

# MECHANICS OF PERSUASION + DATA

## Meet the MP+D Class of 2023



### JAHNAVI AKELLA

Data Coordinator

Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA) | Arizona

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Jahnavi Akella (She/Her/They) is the Data Coordinator at LUCHA. She is a first-generation American and the daughter of a woman immigrant from India. As a near-lifelong Arizonan who is familiar with the tensions and sentiments that drive support for anti-immigrant policy, she is excited to develop knowledge and skills for persuasion.



### PAIGE CENSALE

Digital and Communications Coordinator

Haitian Bridge Alliance (HBA) | California

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Paige Censale (She/Her) is the Digital and Communications Coordinator for the Haitian Bridge Alliance in San Diego, CA. Before her work on the Mexico/California border, she lived in El Paso, capturing stories of asylum seekers on the Texas southern border and later off the Greek island of Lesbos during her U.S./German fellowship. Paige will be attending Brown University in the fall of 2023.



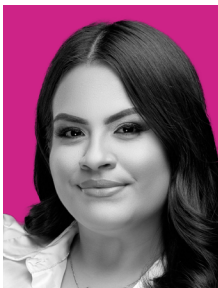
### MALENA DIMAGGIO

Immigrant Rights Program Manager

Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN) | Nevada

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Malena DiMaggio (She/Her) is the Immigrant Rights Program Manager at PLAN. She recently graduated from Monmouth University with a Master's degree in Social Work, with a concentration in Global and Community practice. At PLAN, DiMaggio oversees the immigrant justice team through the implementation and operationalization of PLAN's organizing goals as they pertain to DACA, immigrant, asylum, refugee, newly naturalized, and undocumented communities.



### ROSA ELERA

Politics and Policy Digital Strategist

Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC) | Florida

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Rosa Elera (She/Her) is the Politics and Policy Digital Strategist, for FLIC. She is first-generation Peruvian-American born in Miami, FL, graduating from Florida International University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Global Communications Certificate. She holds experience in communications, public relations, and marketing, specializing in statewide political campaigns and small businesses in Florida.

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## CÉSAR FIERROS

Communications Director

Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA) | Arizona

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César Fierros (He/Him) is the Communications Director for LUCHA. He was born in Los Angeles, California and grew up in Tucson Arizona. César has a wealth of experience, from working as an organizer in his early years to working as a congressional staffer on Capitol Hill.



## ABRIL GALLARDO CERVERA

Managing Director of Online Base Building

Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA) | Arizona

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Abril Gallardo Cervera (She/Her/Ella) has been organizing in Arizona for over a decade and is currently the Managing Director of Online Base Building for LUCHA. In 2016, she served as the Communications Coordinator with the Bazta Arpaio Campaign, which unseated the infamous Sheriff Arpaio and was a strategist in the Healthy Working Families Initiative, leading to Arizona's historic minimum wage increase and paid sick time. Currently, she serves in the Advisory committee of REFRAME and is a board member of United We Dream Action.



## ANA MARIA HERNANDEZ

Field Director

Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC) | Florida

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Ana Maria Hernandez (She/Her/Ella) is the Field Director for FLIC. She was born in Colombia and immigrated to the U.S. at 10 years old. Hernandez has dedicated her life to fighting for immigrant, reproductive, LGBTQIA+ and recovery rights, as well as climate justice. She graduated from the University of South Florida with a B.A. in Political Science. For the last several years, Hernandez has been working in issue-based electoral work.



## DEANNA HUA TRAN

Coalition Coordinator

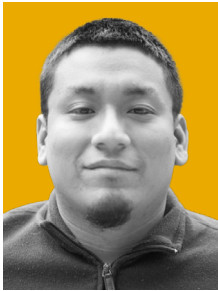
Nevada Immigrant Coalition (NIC) | Nevada

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Deanna Hua Tran (She/Her) is a Coalition Coordinator for the Nevada Immigrant Coalition (NIC). She integrates trauma-informed and culturally-sensitive practices to further support the representation that Nevada residents deserve. She is a Licensed Social Worker with a focus on Macro and Community Practice. Her interests lie in building a multiracial and multicultural democracy through strong policy development.

# M E C H A N I C S   O F

## PERSUASION + DATA



### STUART INAHUAZO

Immigrant Rights Organizer  
**Michigan United | Michigan**

Stuart Inahuazo (He/Him/His) is an immigrant rights organizer with Michigan United. He is originally from New Jersey and a first generation graduate from the University of Michigan with a Master's degree in Social Work. He is passionate in advancing and advocating policies that would help support immigrants in the local, state, and federal level.



### SEBASTIAN JAMES

Data & Technology Manager  
**Michigan United | Michigan**

Sebastian James (He/Him) is the Data & Technology Manager for Michigan United/Michigan People's Campaign. He is moving the organization towards integrating more data into their operations, and using artificial intelligence to change how we listen to what people tell us in stories, polls, and surveys.



### ZACHARY MUELLER

Political Director  
**America's Voice | National**

Zachary Mueller (He/Him) is the Political Director for America's Voice and America's Voice Education Fund. Zachary directs the political work driving the research and analysis with an expert focus on countering the opposition and combating anti-immigrant narratives and misinformation. He manages multiple projects tracking nativist narrative messages and unveils anti-immigrant policymakers and organizations.



