

MARIAM ELGAFY



with the **RISING STAR AWARD**

*Associate Director,
Philanthropic Stewardship,
University of Cincinnati Foundation*

Mariam Elgafy is an educator at heart with a strong desire and passion for social change, advocacy, and policy making. Equipped with fundamental education in politics, communication, and social change, she believes in the power of intentional mentorship and understands the importance of using one's voice and education to instill change. It is evident that her journey for personal growth is based on her commitment to serve the community and bring social change so everyone may thrive.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, where she began to take off as a leader, she is now the Associate Director of Philanthropic Stewardship at the UC Foundation. Also, at the University of Cincinnati, she is an adjunct faculty, teaching Public Speaking, Business Communication, Interpersonal Communication, allowing her to connect with students to help them on their own professional and academic journeys.

Her commitment to mentoring the next generation of leaders is seen through her work with youth groups, professional networks, and community-based organizations. Mariam currently serves as the President for the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati's (ICGC) Muslim Professional Network. She also serves as a Next Gen Advisory Council member for the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU).

Mariam's work is consistently propelled by a community-centric vision of innovation, empowerment, investment, and strong belief and desire of change. She would rather give others the platform to speak and ignite their personal stories, because the power of storytelling and personal narratives is unparalleled. She strives to and encourages others "To speak louder. Challenge more. Give more. Browse more. Think bigger. Love harder. Achieve the impossible."