

Arlene Marshall-Hockensmith is Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Inc.'s (PLAN) first Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB). Arlene joined PLAN, Inc. in 2014 as its Administrative Officer where her role included compliance monitoring of and reporting on PLAN network programs, reviewing grant documentation, conducting community diversity trainings and annual advocacy skills for new-to-practice attorneys and paralegals, supervising the Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Internship and Fellowship Programs, and supporting PLAN's Affinity Groups. As Director, Arlene continues to oversee PLAN's MLK programming, provides support to the Affinity Groups, and provides support and guidance to PLAN, Inc. and network programs in developing a vision and strategy around incorporating DEIB in all parts of the network's culture and operations-including hiring, retention, supervision, data collection analysis, advocacy, and communication.

Arlene served as a member of the Veteran's Initiative Advisory Board at Widener Law Commonwealth and the Dauphin County Bar Association Board of Directors. She is a former Co-Chair of the Legal Services to the Public Committee, a former Co-Vice Chair of the Minority Bar Committee, and the current Editor-in-Chief of the Houston's Legacy Newsletter. She is a current member of the Central Pennsylvania MLK Day of Service Board. Prior to joining PLAN, Inc., Arlene worked as a Staff Attorney and Project Manager at the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Arlene also worked as Staff Attorney at MidPenn Legal Services. Arlene has presented at numerous local, state, and national conferences and CLE programs. Arlene received her J.D. from Widener Commonwealth Law School in 2006, and her B.A. from the Pennsylvania State University in 1998.

Arlene, a proud Jamaican-American, is a first generation college and professional degree graduate.