

# Dr. Nia Imani Fields

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## Education

### **ED.D. | 2013 | MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Major: Urban Educational Leadership

### **M.S. | 2006 | UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**

- Major: Urban Affairs and Public Policy

### **B.S. | 2004 | MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Major: Business Administration

## Professional Experience

### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & MARYLAND 4-H PROGRAM LEADER | UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION | 2019-2023**

- Provide leadership and direction for the Maryland 4-H Youth Development program.
- Serve on the University of Maryland Extension (UME) administrative team as the Assistant Director of UME.

### **FACULTY | UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION | 2006-2019**

- Coordinated statewide curriculum, program and professional development as the Maryland 4-H Youth Development, Professor, (2016-2019).
- Provided programmatic leadership and evaluation as the Baltimore County 4-H Youth Development Faculty, Assistant/Associate Professor (2006-2016).

### **LEISURE SERVICES LIASION/MAYORAL FELLOW | BALTIMORE CITY RECREATION & PARKS | 2005-2006**

- Coordinated in-service sessions for 46 recreation site center staff.
- Established and supported a citywide teen council.

## Skills & Abilities

### **MANAGEMENT**

- Experience leading a team of 60 faculty and staff across Maryland.
- Supervise direct managers of 2,000+ volunteers across 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City.
- Management of two facilities including a state youth development center and a 1,100-acre environmental science and camping facility.
- Oversight of a statewide 501(c)3 foundation and board.

## **FISCAL**

- Management of a \$1.2 million operating and program budget.
- Grant acquisition, solicited funds and/or fiscal management of over \$2 million.

## **LEADERSHIP**

- Regional appointee to the 4-H Extension Committee of Organization and Policy (ECOP).
- National chair of the 4-H Youth Development Access, Equity and Belonging Committee.
- ADVANCE Professor with a goal to support the recruitment, retention, advancement, and professional growth of a diverse faculty.
- Development of statewide youth development programmatic vision and annual reports.
- Collaboration with K12, higher education, government, NGO and non-profit sectors.

## **YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- 20 + years of experience as an educator in K12 classrooms, out-of-school time and experiential learning spaces.
- Research and programming in social capital, civic engagement, social justice youth development, college/career readiness, and teen leadership.
- Curricula and program design, logic model development, applied research and evaluative design.
- Professional development and continuing education for teachers, volunteers and youth development practitioners.

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- Fields, N. I., & Shaffer, T. J. (2022). Three Chapters in N. I. Fields & T. J. Shaffer (Eds.), Grassroots Engagement and Social Justice through Cooperative Extension. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press.
- Fields, N., Chan, A., Gonzlaez, M., Green, E., Moncloa, F., Massey, K. & Nathaniel, K. (2021). True Leaders: Culture, Power and Justice- A Youth Development Approach to Social Justice. Chevy Chase, MD: National 4-H Curriculum.
- Anderson, C., Baker, B., Brown, M., Calvert, M., Fields, N., Henness, S., et. al. (2019). Contribution of 4-H Participation to the Development of Social Capital within Communities: Toolkit. Chevy Chase, MD: National 4-H Curriculum.
- Fields, N. (2020). Exploring the 4-H thriving model: A commentary through an equity lens. *Journal of Youth Development*, *Journal of Youth Development*, 15(6).
- Fields, N., Moncloa, F. & Smith, C. (2018). *4-H Social Justice Youth Development: A Guide for Youth Development Professionals*.
- Fields, N. (2017). The contribution of urban 4-H to social capital and the implications for social justice. *Journal of Extension*, 55(6), 6FEA1.
- Fields, N. (2016). Developing Extension Lesson Plans: Using a 4-H Youth Development Lesson Plan Template to Strengthen the Rigor and Quality of Research Based 4-H Programs. *University of Maryland Extension Fact Sheet FS-1060*.
- Fields, N. & Nathaniel, K. (2015). Our role in and responsibility toward social justice. *Journal of Extension*, 53(5), 5COM2.
- Fields, N. (2015). We all want to be heard: Listening and responding to volunteers. *University of Maryland Extension Fact Sheet 2015 FS-997*.
- Fields, N. & Rafferty, E. (2012). 4 Youth, By Youth: Engaging Community Partners in 4-H Afterschool Programming. *Afterschool Matters*, 15 (Spring 12), 26-31.

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

- Fields, N. (2023). Grassroots Engagement and Social Justice through Cooperative Extension. National Institute of Food and Agriculture Predoctoral Fellowship presentation. Invited by NIFA Program Specialist.
- Fields, N. (2022). The Purpose and Promise of 4-H Keynote Address. National 4-H Council In-Service.
- Fields, N. (2022). Grassroots Engagement and Social Justice in Cooperative Extension Keynote Address. National Association of Extension Program and Staff Development Conference.
- Fields, N., Anderson, C., Barczewski, A., Bennett, S., Hutson, T., Kidwell, A., Mitchell-Hawkins V., Ridgeway, B., Moore, T. (2022). Maryland 4-H Case Study: Agricultural Literacy and Career Readiness. Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) North America and the Pacific Youth Dialogue.
- Fields, N., Diaz-Vargas, X., Howard, J., Jones, A. & Smith, M. (2022). Recruiting, Supporting, and Retaining a Diverse Base of Volunteers. National Extension Conference on Volunteerism (NECV).
- Taylor, C., Fields, N., Hurte, R. & Kemp, D. (2022). Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Extension Plenary Panel. National Urban Extension Conference, NJ.
- Fields, N., Stevens, A., Gibson, T., & Kryst, C. (2021). The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity. Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America National Conversations: Race, Relationship and Resources.
- Fields, N. (2021). Social Justice Youth Development: Putting it into Practice. Civil Air Patrol Cadet National Conference.
- Fields, N. (2021). Opportunity for All: Increasing Cultural Awareness & Equity in 4-H. Nebraska 4-H In-Service Keynote.
- Fields, N. (2020). Purpose and Passion: Social Justice Youth Development. Virginia 4-H Teen Summit on Advocacy and Social Justice.
- Fields, N. & Wells, K. (2012). Developing a 4-H Program in Serbia. Belgrade, Serbia. Three-day training for 30 Serbian Extension and Ministry of Education professionals on methods to developing a new 4-H program in Serbia.
- Fields, N. (2018). Contributing to Social Capital and Social Justice through Positive Youth Development. International Social Justice Conference. Honolulu, Hawaii.

## **SELECTED AWARDS**

- 2022. Baltimore Sun's 25 Women to Watch.
- 2019. First to ADVANCE. University of Maryland ADVANCE honoree.
- 2017. Dissertation of the Year. Morgan State University School of Education an Urban Studies.
- 2010. Off-Campus Junior Faculty of the Year Award