



# 2023 DEI & Professional Development Scholarship Winners



## **CIARA HORNE**

**Ph.D, Candidate, Systems Engineering  
University of Virginia**

Ciara Horne is a systems engineering Ph.D. candidate, Health Policy Research Scholar, and Bill Anderson Fund Fellow at the University of Virginia. In 2017, she received her B.S. degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Maryland, where she specialized in structural engineering. In graduate school, she has leveraged her systems and structural engineering knowledge to conduct interdisciplinary and human-centered research that identifies social injustices in our built environments. Specifically, her research consists of applying spatial analyses to discover and quantify the social impacts dam failures can have on racially and economically marginalized communities in the United States. For her research efforts, Ciara has received awards from the National Science Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Association for Computing Machinery. With additional support from the AWRA DEI Scholarship, Ciara plans to continue these necessary efforts and encourage the water resource field to develop more safe, equitable, and sustainable water infrastructure systems.