VIDEO TRANSCRIPT - Career Crossroads: Samreen Malik

**Corresponding transcript to the PNC Flix video 'Career Crossroads: Samreen Malik'.**

[​Read the rel​ated story and watch the video](https://newsonline.pnc.com/EmpCen/News/Pages/Career-Crossroads-Have-a-Voice-for-Yourself.aspx).

So I think primarily I focused on my career and my current job responsibilities when I joined the bank in 2018.

I was really deliberate about creating a high-performing team, selecting the right individuals, and coaching them to meet expectations in order to be able to deliver on results, and what my primary job function was.

In doing so, that in and of itself, was the standout performance.

In the first year or so, I did make a name for myself in doing that.

The EBRGs really give you an opportunity to be deliberate about being involved in the internal community.

And so I joined all of them from the Women's Connect, to the Latino EBRG, and the AAPI EBRG, which, which I identify with.

And in 2020, I became the president of the New Jersey AAPI EBRG, and was able to lead through some difficult times in the pandemic, and host virtual events.

And this year, we were able to actually have our first in-person event where we drew in a large number of people who were really excited to be back in person.

What's really great about the EBRGs, and being intentional about being involved in them is that you get to know people from various lines of businesses.

You have a relationship with your regional president.

You have involvement with other parts of the bank that are not right in front of you, not even in your market.

You have executive sponsors, and other people who participate as well.

I recently was so excited to see the Guild Program launched at PNC, and signed up first day.

And I'm currently taking a course at Cornell, it's a certificate course, which will help me expand my skill set around the D&I space, which is something that I'm passionate about.

I think it's really important to have a voice for yourself, if you have aspirations to do something further than your current job responsibilities, you can't expect your manager to know that.

Especially if you're doing well in your current role, you may have -- your manager may feel that it's the right position for you and that you're content in it.

But I think it's really important to be vocal about what you aspire to do, and to leverage your manager in terms of developing new skill sets, or finding resources for you to expand on your skill sets and gain more knowledge.

I come from a background where, typically, a voice isn't something that you have.

I have a, as a role model, my mom, who was very anxious to have a career; be educated.

And based on where she came from, it wasn't something that was possible for her.

So she always pushed me to be a career woman, to stand on my own two feet, and be independent.

And I think what I've learned is that sometimes all you focus on is being very focused on your current job, and working hard.

"Put your head down and work," she would always say.

And you can do that.

But if you if you have aspirations, and if you want to talk about other things you want to do, whether they relate to your current job function, or others, I think it's critical to always have a voice for yourself.