



*Town of Amherst Community Diversity  
Commission  
Short Bio of the Board Members*

**1: Jodi Lee Kwart, MSW**



- Director, Volunteer Services, Amherst Center for Senior Services
- Town of Amherst 9-11 Commemoration Committee, member
- Town of Amherst Community Diversity Commission, member
- Hearts and Hands 'Distinctively Over 60' Committee, member
- Amherst Center for Senior Services Employee Assistance Program, representative

Quote: "Imagine all the people sharing all the world." - John Lennon

2: *Khalid J. Qazi, MD, MACP*



Khalid J. Qazi is Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University at Buffalo Medical School and the inaugural President of the Medical Staff at Catholic Health System. He is also the Founding President and Senior adviser of Muslim Public Affairs Council of WNY.

Prof. Qazi enjoys a distinguished career both in medicine and community service. He has trained hundreds of physicians serving across our nation and received the prestigious Mastership Award, bestowed upon less than 1% of Internists, from the American College of Physicians in 2007. He is credited with over 120 publications (manuscripts, posters, editorials, case reports). He is on the editorial board of and reviewer for several medical journals, including the prestigious *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Prof. Qazi remains actively engaged in community service, sponsoring and supporting several interfaith and community conversations. As the past Chair of Trustees and President of the Islamic Society, he founded the Islamic Center in Amherst. Currently, he is on IHA Foundation and United Way Board of Directors. He has been recognized by Buffalo News, DHS, DOJ, NCCJ, CHS and many others.

3: *Helaine Sanders, LMSW, JD*



Helaine has an MSW and JD. She has experience in labor relations, social work, politics, and education. She began her legal career as an Administrative Law Judge for the NYC Office of Collective Bargaining. She also worked as a mediator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She and her husband moved to Amherst, NY, his hometown, in 1995. They started a law practice, Sanders & Sanders, which focuses on employment law. Helaine also worked as a Job Coach to help employees deal with work-related stress.

Helaine is currently an Erie County Democratic Committee Member. In addition to serving on this Commission, Helaine serves on the Town of Amherst Disability Committee.

Helaine volunteers at the Williamsville Central School District. She has experience with curriculum, wellness, and special education.

“Everything works out in the end, so if it’s not working out, it isn’t the end.” – Anonymous

**4: *Dilip K. Sinha, Ph.D.***



Dilip Sinha completed his education at the Columbia University in New York City followed by Michigan State University, College of Medical Sciences. He moved to Buffalo in 1968, joining Roswell Park Cancer Institute, as Cancer Research Scientist, as adjunct assistant Professor eventually becoming principal Cancer Research Scientist at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Professor of Physiology and Director of Graduate Studies @ SUNY. He is a member of board directors India Association of Buffalo for many Years, President of the Hindu cultural Society of W.N.Y for 7 years and founding President of the only Hindu temple in Buffalo area. He also served as volunteer spiritual advisor for inmates in Alden correctional facilities and member, board of Governors, Network of religious communities.

Currently, he is retired and lives in Amherst, NY.

5: *Brian C. Steinberg, Ph.D.*



Professor Steinberg (<http://www.briancraigsteinberg.com>) has over 20 years of Academic and Student Affairs experience. He received his B.S. in Earth Science and Geology at Central Michigan University and his M.A. in Post-Secondary Education: Student Affairs and Geography from The University of Northern Iowa. Professor Steinberg also received his PhD (ABD) in The Leadership for Higher Education Program at Capella University. Also received his Diversity Graduate Certificate from Capella University.

Brian currently works for a diversity and multicultural education training and consulting firm called The Ally Group (<http://www.theallygroup.net>) and teaches and designs courses for a number of online colleges and universities.

**6: Toni Vazquez, MBA**



Toni Vazquez, born and raised in Buffalo, is an entrepreneur, a wife and a mother of four. She graduated from the Women's Campaign School at Yale University and Six Sigma certification from Villanova University. She earned an MBA from Medaille College, and a BA in Psychology from UB. Mrs. Vazquez is Chief Systems Officer of Greater Buffalo United Accountable Healthcare Network. Mrs. Vazquez is a philanthropist and co-founded The Raul and Toni Vazquez Foundation. She is a member and former president of the Williamsville Central School District, Board of Education. Mrs. Vazquez is a member of the Higher Heights' Founders Circle that works to build, expand, and sustain a national political infrastructure to strengthen Black women's political power and leadership capacity. She is a lifetime member of The National Black MBA Association. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Buffalo Zoo, Visit Buffalo Niagara and the Buffalo/Niagara Convention Center.

Quote: "Our greatness has always come from people who expect nothing and take nothing for granted - folks who work hard for what they have, then reach back and help others after them." - Michelle Obama

**7: *Mireille Schapiro***

My name is Mireille Schapiro. I graduated from the State University of Buffalo with a B.S. in Nutrition. I worked at Buffalo General Hospital as a Dietitian and at the Bry Lyn Psychiatric Hospital as an Assistant Dietitian I then worked for the Buffalo Public Schools for 19 years as a Cafeteria Manager. After moving to Amherst I started working at Center for Senior Services for 17 years, as the Manager of Food Service. I was in charge of the nutrition for the Congregate Lunch Program, the Meals on Wheels program and the Adult Day Program.

I retired in 2017 but then decided to take a position for the Williamsville Schools as a Cafeteria Manager.

I am very active in our Synagogue, Kehillot Ohr Tzion. We do many outreach programs within the community.

I look forward to working with all of you on the Diversity Commission.