate about advancing the right to health globally and loves the community of people involved in PIH Engage. I hope to connect his career goal of becoming a dentist with his desire to advance global health equity.



**Anne Vasquez:** I have been a part of PIH Engage since 2019 when I served as the Social Chair and then as the Fundraising Lead on the Santa Clara University team. I graduated from Santa Clara University in 2021 and Boston University with my MPH in May 2024. I currently work as a Research Assistant in the Therapeutics Research and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Division in the Department of Population Medicine through Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School. I joined PIH Engage because I am passionate about working towards equitable health care and health education for all individuals. In my free time, I enjoy watching a good show, baking, or running.



**Aleezay Khan:** My name is Aleezay Khan and I'm from Ann Arbor, Michigan! I received my B.S. from the University of Michigan in 2022 where I studied Biology, Health, and Society. I served as the Team Coordinator of the University of Michigan PIH Engage chapter between 2021-2023 and am starting my second year as an NLT Coach! I am an incoming medical student at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. I desire to pursue my passion for health equity through comprehensive patient care while confronting the sources of health barriers, especially for immigrant and refugee communities.



**Beth Williams:** I am from California and attended Santa Clara University for my Bachelor's in Public Health and Neuroscience and Boston University for my Masters in Public Health with a concentration in global health M&E and human rights/social justice. I co-founded the Santa Clara University PIH Engage team in 2019 and served as its Team Coordinator until 2021. I have also served as a coach on the Network Leadership Team since 2019. I currently work at Harvard Chan School of Public Health as a Program Coordinator, where I coordinate events and forums with a university hospital in China as well as work with faculty within the Department of Epidemiology. A fun fact about me is that I have been to 24 national parks in the U.S.!



**Grace Frommelt:** I graduated from the University of Iowa with a BA in Global Health Studies and a certificate in Nonprofit Leadership and Philanthropy, and Public Health. This fall, I am starting my Master of Public Health at Boston University. During my time at the University of Iowa, I founded the Partners in Health Engage team and served as Team Coordinator for two years; this year, I'm excited to take on the role of coach. Currently, I work at a nonprofit dedicated to early childhood success and supporting the childcare workforce through various programs. In my free time, I enjoy watching sports, particularly the WNBA and the Green Bay Packers, and taking care of my plants!



**Kien Jimmy Phan (DEI Team):** My name is Kien Phan and I'm from Houston, Texas! I just graduated from Trinity University where I majored in International Studies and Global Health and minored in Spanish, Biology, and Chemistry. I was on the Engage team as a Community Building and Education Lead and then as a Team Coordinator. I am currently a coach on the Network Leadership Team and, this summer, I am interning with Engage. I'm currently a researcher for Trinity University and Pride Center San Antonio. I'm passionate about fighting for equitable and accessible healthcare for marginalized communities. I also love playing volleyball, cooking for my friends, and thrifting!



# SMALL GROUP #4



**Kailani Hood (SG Lead) (Core Team):** I am a member of PIH Engage's Core Team, and I have been a part of our network since 2021. While I currently live in Fort Walton Beach, my involvement with Engage began when I was a student at the University of South Florida pursuing a BS in Biomedical Sciences and a BA in Psychology. After serving as the USF team's Advocacy Lead and Team Coordinator for two years, I joined the Network Leadership Team following my graduation. Outside of volunteering with Engage, I work as a rehabilitation tech at the HCA Florida Fort Walton-Destin Hospital and enjoy reading in my spare time. I look forward to seeing the strides we take this year to advance global health equity!



**Diego Burga:** I'm Diego Burga (he/him), and this campaign year is my 7th year volunteering with PIH Engage! I started my journey with PIH Engage through the Cornell University team where I led the team as a Team Coordinator for a few years. I later joined the Network Leadership Team as both a Coach and then as a Core Team Coach, returning as a general Coach this year. I also separately served as the Executive Assistant to PIH's Chief Policy and Partnership Officer between 2021-23 where I got to witness PIH's approach to building its partnerships with ministries of health and civil society as well as their advocacy strategies at global and national levels. My interests in health policy were informed by my lived experiences as an immigrant in the U.S., visiting health systems in Peru (where I was born), and drawing from my time at PIH. My interests lie at the intersection of national health system strengthening, technological innovation, and public policy. I am currently a Master of Public Health (MPH) candidate in Health Policy at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. I previously graduated with a B.A. in Biological Sciences and triple minors in Anthropology, Global Health, and Health Equity from Cornell University.



