

Michael Partis Appointed New Executive Director of Red Hook Initiative (RHI)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — [Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY] — Michael Partis has been named Executive Director of Red Hook Initiative (RHI).



“I am thrilled to join the Red Hook Initiative as Executive Director. As a native New Yorker, I’ve witnessed firsthand the transformative work of RHI in empowering our kids and creating economic opportunities for thousands of local residents. I look forward to building on RHI’s legacy of tackling injustice, creating change, and building community.” - Michael Partis, Executive Director of Red Hook Initiative.

Michael brings a wealth of experience that aligns with RHI’s mission to empower youth and combat systemic inequities — including through his most recent role as the Executive Director of the Bronx Cooperative Development Initiative.

“Michael has been selected as the next visionary to lead RHI. Michael brings a deep understanding of communities like Red Hook, along with extensive experience around social justice, policy advocacy, and youth development. He is the leader needed to build on the impactful work of our organization, and I look forward to Red Hook’s bright future with Michael at the helm.” - Chris Cardona, Board President of RHI

As an anthropologist and educator, Michael Partis has a deep understanding of the historical and social roots of injustices faced by the Red Hook community. Michael most recently was the Executive Director of the [Bronx Cooperative Development Initiative](#) (BCDI), a nonprofit focused on community wealth building. Michael also works as a researcher at the [Bronx African American History Project](#) at Fordham University. He co-founded The Bronx Brotherhood Project, a college success and mentorship program for Black and Latino teens at the New Settlement College Access Center. Previously, Michael was the Director of [South Bronx Rising Together](#) (SBRT), a “cradle-to-career” education initiative. He also previously taught in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, as well as in the Department of Anthropology at Brooklyn College. Michael is also the Co-Chair of the [Federation for a Manufacturing Renaissance](#), a Board Member for the [New Economy Project](#) and the [New York Foundation](#), and the Adult Board Chair for the [Youth Power Coalition](#).

About Red Hook Initiative

Red Hook Initiative (RHI) is a community-based organization that works to empower youth and adults in the Red Hook neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY. Through education, employment, and youth development programs, RHI provides access to resources, skills, and opportunities to create a healthier, more equitable community. Our mission is to build a strong, vibrant, and empowered Red Hook community. We strive to create an inclusive and safe environment for everyone to learn, grow, and thrive. Learn more about our work at rhicenter.org.

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Contact

Maddy Jenkins
Senior Manager of Communications
Red Hook Initiative (RHI)
Phone: (302) 219.0389
Email: Media@rhicenter.org