Panelist Bio

Emilia Sheely

Executive Director, Riverview International Center

Emelia grew up in southwestern Ohio and took her first trip abroad as a teenager, spending a month in Russia. That experience led her to travel internationally for the next ten years, leading service and mission trips for young people. She is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies and Arabic.



In 2009, Emelia moved to Egypt, where she studied and worked for more than 5 years. After returning to central Ohio in 2015, she worked for other non-profits in training, recruiting, and writing. She began working at the Riverview International Center in 2017 as Volunteer Coordinator and gradually took on more roles, including Director of Programs, and in 2023, Executive Director.

For Emelia, working at the RIC is the perfect way to utilize her cross-cultural experience and language skills, as well as her passion for service and mentorship.