

Candice Dickens-Russell

Director, Social & Environmental Justice



Expertise

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Education & Literacy
- Network Leadership
- K-12 Education

Education

- San Francisco State University B.A. Environmental Studies, Emphasis in Sustainability & Social Justice
- Cornell University Certification in Diversity & Inclusion
- IACET Certification in Racial Microaggressions

Bio

Candice Dickens-Russell oversees equity, social and environmental justice for DoGoodery. She offers expertise in organizational development and transformational leadership for organizations wishing to understand and improve equitable practices, develop sound policies, and create authentic alignment between their values and their actions. Certified in Diversity & Inclusion and with an education in Sustainability and Social Justice, she designs professional development workshops, strategic plans, and provides leadership coaching in justice, equity, diversity and inclusion

Candice works at the intersection of education, equity and the environment. Her background is in environmental education and justice working directly with organizations, community partners, and schools. She served as the California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network Coordinator for Los Angeles County for over a decade. She has worked with thousands of teachers and schools designing equitable, standards-based environmental education curriculum and programs for state, regional, and local partners. Candice has provided equity and environmental justice expertise and professional development for organizations such as NRDC, Friends of the Los Angeles River, California Environmental Education Foundation and many more. She serves on several boards and advisory councils for environmental organizations such as Ten Strands and USC Sea Grant, in addition to having served on the original Blueprint for Environmental Literacy Taskforce and the current California Environmental Literacy Initiative Leadership Council.

Director, Social & Environmental Justice, DoGoodery

June 2019 - Present

- Develop and facilitate individualized justice, equity, diversity, inclusion (JEDI) programming, training, workshops, and strategic plans for clients across DoGoodery's portfolio.
- Conduct large-scale equity audits for nonprofit, corporate, and governmental organizations.
- Lead formal education initiatives including teacher professional development
- Develop and manage environmental education programs

Director, Environmental Education & State of CA EE Network Director LA County, Tree People, Beverly Hills, CA

June 2006 - June 2019

- Oversaw, funded, and implemented a variety of local, regional, and statewide environmental programs, managing over \$1M in annual grants and contracts.
- Engaged with over 400 schools and hundreds of science teachers in L.A. County while directing the County of L.A. Department of Public Works environmental education program.
- Managed a staff of 15 field managers, on-site educators, and content experts providing monthly outreach to over 200 environmental education organizations in the region.
- Acted as the California Department of Education's local environmental education expert and coordinator.
- Hosted quarterly environmental organization networking events each year.
- Led community greening programs in low canopy and park-poor neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.
- Managed multiple-school program support through on-site visits, remote communications, administering evaluation instruments, and collecting assessment data.
- Developed environmental science programming; proficient in Next Generation Science Standards.

Youth Program Coordinator, Earth Resource Foundation, Costa Mesa, CA

May 2005 - June 2006

- Assisted secondary schools in creating on-campus eco-clubs to advocate for environmental justice in their school communities.
- Attended on-campus club meetings and acted as off-site advisor, mentoring staff and student leaders.
- Organized youth conferences and events for 300 - 1000 students.
- Organized weekly group beach clean ups, and monthly campus greening plantings.
- Coordinated community engagement for environmental and environmental justice campaigns.

Affiliations

- Regional Contact, California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) L.A. Provider Network for over a decade.
- Former Director, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Generation Earth
- Former Director Environmental Education at TreePeople
- Member, California Environmental Literacy Initiative
- Member California Environmental Literacy Equity Team
- Member, National Environmental Professionals of Color
- Member, Outdoor Afro Los Angeles
- Member, Los Angeles Environmental Education Fair Steering Committee
- Member, Board of Directors, Ten Strands
- Member, Board of Directors, Friends of the Los Angeles River
- Member, Board of Directors, California Environmental Education Foundation
- Member, Advisory Board, USC Sea Grant
- Member, NAAEE eePro Diversity and Inclusion Group
- AEOE Environmental Education Certification Mentor