**Vanessa F. Bright**

**EXECUTIVE PROFILE**

Ms. Bright is a proven executive, community advocate, and campaign strategist who understands the multiplier effect and inclusion of bringing peopletogether to solve a common problem by delivering more options, synergies and solutions, to achieve better community outcomes. Ms. Bright has extensive experience in the non-profit sector, and community outreach with a record for success in getting initiatives off the ground with positive results. She has created new and innovative programs, from inception of an idea, through preparing and presenting business plans, to developing and implementing programs and providing the ongoing support structure. Her experience includes budgeting, financial monitoring, and revenue generation activities of all types, including grant development, grant monitoring, membership, and corporate sponsorship.

Ms. Bright has proven to be an effective leader, comfortable with problem solving, facilitation and coordinator of interdisciplinary teams such as profit and non-profit entities. She is driven by serving the community. Her motto is Financial Empowerment & Knowledge for All. She knows how to inspire people to lift their game by making the problem solving process highly collaborative.

**PUBLICATIONS/PROGRAMS**

* Author, Create Your Life Plan Now: Your Blueprint to Reentry, 2022
* Course Creator, Establish Your Non-Profit Organization in 60 Days, 2022
* Contributor, The Routledge Handbook on Financial Social Work, 2020
* Author, *Dollars and Sense for Parents and Children*, May 2013
* Bi-weekly Contributor, Capital Gazette Business Section, Financial Column, 2014
* Creator of Children’s Entrepreneurship Fair, 2013, 2014, 2021, 2022

**WORKSHOPS**

* *Your Money Your Goals*, a Train the Trainer Workshop created by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Your Money, Your Goals is a set of financial empowerment materials for organizations that help people meet their financial goals by increasing their knowledge, skills, and resources.
* Together Program. TOGETHER is an evidence-informed program created by Researchers at University of Maryland, College Park and Virginia Tech, that offers relationship and financial education, connection to community resources, and employment services to couples residing in Maryland and Virginia. The program is led by dedicated and qualified professionals and involves a research component to evaluate

the effectiveness of its services. Ms. Bright serves as a Facilitator of the evidence based Program and Advisor.

**EDUCATION**

Master’s of Social Work Candidate, Catholic University

Master’s of Business Administration, Howard University

Bachelor’s of Business Administration, University of Georgia

**Professional Training/Certifications**

Accredited Financial Counselor AFC®

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Maryland Reentry Resource Center 2019

***Founder/Executive Director***

* Provide executive leadership for a social services non-profit organization in a manner that supported the organization’s mission as defined by the Board of Directors.
* Provided effective communication with the Board in a timely and accurate manner for the Board to function properly and make informed decisions.
* Responsible for fiscal integrity of organization, including the submission to the Board of a proposed annual budget and financial statements which accurately reflected the financial condition of the organization.
* Responsible for fiscal management that anticipated operating within the approved budget, ensuring maximum resource utilization, and maintenance of the organization in a positive position.
* Responsible for fundraising and development of resources necessary to support organizations mission.
* Responsible for implementation of organization’s programs that carried out the mission.
* Responsible for effective administration of operations, including recruitment, on-boarding and retention of staff.
* Responsible for signing all contracts, agreements and other instruments made and entered into on behalf of the organization.
* Serve as primary spokesperson to the organization’s constituents, media and general public.
* Established and maintained relationships with various organizations throughout the county and used those relations to strategically enhance the organization’s mission.

Steuart Pittman for County Executive, 2018

***Outreach Director***

* Connected the needs of the Anne Arundel County minority population and clergy with the agenda of the candidate.
* Developed a minority and clergy channel to bring awareness of Pittman’s political platform and benefits.
* Leveraged industry campaign best practices gained through participation in Prince George’s local elections to Anne Arundel Coney.
* Supported the get out to vote campaign, targeting underserved communities in collaboration with local churches.
* Represented Pittman at campaign rallies, fundraisers, meet and greets, parades and other outreach events.

University of Maryland Extension 2014-2018

***Family & Consumer Sciences Educator***

* Developed, implemented, and evaluated a plan of work based on locally identified needs which led to improved quality of living for families and individuals in Anne Arundel County.
* Developed, led, and/or taught educational programs which focused on: securing financial stability; entrepreneurship; and health insurance literacy.
* Used proven, research-based teaching methods to instruct community members on these curriculum areas.
* Implemented educational programs which strengthened families and individuals.
* Developed, facilitated and implemented reentry curriculums resulting in the creation of personal financial and business plans for inmates.

Zeiders Enterprises, DoD Contractor 2014-2018

***Certified Personal Financial Counselor***

* Provided service members with personal budget/financial planning to reduce, eliminate, and avoid debt and to achieve solvency and stability.
* Helped service members understand credit, finance charges, interest rates and the implications of only paying the minimum amount each month.
* Educated military families on the importance of maintaining excellent credit histories and ratings.
* Educated and counseled Service Members - about their retirement systems and provided financial models to assist them in establishing a comprehensive retirement plan.
* Provided financial briefings: Facilitated briefings designed to promote awareness and educate Service Members and their families on various personal finance topics

Department of Environmental Resources

Prince George’s County, Maryland

***Boards and Commissions Specialist*** 2009-2014

* Navigated local, state, and federal regulations by gaining and maintaining knowledge of administrative court proceedings, processes, and civil law. Developed guidelines for coordinating administrative court appeals with Circuit Court and the Office of Law.
* Coordinated information dissemination between opposing parties. Provided cursory mediation prior to hearing dates. Coordinated with the Human Relations Commission for disputes requiring immediate intervention or citizen safety follow-up.
* Analyzed facts in audio recordings and official adjudication notations. Prepared all final hearings resulting in the form of Findings of fact, Conclusion and Order.
* Assisted the Administrator in maintaining provisions to ensure appointed officials maintain their fiduciary responsibility to upheld local mandates, acted with high moral conduct, and provided fair treatment to all parties before them.

***Community & Legislative Affairs Specialist*** 2007-2009

* Provided and maintained the departmental citizen inquiry and concern response system (called DER Cares).
* Coordinated the research of issues and problem solving with all departments within the Agency providing all follow-up and resolution response to the citizen.
* Provided a visible presence for Agency at special community events.
* Provided operational support to the legislative processes and ensured compliance to public policies and objectives.
* Coordinated research and analysis of various regulations at state and county levels in organization.
* Coordinated with various departments and colleagues within Agency and provided inputs to various local and state officials.
* Prepared summaries and analysis of legislation impacting Agency.

***Adjunct Professor – School of Business*** 2007-2018

* University of Maryland University College
* Anne Arundel Community College
* Prince George’s Community College

Allstate Insurance Co./Bright Insurance Agency 2006-2007

***Agency Principal***

* Started agency with no staff, and built a viable company hiring people to manage over 140 clients within less than one year of conception. Secured substantive returns satisfying goals and enabling company bonuses.
* Managed human resources services, policies, and programs for a company within the company, which included recruiting and staffing, organizational departmental planning, and performance management and improvement systems.
* Developed the business from “ground zero” across a wide range of vertical markets. Identified and qualified new industry and company targets and cultivated executive relationships. Defined and scoped business needs/challenges/requirements, and developed/delivered business proposals and boardroom presentations.
* Devised customized solutions addressing business challenges and marketing strategies for enhancing improvements, and elimination of work redundancies.

Mission of Love Charities

***Executive Director*** 2000-2006

***Strategic Consultant*** 2009-2017

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