

I am the I in HII.

Amanda Clarke

Director, Cybersecurity & IT Programs | Chief of Staff

Early in life, Amanda Clarke realized the lessons she learned on the basketball court could be applied elsewhere. Communicating clearly and learning to value other people's talents were key to leading teams in high school, college and eventually in her career.

Her developmental journey began when she was named the starting point guard on her high school team. It's there where she began to lay the foundation that built her as a person and as someone who needed to take responsibility on, and off, the court.

Amanda walked onto the basketball team at the University of Louisville and eventually transferred to Kentucky Wesleyan College on a full scholarship where she continued to play and earned her bachelor's degree.

"For me, my coaches taught me, not only do you need to know your job, but you also need to know the job of the players on the floor, and really set that tone, set the pace, and take responsibility for making sure that things are going well," she said. "As I go through my career, I naturally see myself playing that role in the positions that I've been in."

"Basketball gave me that foundation to really learn who I was as a person, how to build relationships."

▶ Amanda's story continues, watch the video at www.hii-homeport.com/divein/iamthei.stm

During her time playing on the hardwood and as a volunteer coach, Amanda learned the importance of diversity and inclusion. It's where she led teams of players from various backgrounds.

"We're accepting of our differences, and I think that's what makes us special," she said. "As a team, we're all different, and we bring talents and skills to the table — that's what inclusion is ... if you can appreciate that, then you're going to be open to hearing what someone else has to say that may be different."

Amanda has been at HII for close to a year, and was at Newport News Shipbuilding for nearly 17 years prior to that. While her role at HII has evolved, she has remained a point guard for the IT department by creating cohesion among the team, setting the tone and tempo of work and ensuring the hard stuff is done right.



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What's your diversity snapshot? Share your story with your own D&I poster. Contact Teresa Chubb at Teresa.Chubb@hii-co.com for details.