Jenna Finley, a passionate advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), has over a decade of experience working to help organizations embrace cultural competence. Born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin, Jenna earned her Bachelor of Science in Educational Studies with a concentration in Early Childhood Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University.

As a Cultural Humility Trainer and Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) Qualified Administrator, Jenna specializes in coaching individuals and organizations to build intercultural competence. She has collaborated with childcare agencies across Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, developing early childhood curriculum focused on DEI. Jenna also led the YoungStar Connect Coaches, Raters, and Trainers in Wisconsin in facilitating a Four-Part Cultural Humility Series aimed at providing culturally responsive services to children and families.

Her work extends beyond curriculum development; she is also a principal content expert for on-demand computer-based training on identity and bias, effective communication, and power dynamics in early childhood settings. Jenna's former role at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families as a Program and Policy Analyst within the Bureau of YoungStar focused on initiating collaboration among diverse Early Care and Education professionals in DEI-focused training.

As the Director of Equity, Culture, and Belonging at Wellpoint Care Network, Jenna led the 2023 Culture and Equity Audit and worked to advance policies and practices that promoted belonging, access, and opportunity. Her leadership emphasized building authentic relationships and engaging all levels of staff, from executive leaders to frontline employees, in creating an inclusive environment.

In addition, Jenna is a DEI Trainer for Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, where she spearheads DEI strategy development and leads training programs. Her expertise includes designing and implementing DEI curricula, promoting inclusive work environments, and improving team dynamics through both in-person and online sessions. She collaborates with cross-functional teams to align DEI strategies with organizational goals, driving culture change and improving employee engagement.

Through her personal and professional experiences, Jenna has been driven by a singular question: "How can I help educators and human services professionals respect each other across our differences and model this for the children and families we serve?" This question fuels her lifelong commitment to shaping better standards for DEI practices in all sectors. Jenna believes that applying a cultural humility approach, grounded in inclusivity, is key to fostering strong partnerships, building relationships, and creating sustainable community connections.

Jenna lives by five guiding principles:

1. Live honestly, faithfully, and truly every day.

- 2. Help, not harm.
- 3. Be kind to others.
- 4. Follow up and follow through.
- 5. Always look to be of service, instead of being served.

Her work is not only a profession but a personal commitment to advancing DEI values, ensuring that policies and practices reflect cultural humility for systemic change.

Website: <u>Cultural Humility Trainer</u> | <u>Value Our Voices Consulting</u>, <u>LLC</u> (<u>Valueour Voices consulting</u>| <u>IDI</u> <u>Qualified Administrator</u>