

Dr. Johanna LoPorto-Bio

Dr. Johanna LoPorto has over 20 years' experience managing non-profit organizations serving people with intellectual disabilities. She is also a New York State Certified Support Broker assisting adults and children with disabilities choosing a range of services and supports to meet their goals and dreams in reaching true independence over their lives. Dr. Loporto's research involves projects in setting forth social change for equity, diversity and inclusion of all people. She has currently published an article, *Application of the Donabedian Quality-of-Care Model to New York State Direct Support Professional Core Competencies: How Structure, Process, and Outcomes Impacts Disability Services*, in the Journal of Social Change. A second article is forthcoming, *Risk Perception and Coping Strategies among Direct Support Professionals in the Age of COVID-19*, also to be published in the Journal of Social Change.

Dr. Loporto is part of several organizations working against disability social injustices that includes Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council, The Geraldo Rivera Foundation, and the Interagency Council of Developmental Disabilities. In addition, Dr. LoPorto is also engaged in various projects working on feminist intersectionality setting forth for awareness and education through narrative platforms. She is a member at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, National Organization of Women, Voices of Women, and the Women American Society for Public Administration. She has a strong desire in promoting difficult dialogue in identifying and acknowledging trauma stemming from social inequities because of women overlapping identities. Dr. Loporto believes that through difficult conversations, marginalized women can learn to confront intersectional barriers and create opportunities for social change.

Dr. LoPorto holds a Doctor in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University. She is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of the People and at Grand Canyon University, teaching Business, Leadership and Organizational Behavior classes in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.