

# Rupal Thanawala

## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

### MBA

Northwestern University

Kellogg School of Mgmt.

### BS (Biomedical Engineering)

University of Mumbai

## SKILLS

- Strategy & Project Execution
- CxO Advisory
- Stakeholder Management
- Business Development
- People & Talent Development
- Budget & Finance Management
- Grant writing
- Corporate Responsibility & Board Leadership
- Mentoring & Coaching
- Diversity, Inclusion & Equality

## STATISTICS

- Served on 15 community boards
- Raised over a million \$ for diversity projects
- Impacted 93,000 refugees
- Service for 25 years

## PROFILE

Rupal is a community-minded business and digital strategy executive with deep expertise in solving critical challenges with innovative solutions. She has used her strategy consulting skills to identify and solve social issues.

She is passionate about her community and champions programs related to mentoring youth and women, education, technology, entrepreneurship, education, diversity, equity and inclusion.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Trident Systems President & CEO Jan 2002 - Present

- Established a global digital and business advisory firm with a team of 50 providing niche consulting services in 30 countries
- Responsible for P&L, Client, People, Vendor, PMO, and Sales
- Built a global team with skills for M&A and divestiture
- Developed new products to meet global regulatory compliance
- Led multiple global implementations for technology and business transformation projects for fortune 500 companies while building diverse teams across regions
- Regional responsibility for new business development, practice development, corporate responsibility, branding and recruitment
- Responsible for CxO relationship and business development for multiple geographies and industries
- Delivery lead for large scale global projects with responsibilities ranging from technical solution, people management, financials, customer relationship and account management
- Responsible for end to end process for RFP to delivery for ERP, CRM, Cyber Security, AI and ML, Fintech, Martech, regulatory tools, analytics, and automated testing for SaaS and consulting engagements

### Indianapolis Recorder Tech Editor March 2020 – Present

- Created a new column focused on education, employment, innovation and social topics related to Technology
- Secured sponsors and contributors for the column
- Led Minority Business conference with over 100 speakers.
- Led digital transformation for Indianapolis Recorder.
- Developed video content for online platforms

### AT Electronics Founder & CEO 1994 - 1998

- Established new territory and channels for medical devices in India including import licensing, customs and financials
- Responsible for sales, marketing and production support

# Rupal Thanawala

## CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

### Community Impact 2000 - Present

- Rupal has volunteered for over 9 years as president/vice president for Asian American Alliance Inc. and established multiple projects for youth, professionals and the community while taking over the operational and fundraising responsibility. Her focus has been to attract and retain talent and businesses in Indiana, engage Asian Americans to serve on boards, commissions and communities and promote Asian Americans to the next level.
- Over the years, she has recognized over 100 Asian American high school students with Asian American Youth awards and mentored over 2000 minorities to take STEM programs.
- She has advised on strategies to redefine the mission, raise funds, increase impact, develop resources and scale-up programs for over 20 boards.
- Brand ambassador for Asian American Alliance, United Way and American Heart to promote the mission in TV, Print, and Social Media.
- Advocate and speaker for education, diversity and inclusion, health, technology, and STEM programs. Initiated multiple collaborative programs amongst multiple organizations, corporations, cities, and states.
- Served on multiple community impact, governance, fundraising, audit, and program committees to build corporate and community partnerships, including campaigns raising \$75K - \$65 Million.
- Worked actively to empower and encourage girls and women in tech by leading workshops impacting over 3000 girls/women
- Led week-long Indianapolis Recorders' minority business conference for 2020 and 2021. The conference engaged over 2000 professionals, students and entrepreneurs and workshops/sessions were presented by over 100 global leaders. The conference included a pitch competition, mentoring program and funding opportunity.
- Established and led the Diversity, Inclusion & Equity program for employers to develop diverse pipelines, attract talent, provide cultural competency training, manage budgets, and build networks across the ecosystem. Developed mentoring and coaching programs for internal and external members.
- As a corporate responsibility lead, organized fundraising campaigns, engaged with alumni for recruitment, organized impact projects and developed strategy for the market.
- Raised \$200,000 (Assets and Donations) to develop a "Digital Equity" program for 75,000 Afghan Refugees across the nation and entire Operation Allies Welcome
- Built formal relationships with local businesses and multiple universities and HBCUs for minority recruitment.
- Accomplished public speaker and Op-ed writer

