



**Dara Kwayera Imani Bayer** is a mother, spirit seeker, social justice organizer, artist, and educator who strives to build self-determined and interconnected communities in all areas of her life. Born and raised in Boston and Cambridge, Dara is the Co-Director of Infrastructure, Political Development and Strategic Partnerships at [Cambridge Holistic Emergency Alternative Response Team \(HEART\)](#), a non-carceral community care and crisis response organization that was created through a grassroots participatory process. She also supports programming for [Unity Circles](#), a Boston-based organization that focuses on developing intergenerational leadership rooted in Transformative and Restorative Justice values.

Dara's community based work has focused on abolitionist and environmental justice organizing. As a painter, she is interested in exploring history, contradiction, and possibility, particularly as these themes relate to Black liberation and ancestral healing. As an organizer and educator, she is passionate about integrating social transformation and spiritual consciousness, particularly in building intergenerational connections, addressing interpersonal and structural harm through transformative practices, and supporting the empowerment of young women. She has worked as a humanities high school teacher in Boston Public Schools, and a Restorative and Transformative Justice coach, educator and facilitator. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies and Visual Art from Brown University and a Masters of Teaching from Tufts University.

Dara honors her teachers and ancestors who have supported and shaped her into the human she is today. In addition to her community and artistic work, Dara loves to giggle with her 10 month old daughter, take walks, read Afrofuturist literature, and grow food at [Movement Family Farm](#), a Black collective land she supports in New Hampshire.