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Closing the Racial Wealth Gap with Innovative Solutions

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Shira Markoff

Policy Fellow

Prosperity Now

Shira Markoff is a Policy Fellow at Prosperity Now, where she works to advance federal, state and local policies that promote systems-oriented solutions and racial economic justice. Shira's work focuses on wealth-building policies and programs across the lifecycle, including Baby Bonds and Children's Savings Accounts (CSAs). Previously, she served as the Director of Prosperity Now's Children's Savings Team, which supported existing CSA programs and worked to expand CSAs to more children across the US. Prior to joining Prosperity Now, Shira worked as a Program Manager for Seedco, where she worked with community-based organizations across New York City to implement programs that assisted low- and moderate-income families in receiving the EITC and accessing public benefits. Shira also served two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA at New Jersey Community Development Corporation, where she helped to implement and manage an IDA program. Shira holds a Master of Public Policy degree from American University and a B.A. in history from Rutgers University.



Keyana M. Walston

Project Manager-Management Analyst

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Keyana Walston grew up in Virginia Beach, VA. Keyana received her Bachelor of Science in Accounting from NC Wesleyan College and later received her Master's in Business Administration from UOPHX. She has worked in accounting and finance for over 15 years. Keyana is currently employed as a Program Manager-Management Analyst with the City of Rocky Mount. Keyana loves being a mom to an awesome 7-year-old son. Her hobbies include cooking, shopping, and reading. Keyana's parents are from New Orleans which explains why she lives in NC and is a Saints football fan! Keyana enjoys the summer months (is a summer baby), and fall only because she likes to decorate for fall and fall is boot season!