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEADERSHIP

- Women Of Impact 2023 Awardee by Women Impact Tech
- Indiana Chamber of commerce "Dynamic Leader of the Year 2022"
- FBI Citizens Academy Graduate 2022
- Supervisory Committee executive for Financials Center First Credit Union ([www.fcfcu.com](http://www.fcfcu.com))
- Jefferson Award by Multiplying Good/WRTV 2022
- Women of Impact American Heart Association 2022
- PBS media's Make 48 Innovation Challenge National and Local judge 2021-2022
- Leading Lights Award 2020 by Women & Hitech
- Indianapolis Minority Business Conference 2020 & 2021 Chair
- Rosa Parks Trailblazer Award by Indiana Recorder 2020
- Cultural Vision Award by Indiana Civil Rights Commission 2019
- Torchbearer Women of Indiana 2018 by Indiana Commission for Women
- United Way 100 Hero 2018
- NAWBO – Trailblazer 2018
- Asian American Alliance of Inc. – President of Board (1999- Present)
- Black Data Professional Association Indiana VP Of Strategic Partnership (2017-Present)
- Luddy IU School of Informatics Computer Engineering Dean's Advisory Council (2018-Present)
- Financial Center First Credit Union - Board Advisor 2021 - Present
- Techpoint Youth for Foundation –Board of Directors (2018 - Present)
- Techpoint Board 2019
- TechPoint MIRA and Tech 25 judge (2018- Present)
- WRTV6 Community Advisory member & contributor (2019 – present)
- Indiana Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (2021 - Present)
- IU School of Informatics Computer Engineering Dean's Advisory Council
- The Lung Association of America Indiana Chapter Board Of Directors (2017-Present)
- Health Science and Innovations- VP & Board of Director(retired)
- Accenture DEI Indiana Lead (2011 – 2018) / International Women's Day Chair
- United Way and NewU Ambassador and multiple committees
- Heartland Film Festival – Cultural Ambassador (2017)
- Op-Ed writer for IBJ
- Judge for TechPoint/IBJ Tech 25
- Judge for Torchbearer Women of Indiana by Indiana Commission for Women
- Judge for United Way Central Indiana Volunteer Award
- Judge for Diversity Case Competition at Kelly School of Business

# Media Links and Publications

A list of media stories from the Department of Defence, VOA News, Washington Post, WSJ, IBJ, Wish-TV, WRTV, Current Publication, Hope Maganize, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Fox59, Techpoint:-

<http://www.bizvoicemagazine.com/interactive/2022/11/#p=57>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQBDHme-8N4>

<https://www.wrtv.com/lifestyle/multiplying-good/jefferson-award-rupal-thanawala-a-visionary-and-strategic-servant-leader-in-central-indiana>

<https://www.dvidshub.net/image/6927611/afghan-guest-children-learn-with-technology-tf-quantico>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzYWlv4ITjU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-C0DyvRGvo>

<https://www.ibj.com/articles/education-empathy-key-to-stamping-out-bias-against-asian-americans>

<https://www.ibj.com/articles/kamala-harris-cracked-the-code-can-others>

<https://www.youarecurrent.com/2021/10/21/fishers-woman-collects-computers-for-afghan-refugee-teens/>

<https://www.wrtv.com/news/local-news/fishers-woman-working-to-establish-a-computer-lab-for-afghan-refugees-at-camp-atterbury>

<https://techpoint.org/2021/09/indiana-tech-community-rallying-to-establish-computer-lab-for-young-afghan-refugees/>

<https://www.wrtv.com/news/computer-lab-opens-at-camp-atterbury>

<https://fox59.com/news/fishers-woman-collects-cultural-clothing-items-for-afghan-evacuees/>

<https://www.wishtv.com/news/multicultural-news/indy-laptop-donation-initiative-expands-to-afghan-refugee-camps-around-us/>

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/indiana-chamber-of-commerce\\_rupal-thanawala-of-fishers-based-it-consulting-activity-6876900008399052800-Jtxw](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/indiana-chamber-of-commerce_rupal-thanawala-of-fishers-based-it-consulting-activity-6876900008399052800-Jtxw)

<https://www.indystar.com/picture-gallery/news/local/2021/03/27/stop-anti-asian-violence-stop-china-bashing-rally/7030207002/>

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/after-fedex-shooting-indianapolis-grieves-11618679252>

<https://www.wthr.com/article/news/local/indiana-celebrates-asian-american-and-pacific-islander-heritage-month/531-b21e273a-27cc-4c5f-b09b-da0fbce05bb4>

[https://www.wrtv.com/news/working-for-you/hoosier-architect-k-p-singh-helped-preserve-big-pieces-of-indiana-history?fbclid=IwAR3MOx55PBwzEY\\_TtLnzaVH9NwXv3lQ2GrNA6YKQGnYrbo8ctL9BRyfxYN0](https://www.wrtv.com/news/working-for-you/hoosier-architect-k-p-singh-helped-preserve-big-pieces-of-indiana-history?fbclid=IwAR3MOx55PBwzEY_TtLnzaVH9NwXv3lQ2GrNA6YKQGnYrbo8ctL9BRyfxYN0)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2021/04/17/fedex-shooting-indianapolis/>

[https://www.wrtv.com/news/working-for-you/celebrating-asian-american-pacific-islander-heritage-month?fbclid=IwAR1HYcg7ODfawcvH9j1PTCQ7z5ANeMPWd5EIHBBXle8-PRqgyFqEUKp\\_GMQ](https://www.wrtv.com/news/working-for-you/celebrating-asian-american-pacific-islander-heritage-month?fbclid=IwAR1HYcg7ODfawcvH9j1PTCQ7z5ANeMPWd5EIHBBXle8-PRqgyFqEUKp_GMQ)

[https://www.wfyi.org/listen-now?fbclid=IwAR2\\_2XjUeUNdVtU00D-4Sn9WIXTrCFO8MehTR1icbfqh0Wz2tsY715It8WQ](https://www.wfyi.org/listen-now?fbclid=IwAR2_2XjUeUNdVtU00D-4Sn9WIXTrCFO8MehTR1icbfqh0Wz2tsY715It8WQ)

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6907780231202246656/> (Story in Hope Magazine website for subscribers)