

**Tova Perlmutter, Campaign Manager**

Tova, the founder of consulting firm Engine of Progress, has 25 years of experience helping progressive initiatives obtain and use resources to advance social change. From 2014 to 2020, Tova was part of the leadership team at nonprofit media outlet [Mondoweiss.net](http://Mondoweiss.net). During her time there, the news content and social media reach increased dramatically, while donations and supporters more than doubled. Before that, she was Executive Director of the Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice, a national nonprofit dedicated to advancing the rights of working people and their communities.

**Maria Thomas, Field Coordinator**

Maria believes, We the People have received the clarion call, to be the change we want to see by voting first, then the real work begins! Detroit Disability Power recognizes the urgency of now is upon Us! Freedom ain't free & for us to progress, we must have access, with a seat at the table of reform and healing. This is the time and she is honored, humbled and harmoniously focused on ensuring everyone's voice is heard and their votes counted, November 3, 2020!

**Field Team Members****Jessi Averill**

Jessi is excited to be a part of DDP's GOTV campaign this election. As a caregiver, Jessi recognizes how important it is to root social justice and true community inclusion, especially through the voting process, in the work she models for her daughters.

**Nicki Hurley**

Nicki is an online graduate student at Case Western Reserve University in the advanced-standing MSW program. Her academic focus is in adult mental health. Her practicum is based in crisis intervention. She assists adults, youth, and children with completing suicide screenings, safety-planning, crafting constructive coping strategies, and creating action plans. Nicki will graduate with her MSW in July of 2021. She plans to utilize her earnings from this position to pay for her tuition. She assisted with several campaigns including informing Michigan voters on the proposals appearing on the November 2018 ballot, registering citizens to vote, and canvassing in many different neighborhoods in all types of weather conditions. She loves disability rights and has several experiences that have taught her the importance of self-advocacy. Nicki also understands the joy and comfort that results when individuals come together with a unified purpose to advocate on behalf of others. She loves gatherings with her friends, cooking amazing food, and learning new skills. Self-care is extremely significant in her life as she spends a lot of her time within her professional and personal lives caring for others.

**Amanda Absher**

Joining Detroit Disability Power's GOTV Campaign gives me the chance apply my lived experience to a broader cause. Two years ago, I was expected to fill out my absentee ballot in a hospital setting with a jumbo crayon—now, I join with my peers at DDP to combat voter suppression, and to advocate for a country that is accessible, equitable, and inclusive.

**Meg Marotte**

Meg has been an activist in Detroit for the past decade. She has worked on transportation rights, affordable housing initiatives, and community journalism. Meg has walked the streets of every neighborhood in the city sharing information and collecting signatures. She is very excited to join the team at DDP on this historic GOTV campaign.

**Olivia Ruiz Tyler**

I am fresh out of high school hoping to study Music Education at Wayne State University as a percussionist. This is my first time ever campaigning, but I'm excited to work hard and help people be able to vote! I'm hoping to learn more about DDP, voter rights, and to gain experience in any way I can.

**Catherine Hein**

I am excited to hopefully encourage a lot of people to vote in this upcoming election as it is an especially important year to vote. I love the fact that during this job I will be using my skills as an advocate and resources to help others in my spare time. I enjoy a lot of crafts and cuddling with my dog.

**Darlene Dorsette**

Darlene is an Exceptional Student Education Teacher for the Detroit Public School Community District. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Wayne State University. She also holds Master of Education degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University and Education Specialist degree from Walden University. Darlene is an active member of the Deaf Community. She serves on the board of REEL DEF Entertainment and a board member and membership coordinator of Deaf Solutions, Inc. She is a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority where she continues to serve her community and bring about Deaf Awareness. Darlene continues to add to her community work by joining Detroit Disability Power as Field Representative helping her community citizens to become registered voters and assisting those in understanding their voting rights and making a difference.

**Rukiya Colvin**

Rukiya is a native Detroiter who's looking to help create change for humanity. It's an honor to work with DDP for voter engagement for what she believes is a very important election year. She's a new mom who's planning to obtain a master's of urban planning with a focus on community & housing development from Wayne State University by the end of 2021.

**Chloe Sells**

Chloe is a photographer living in Detroit. Despite having only lived in the city for four years she feels a strong desire to be of service to this community. She looks forward to helping guide more people in the Detroit area to vote, as this year's election is especially important. She feels honored and excited to be working with Detroit Disability Power and to help amplify the voices of disabled folks in the community for this election.