

Ujuoñu Nwizu

Ujuoñu Nwizu (Uju for short) is a Black, Igbo community advocate and educator. They grew up in New York, Mississippi, and different parts of Nigeria and carry all the lessons these places have taught them about love, self-determination, and collective care. They graduated from Cornell University with a BA in Africana Studies and currently serve as the Co-Director of Oregon Health Equity Alliance, a community-based organization and collective dedicated to advancing health equity policies and practices grounded in racial justice. They are also a mentor with the National Minority AIDS Council's Youth Initiative program and a member of the Northwest Reproductive Justice Collective.

Uju's background is in community engagement and outreach, training development and facilitation, research, and health education and navigation. Uju is largely interested in how racism, fatphobia, and ableism shape health inequities, particularly within Black communities.

Uju's passion for health equity is inspired by their personal and communities' ongoing struggle with defining and protecting their holistic wellness in systems that do the opposite by design. They believe in a world where everyone has what they need to live full and healthy lives. In their spare time, they enjoy suspenseful thrillers, painting outdoors, deep belly laughs with loved ones, and improving their chess game.