

# Speaker Bio | Dr. Zainab Okolo

An expert in higher education policy and mental health, Dr. Okolo has focused her career on breaking down barriers for students, enabling them to thrive academically, and allowing them to lead fulfilling lives. With over a decade of professional experience in higher education research and student services, she is a staunch advocate for increased and equitable access to high-quality mental health services for all college-aged students. At The Jed Foundation, Okolo advocates for increased federal, state, and local support for a comprehensive approach to mental

health and suicide prevention. She holds a doctorate in education from The George Washington University, a master's in marriage and family therapy from Syracuse University, and a bachelor's in family science from the University of Maryland, College Park.