

Greenville SHRM
June 1, 2021 Program Speakers
It Takes A Community – Meet Agencies Ready to Support Your DEI Initiative



[Able South Carolina](#) and [Greenville CAN](#)

Chris Sparrow – Community Advocates on Disability

Chris Sparrow has been working with Able SC for the past six years as the Employment Services Coordinator in the upstate office. In his role at Able SC, Chris works to address a range of aspects related to disability employment, from working with consumers one-on-one to educating employers about the benefits of hiring people with disabilities. Along with his duties around employment, Chris is also a Certified ADA Coordinator and is a member of the On-Site Assessment Team. He also trains professionals, state and local officials, and service providers on their obligations under the ADA. Chris is also the Chair of the Greenville CAN Coalition Team and is a graduate of Leadership Greenville Class 43.



[Employment Support of the Guard & Reserve - \(ESGR\)](#)

Carolyn Baynes – Veteran Advocacy Organization Volunteer

Carolyn Baynes assists Guardsmen, Reservists, Veterans and their dependents to find meaningful employment in the private sector. As a member of South Carolina's National Guard Operation Palmetto Employment team since 2018, she seeks positive partnerships between the military and employer communities. She researches job opportunities and matches them with the skill sets of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and family members, who are looking for work. She helps our military understand how abilities developed in the armed forces qualify them for civilian occupations. At the same time she makes employers confident that military training can prepare applicants to meet their specific business needs. An electrician's mate in the Coast Guard, Carolyn used her service training to secure her first job when she separated from service. One of the ways she serves in the community as a volunteer is with ESGR, (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) which helps our Nation's employers understand and support the vital mission performed by the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve. ESGR helps create positive partnerships between our military services and employer community.



[Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#)

Evelyn Lugo – Advocates for the Hispanic Community

Evelyn Lugo is the President and Founder of the South Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Lugo came from Puerto Rico to Greenville, SC. She has a background in business administration with experience working with big corporations such as Eastman Kodak, Abbott Pharmaceutical, and 3M; and started a campus bookstore at her Church ministry in Puerto Rico. She founded the South Carolina Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in August

2007 and said the pinnacle of her career has been making an impact on the Hispanic population of South Carolina. Evelyn works in the community as the Hispanic/Latino Outreach Coordinator for the American Cancer Society. She is also a Founder & Partner in Palms and Pastries, making quesitos pastries. Evelyn serves on the AARP regional executive council. In addition to these noteworthy experiences, Ms. Lugo served in the Puerto Rico National Guard in the Military Police.



[Upstate LGBT+ Chamber of Commerce](#)

Nathan Brown – Advocates for the LGBTQ+ Community

Nathan has a passion for transforming businesses. He has more than fifteen years of experience in analytics, business strategy, international partnerships, and technology entrepreneurship. Nathan is the founder of Kiona Technologies, a global data science company operating in North America and Europe. Previously, he led award-winning technology teams at DuPont and BlueCross BlueShield, taking enterprise systems from concept

to implementation. As a serial entrepreneur, Nathan builds companies with the guiding principles of inclusiveness and excellence. As a bisexual human who often feels like an outsider, he seeks to give voice and strength to folks who may otherwise feel alone. That's why he has worked with local leaders to build the newly launched Upstate SC LGBT+ Chamber.



[Urban League of the Upstate](#)

Angie Anderson-Moton– Advocates for African- American and others in underserved communities reaching economic self-reliance.

Andrea Anderson-Moton is a community leader. She is a Greenville native with double master's degrees from Webster University and Higher Ground Christian Development Bible College and Seminary. She has served as Dean of Administration for the last ten years. In August of 2020, she received her Ph.D. in organizational leadership. Angie has twenty years of experience in

human services, ranging from career and youth development to counseling to program management. Currently, the Education Program Manager for the Urban League of the Upstate, Angie manages the Project Ready program, which includes Project Mentor, project Sprout, Project Arts, and Project TV. She

is a youth development advocate and mentors young men and women on the importance of lifestyle choices and career opportunities.



[Women's Rights & Empowerment Network \(WREN\)](#)

Brandi Parrish Ellison – Women's Empowerment Organization

Brandi is the Senior Director of Policy and Programs at the Women's Rights and Empowerment Network (WREN). In this role, Brandi is a key contributor to the thought leadership of WREN, leads the development and execution of WREN's policy and programmatic strategies, and provides strategic direction and leadership to the Policy and Program's team and the organization. Her expertise includes developing equity-based policies, practices tools, and frameworks, providing technical assistance and capacity building, and incorporating community voice into policy and programming. Brandi earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Non-Profit Management from Clemson University. As a volunteer, Brandi has been involved in organizations like the South Carolina Think Tank for Women in Elected Office, South Carolina Women's Caucus and served on the South Carolina League of Women Voters Columbia Chapter Board of Directors. Over the past seven years, Brandi has been a proud co-host of the South Carolina Anita Hill Party and was named one of Columbia's Top 20 Under 40 in 2010