

# Jessica Palmert

Website: [jessicapalmert.com](http://jessicapalmert.com) Email: [jessicapalmert@gmail.com](mailto:jessicapalmert@gmail.com) (c) 773.230.8063 Pronouns: She. Her. Hers.

Jessica Palmert has been working at the intersections of gender equity, racial justice and disability inclusion for over 20 years in Chicago. As an Independent Consultant, she has honed her skills as a facilitator, community-based researcher, strategist and coach. She has an innovative, inclusive and participatory approach that is simultaneously challenging and supportive of the clients she engages. Jessica has coordinated equity and inclusion initiatives for elementary schools, universities, government offices, a public library, a theater company, therapeutic practices, foundations and nonprofit organizations.

## **Selected Consulting Experience:**

**Senior Strategist.** Collective DEI Lab. *June 2022 - Present.* Conducts DEI audits and assessments with clients and designs implementation strategies specifically for the company culture they want to cultivate and grow.

**Facilitator/ Instructor.** Experience Institute. *March 2022- Present.* Delivers learning programs for individuals and teams that help them collaborate, tackle complex challenges, and chart their next steps.

**Racial Equity Coach.** Truth Healing and Equity Fellowship. University of Chicago's Court Theatre. *January 2021- Present.* Working with a cross-organizational team to create racial justice policy and to design and prototype a racial equity project.

**Coach.** Nonprofits and Companies. *2017- Present.* Coaching white leaders through the incremental stages of deconstructing, decentralizing, dismantling, and defunding policies and procedures that uphold white supremacy.

**Facilitator.** "Deconstructing Whiteness" at Loyola University of Chicago's *Influential Leadership* course for the Baumhart Scholars. *January 2022.*

**Facilitator.** "Deconstructing Whiteness" for the executive team at the Girls Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. *October 2021.*

**Facilitator.** "Deconstructing Whiteness" at The University of Chicago *Inclusive Leadership* course for the SSA Program. *October 2021.*

**Needs-Assessment Consultant.** Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago and Healthy School Campaign. *April 2021- June 2021.* Conducting needs assessment with stakeholders.

**Facilitator and Trainer.** Humboldt Park Montessori. *October 2020- July 2021.* Facilitating anti-racism parenting circles for white parents and co-learning workshops for staff and administration.

**Facilitator.** Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation. *Aug. 2020 - Feb. 2021.* Co-Facilitating white affinity and BIPOC Racial Healing Circles.

**Research and Impact Consultant.** Global Girls Inc. *August 2019- November 2020.*  
Engaging a team of the Global Girls staff, board and program participants in the Participatory Evaluation Research process to define and demonstrate the impact of their youth development and arts education programming with African American young women.

**Research and Inclusion Consultant.** Aspire. *October 2018 - May 2019.* Assisted in the execution of a needs assessment for the La Grange Park Public Library. Responsible for the co-facilitation of focus groups, developed and administered surveys and co-wrote the final report.

### **Organizational Experience:**

**Chicago Girls' Coalition Program Director.** Chicago Girls' Coalition. *October 2006 - April 2009.*

Conducted city-wide training and professional development opportunities for adults working with young women ages 8-18. Organized and facilitated annual membership meetings for organizations across the state of Illinois. Carried out research and conducted outreach to expand the Coalition's network. Supervised interns and volunteers. Provided referrals on girl centered services, programs, and resources.

**Girl World Coordinator.** Alternatives, Inc. *February 2001 - July 2006.*

Directed all aspects of gender-specific leadership development programming for girls and young women age 8-18. Led all curriculum development, program implementation, and program evaluation. Directed all administrative duties including: developing and managing program budget, ensuring compliance with relevant contracts and grants, orchestrating community presentations, and completing performance documentation. Recruited, hired, trained, supervised, developed, and evaluated all Girl World adult and youth staff and volunteers.

### **Education:**

**Bachelor of Arts** degree in Philosophy and Women's Studies, with minors in Sociology and Psychology, *Cum Laude.* Loyola University of Chicago. 2000.

### **Relevant Volunteer Experience:**

**Parent Circle Founder, Organizer and Advocate.** Queen of Angels Catholic Elementary School. *October 2014 - May 2020.*