



Natanja Craig Oquendo has spent her career centering the voices of Black and Brown people. At a young age, Natanja was inspired by activists defending her community from systemic injustice. Their success spurred her strong belief in grassroots organizations' power to drive change. However, after entering the sector and discovering that those most impacted by foundation investments were absent from the decision-making tables, she was determined to change philanthropy. And she did just that by creating a comprehensive grassroots strategy from the ground up for one of the largest community foundations in Massachusetts. She brings an unwavering passion for community solutions, her unique lived experience, and over 20 years of nonprofit and philanthropic expertise to her work as Executive Director of the Boston Women's Fund.

Since joining Boston Women's Fund in 2020, Natanja has advanced the organization's mission to invest in, advocate for, and uplift women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals. Under Natanja's leadership, in less than three years, the Boston Women's Fund tripled their grantmaking dollars and more than doubled their grantees. She built a diverse team of passionate, innovative people dedicated to liberation, and along with the board and staff, she supported the development of the fund's five-year strategic directions, strengthening the fund's commitment to equitable philanthropy.

Prior to the Boston Women's Fund, Natanja held positions at The Boston Foundation, Fidelity Investments, The Partnership, Inc., The Possible Project, and the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts. She is a board member at Philanthropy Massachusetts and serves on the advisory board at Harvard Law Center and Everyday Boston. Natanja is part of two Fellowships; the UMass Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy and the Black Leadership Initiative. Natanja is also a YW Boston 2023 Academy of Women Achievers honoree and has been named one of 2023's Most Influential Bostonians by Boston magazine.

Natanja has found a home in the Boston Women's Fund. She enjoys singing 80s love songs at karaoke, spending time with family and friends, and traveling. However, Natanja's greatest work is that of a mother and grandmother to her three daughters, two sons, and granddaughter Mila, all of which she could not do without her loving husband Jason.