**Yashmitha Sadasivuni (DEI Team):** I grew up in Hyderabad, India, and did a Bachelors of Science in Neuroscience at the University of Miami, where I was advocacy lead and then TC of the PIH Engage chapter there. I am currently pursuing a MD-MPH dual degree at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. I love to write poetry, read murder mysteries, and my current music obsession is Chappell Roan!



**Stella Zhang (DEI Team):** I founded my first PIH Engage team during high school in Bellevue, Washington, and later, established a second team at Emory University. At Emory, I studied Human Health, with a minor in Quantitative Sciences and a concentration in Health Innovation. Currently, I am a first-year Master's student in the Department of Global Health and Population at Harvard T. H. Chan. School of Public Health. PIH Engage has been a cornerstone of my global health career since the very beginning, profoundly shaping my passion for health equity and advocacy of anti-oppression efforts within the field. I am excited to continue my involvement with Engage as a coach starting this summer.



**Rachel Lambert:** I'm Rachel and I'm from Woodstock, CT. I graduated from UConn this past spring, where I majored in Pathobiology and minored in Sociology and Molecular and Cell Biology. During my time at UConn, I spent one year as the team's Advocacy Lead and two years as Team Coordinator. Currently, I'm taking time to prepare to apply for medical school. One fun fact about me is that I love apples, especially honeycrisps!

# SMALL GROUP #5



**Sam Kelts (SG Lead) (Core Team):** I am the Senior Community Organizer at PIH, and have been in the PIH Engage network since 2016, having founded and TC'd the Case Western Reserve University team, and as a current coach and core team member. I am also a registered nurse working in respite care with the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program since 2021. I am a graduate of CWRU with a BS in Nursing and BA in Medical Anthropology. I am one of eight siblings, am a twin myself, and have triplet younger brothers!



**Fynn Crooks (Core Team):** I'm the Advocacy Senior Community Organizer at PIH - Engage. I love hyping global public health campaigns and getting Engagers the support they need to reach out effectively to their elected officials. Before landing at PIH, I spent several years working on a small, grassroots political campaign in Vermont to change the way we fund and access childcare. Before that, I spent a few years at PIH working on Covid relief efforts and I also taught math to middle schoolers in Asheville, North Carolina for 10 years. That helped me cultivate a pretty good sense of humor and a healthy love for algebra. I hold a BA in Sociology and Gender Studies from the University of Missouri, and a Master's Degree in Education from East Tennessee State University. In my free time, I co-lead a ridiculous activist marching band, I love contra dancing, swimming in ponds, mountain biking, cross country skiing, wild ice skating, and chugging maple syrup, just like any other good Vermonter. I live with my partner, Anna, and the best cat in the world, Simon, in Brattleboro, Vermont.



**Emma Dobson (DEI Team):** In 2022, I founded the UC San Diego team and served as its Team Coordinator until 2023. For my contributions to the campus community and the significant impact of our Engage team, I was honored with the UCSD "Individual Changemaker of the Year" Award. I graduated with a BS in Global Health and a minor in Health Care and Social Issues. This will be my second year of coaching with PIHE, and I am extremely excited to continue this impactful work. My dedication to global health equity, especially for women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other marginalized groups, drives my commitment to making a difference. Outside of Engage, I currently work as the Youth & Community Organizer with the Institute for Public Strategies in San Diego, where I focus on combating alcohol and substance abuse in vulnerable communities throughout the county. When I am not working to advance health equity, I enjoy playing tennis, practicing yoga, and reading at the beach.



**Samiha Reza (DEI Team):** I joined PIH Engage in Spring 2021, served as Advocacy Lead and Team Coordinator for the University of Southern California team, and started coaching with the NLT in 2023. I graduated from USC with a Bachelor of Science in Global Health and am pursuing an MPH at Columbia University. I started working as an EMT during the COVID-19 pandemic, which is one of the key experiences that kickstarted my journey in health justice and led me onto a public health emergency management career path. The experiences of my immigrant family and my family still living in Bangladesh drive me to fight for equitable access to high-quality, affordable healthcare, here and abroad. In my free time, I'm usually reading, weightlifting, or perfecting my Sims 4 dream house.



**Zoe Du:** I founded the UT Dallas chapter of PIH Engage in 2022, where I am serving my third year as Team Coordinator. I am a senior at UTD studying biology and statistics, and I am passionate about health equity. When I'm not busy with Engage or classes, I can be found driving a golf cart (as an EMT on campus), trying out new baking recipes, or napping. I am so excited to join the NLT as a coach this year and to work with teams and PIHers across the network to advance the right to health!