



Marissa Walker
Development Associate

At Denver Public Schools Foundation, we believe that our city is strengthened by every student who graduates ready to lead a successful life. At the DPS Foundation, we invest in accelerating progress, we connect the community to our classrooms, and we inspire confidence in the promise of public education.

Marissa Walker joined the DPS Foundation in February 2021 as the organization's Development Associate. In this role she supports the Development and Communications Department in donor stewardship, annual giving, and event planning. Marissa's favorite aspect of her role is managing the DPS Foundation's Alumni Committee and connecting with DPS alum who are leaders in their community. Prior to her time at DPS Foundation, Marissa worked in operations and program evaluation for nonprofit organizations in Denver. In these roles she specialized in communication between organizational partners, data management and research, and narrative development in external reporting. Marissa's passion for investing in education is accredited to her service years in AmeriCorps where she provided classroom and whole school support for Title I schools.

Marissa earned her Bachelors of Science in Development Sociology from Cornell University, and her Masters in Social Work from the University of Denver. Her academic studies have focused on understanding the inequities present in our society and the complex structures of power that uphold them. Through her work, Marissa seeks to drive systemic change by connecting and mobilizing others using research-based knowledge and community wisdom. She is committed to justice for people of all racial and ethnic groups, genders, sexualities, abilities, and economic statuses.

We know that when our students thrive, our city thrives. *I believe in our mission because I believe in the power of education to transform the lives of those who are able to harness it, and that these keys to success should be accessible to all children.*