### QUỖNH-HƯƠNG NGUYỄN

Senior Communications Associate  
**Woori Juntos | Texas**

Quỳnh-Hương Nguyễn (She, They, Chi, Chanh) is the Senior Communications Associate for Woori Juntos. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Dominican University and a Master of Education degree (M. Ed.) focused on Student Affairs in Higher Education from Texas State University. Their goal is to provide intersectional and intentional educational opportunities for everyone to make spaces more affirming for people of color, queer, people with disabilities, and other marginalized identities. Additionally, they intentionally use intersectional research, compassion, and storytelling to foster and develop best practices to center, uplift, and liberate the voices of most marginalized communities.

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## DONNA NORTON

Executive Vice President

**MomsRising | National**

Donna Norton (She/Her) is a founding member of MomsRising and serves as MomsRising's Executive Vice President and Chief Advancement & Strategy Officer, helping to develop and drive the strategic direction of MomsRising's agenda. Norton is an innovator and strategic manager with more than 20 years of experience working on women's rights and gender equality on a variety of policy challenges. Since 2006, she has led numerous winning campaigns at MomsRising, including the national healthcare campaign and the national early learning campaign.



## JOSSIE FLOR SAPUNAR

National Communications Director

**CASA | National**

Jossie Flor Sapunar (She/Her) is the National Communications Director for CASA. She is a social justice warrior and an award-winning bilingual communications professional who leads the organization's recognition, branding, and advocacy to a broader network of allies, members, and supporters. Her bilingual work has won the PRSA Silver Anvil Honorable Mention, and her writing earned the Johns Hopkins' Severn Teackle Wallis Award.



## ELOUISE SIRLEAF

Immigrant Rights Organizer

**Michigan United | Michigan**

Elouise Sirleaf (She/Her/Hers) is a Liberian immigrant currently residing in Detroit, Michigan. She works with Michigan United and the Michigan People's Campaign as an Immigrant Rights Organizer and Community Organizer. She is a mother of three adorable and lovely children (Tracy, Ashel, and Ashford) and is excited to be a part of the Mechanics of Persuasion and Data Bootcamp.



## LINDA STONE

Immigration Campaign Director

**MomsRising | National**

Linda Stone (She/Her) is the Senior Campaign Director for MomsRising, working on the Immigration, MamásConPoder, and Digital Strategy and Tech teams. She is a passionate advocate for women and children's rights, bilingual education, and community building. At MomsRising/MamásConPoder, Linda has been instrumental in organizing Latinas to take action on issues that affect their families. Linda's work has been featured on major media outlets such as Univisión, Noticias 23, Despierta América, WUVC, KTLN, Latina Parents Magazine, and others. Linda has a Master's degree in Human Development. Born and raised in Ecuador, Linda enjoys traveling, reading, dancing and exploring the outdoors with her family.

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## CLAUDIA TRISTÁN

Immigration Campaign Director  
MomsRising | National

Claudia Tristán (She/Her) is the Immigration Campaign Director for MomsRising. She previously worked as a multimedia journalist on the U.S.-Mexico border covering immigration during the Trump administration's first two years. She covered the Zero Tolerance Policy that led to family separation and the Migrant Protection Protocol that forced asylum seekers to wait in Mexican border towns. She has experience working in both English and Spanish television news across Texas and New Mexico. Later, Tristán went on to work in politics including working in Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's office where she worked on the 2019 Humanitarian Crisis on the border. Tristán also worked on Beto O'Rourke's presidential campaign as Director of Latinx Messaging, and as Communications Director for Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's re-election campaign.



## DANIEL TSE

Co-Founder, Cameroon Advocacy Network, Asylum Coordinator  
Haitian Bridge Alliance (HBA) | California

Daniel Tse (He/Him) is the founder of the Cameroon Advocacy Network where he championed advocacy efforts in securing the designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Special Student Relief Package (SSR) for over 40,000+ Cameroonians living in the United States. Mr. Tse focuses his works on advocacy, research, policy reform, and other strategic support for Black immigrant communities in the United States. In addition, he is the Asylum Seeker Task Force Coordinator for Haitian Bridge Alliance, and principal for the Black Immigrants Bail Fund. He focuses on human rights violations of Black immigrants as well as narrative change and racial justice.



## MALLIKA VOHRA

Communications Coordinator  
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) | Tennessee

Mallika Vohra (They/She) is the Communications Coordinator for TIRRC. Vohra was born in Appalachian West Virginia to Indian and British-Indian immigrant parents, where they learned a lot about the duality of second generation immigrants in the United States—especially in rural areas. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and Hispanic Studies, they took part in AmeriCorps VISTA for a year when they did comms and media for Centro Hispano de East TN.



## ANITA VUKOVIC

Messaging & Engagement Strategist  
California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) | California

Anita Vukovic (She/Her/Hers) is the Messaging & Engagement Strategist at CIPC, where she translates attitudinal research into evidence-based messaging strategies that build power, understanding, and support for pro-immigrant justice. The daughter of Yugoslav immigrants, she has spent the last decade at the intersection of immigrant, refugee, border research, policy, and education, both domestically and internationally. Her work as a communicator also includes advocacy and storytelling with unhoused women in Skid Row.