



Wesley McWhite III

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
NEW JERSEY CANNABIS REGULATORY
COMMISSION

Wesley McWhite III was appointed by Governor Phil Murphy as the first director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission in 2021. In this capacity he builds relationships with New Jersey's unrepresented and underrepresented communities to facilitate their participation in the state's cannabis industry – as businesses or as patients. He is also responsible for building policies, practices, and procedures that promote and maintain fairness, equity, and diversity in all parts of the agency's work.

Even before joining the Commission, Wesley's career has been marked by service to vulnerable communities.

Wesley came to the NJ-CRC from the Hyacinth Foundation, New Jersey's largest statewide HIV treatment and prevention non-profit organization. As the development director and policy manager at Hyacinth, he led advocate organizations and lobbied for equitable access to medications and for health equity in state and federal health policy.

Prior to his time at Hyacinth, Wesley served as an outreach coordinator for the unhoused and unsheltered with Volunteers of America Delaware Valley in the city of Camden. While there, Wesley built sustainable models that bridged services gaps for individuals seeking supportive housing.

Wesley was born and raised in Trenton, New Jersey and currently resides in Newark.