

## Athena Vaughn

(she/her)

"My name is Athena Vaughn, and I have been a leading figure in the LGBTQ community for over fifteen years.

"Driven by my faith & my lived experience as a black, trans-woman, I am committed to fighting for the rights & dignity of Transgender & Gender Non-Binary people everywhere.

"I began my work in social justice at Boston Glass and AIDS Action. I am currently the Trans Health Navigator at Fenway Health Institute, advocating for greater health care access for Transgender individuals. I also worked as the Assistant Director at Transgender Emergency Fund and I am a Co-Founder & Executive Director at Trans Resistance MA, a nonprofit dedicated to fighting for the rights of transgender communities in Massachusetts.



"I am passionate about creating safe spaces for other members of the LGBTQ+ community. I organize local ballrooms for trans and queer individuals to express their full selves. I am also an ordained Minister, at Community Tabernacle of Deliverance in Lynn.

"I thank my loving grandmother for reconnecting me to my faith, and for guiding, supporting, and pushing me to live on my own terms."

*Unfortunately, Athena was unable to join us for our video production – so we asked her to share her story here, as a core member of the Boston Neighborhood Fellows 2021-2023 cohort.*