

The Practice of Belonging

**March 19, 2026
10-11am Pacific / 1-2pm Eastern**

Featured Speaker Biography

Stefanie D. Belnavis, MA, BC-DMT, LMHC
(she/her)

*Founder, A Bucket For The Well, LLC, The
Diahann Project & Birthlooms*

Stefanie D. Belnavis is a differently abled Black and Indo-Jamaican-American interdisciplinary artist, dance/movement therapist, kinesthetic storyteller, photographer, educator, and spatial justice practitioner based in Greater Boston. Her work centers the embodied stories, cultural memory, and lived experiences of Black and Brown communities across the diaspora.

Rooted in somatic healing, oral tradition, and visual archiving, Stefanie blends movement, photography, expressive arts, and activism to challenge systems of oppression while honoring resilience, identity, and liberation. As a

Board-Certified Dance/Movement Therapist and Licensed Mental Health Counselor, she integrates trauma-informed and culturally affirming care into both her clinical and creative practice, specializing in BIPOC families, perinatal mental health, and intergenerational healing.

She is the Founder and Executive Director of A Bucket For The Well, LLC, a trauma-responsive mental health practice serving BIPOC individuals and families, and the visionary behind The Diahann Project (TDP), founded in 2017. TDP is a culturally affirming, anti-oppressive portrait and storytelling collective that uses photography, oral history, and spatial justice activations to create living archives of Black and Brown life.



In 2018, she launched Birthlooms, a perinatal storytelling and photography initiative documenting the diverse journeys of Black and Brown birthing families and practitioners. Through projects such as Midwifery + The Black Birthing Family, she visually archives reproductive justice movements and legislative milestones, including Massachusetts' Maternal Health Omnibus Bill (H.4999), preserving stories that shape equitable birthing futures.

As the 2025 Art in the Antilles Artist-in-Residence, Stefanie presents her first solo exhibition, In Ernest, a visual archive honoring her maternal grandfather and exploring Caribbean diasporic memory, lineage, and intergenerational storytelling.

Stefanie also teaches at Lesley, Antioch, and Framingham State Universities, where her pedagogy is grounded in liberation psychology, anti-oppressive frameworks, and embodied storytelling. A proud Caribbean immigrant, her work is a creative reclamation of stories and spaces, rooted in liberation, intersectionality, and justice.

Tayla Kelly, B.A.

Doula, Birth Assistant, National Birth Justice Fellow

Tayla Kelly, BA, Doula, Tayla is a proud Black Queer Doula trained in community outreach. She holds a Bachelors of Arts in Women's and Ethnic Studies from the University of Colorado. This interdisciplinary approach to intersectionality combined with her passion for social justices and birth advocacy make her a force to be reckoned with. She is involved in policy work both nationally and locally that prioritize birth rights, education equity, and health equity. Tayla continues to grow her career in political advocacy for BIPOC and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities while caring for birthing folx on their journeys' to wellness.





**Aditi Subramaniam, LMHC, R-DMT,
IECMH-E® (Moderator)**

Director of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

Aditi Subramaniam, is both an embodied clinician at heart and a reflective systems leader, committed to justice-informed policy and practice, toward creating equitable systems to meet the needs of Massachusetts' youngest children and their families. She serves as the Director of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy, at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC) leading statewide infant and early childhood mental health workforce development efforts in partnership with the Massachusetts Association for Infant Mental Health, along with policy and advocacy efforts focused on enhancing, diversifying, and supporting

the infant and early childhood mental health workforce to improve access to services for families and their young children ages prenatal – 6.

She leads statewide cross systems workforce development efforts centered in community voice and grounded in experiences of peoples impacted by systems of oppression, holding relationships and the core value that "those closest to the issues are also closest to the solutions". Her areas of interest include reflective supervision/consultation; community and family-focused initiatives; workforce and systems development; healing-centered care; and the integration of the embodied and expressive arts in psychotherapy in working with families and systems. She is a Zero To Three Fellow (2022-2024) and co-chair of the Zero To Three Academy, a facilitator of Talk, Touch & Listen and serves on the Board of the Massachusetts Head Start Association.

Aditi is a daughter, mother, sister, dancer and art-ivist, who grew up in India. An immigrant, she and her family currently reside as guests on the traditional lands of the Massachusett tribe. The principles and practices of liberation and the arts as healing are foundational in her everyday work and lens.