

Empowering Practitioners: Channeling Passion and Research into Transformative Architectural Solutions

Shefali H. Sanghvi AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Fitwel Amb., Director of Sustainability, Senior Associate, Dattner Architects

Abstract:

We, as practitioners, recognize our immediate moral obligation to address the built environment's impact on the climate. How can we effectively channel our staff's passionate commitment to addressing the climate crisis, as well as issues related to equity and resiliency, to create a positive impact within our work?

Join Shefali H. Sanghvi and Jen Switala from Dattner Architects as they discuss their leadership in professional development groups within the firm. Learn how they foster the staff engagement with internal research, and how that research catalyzes change in their work. Shefali will take you through the transformative work carried out within the firm's Sustainable Practice Group, an internal staff-led group that facilitates positive environmental impact and improves occupant healthy, equity and resiliency of the projects we touch. Jen will discuss the work she does with the firm's R&D Co-Lab, a collaboration between all employees that encourages critical dialogue, research, and exploration around interdisciplinary ideas, issues, and forces that affect our practice as designers and people. Drawing on their experiences, the speakers will spotlight two recent firm projects, Vital Brookdale and Alafia, where this research directly informed the design and construction processes.

Presenter Biography:

Shefali Sanghvi has over 15 years of experience working in sustainable projects, with an emphasis on resiliency, occupant health and comfort, and energy efficiency. An expert on urban Passive House projects, she is dedicated to designing buildings that are socially, environmentally, and financially sustainable. As the firm's Director of Sustainability, Shefali serves as a thought leader across Dattner Architects' studios, and beyond, championing sustainability as integral to architecture. She establishes the direction of our research and leads the exploration and application of sustainability in-house by facilitating knowledge sharing amongst project teams, firm leadership, and our professional development groups.

22nd Annual New York State Green Building Conference

– February 29th and March 1st, 2024 –

<https://www.esf.edu/greenbuilding/>