

Sarita Pillai



Sarita Pillai – Courtesy image (c) all rights reserved

Sarita and her husband Sanjeev moved to Bedford from Waltham in 2013 with their two daughters who are students at Bedford Public Schools. Sarita is an active parishioner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church where she is a lead Sunday School teacher for children in grades 1-3. She also chairs the church's Fellowship Committee that is responsible for welcoming new parishioners while also helping long-time parishioners deepen their connection to the church.

Sarita came to Boston over 25 years ago to attend university and received an undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Northeastern University and an MBA from Bentley University. After eight years of working in the software industry, she made the decision to do more personally meaningful work and pursue work in a non-profit environment. For the past 15 years, Sarita has worked for a research and development non-profit organization based in Waltham building a portfolio of work focused on K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

Her interest in serving as a *Citizen* board member stems from her staunch support of freedom of speech and facts and evidence-based reporting of important news and events in our community. She believes that local news outlets like the *Citizen* are critical vehicles for building the skills of its community members to be thoughtful and careful consumers of news and media, to learn how to vet their sources of information and triangulate data to fully understand the issues affecting their lives, their community, and their country.

Sarita Pillai is Managing Director at Education Development Center based in Waltham, MA. She is deeply committed to ensuring that all children have access to a quality education and exposure to meaningful STEM experiences that will help them be successful in life. She leads national centers that advance innovative research and

development and deepen understanding of effective strategies to enhance the quality and equity of STEM education. She specializes in forming and sustaining strong communities of practice focused on improving STEM education. She has led several projects to design powerful, technology-based STEM educational opportunities for all students, especially those traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields. She is deeply committed to ensuring that every individual has the right to access, fully participate in, and benefit from social, education, and workforce opportunities.