

**Virginia “Dee” Evans
2548 West Paseo Blvd
Kansas City, Missouri 64108**

BIO

Current Position: Assistant Director of Community & Public Affairs University of Missouri – Kansas City

Dee is currently the Assistant Director of Community & Public Affairs at the University of Missouri Kansas City. In her role she helps identify opportunities for the university community to engage in the Kansas City community through alumni relations, community partnerships and student/faculty involvement. Dee has served in a dual capacity working to strengthen UMKC’s relationship with its alumni and friends through the Alumni & Constituent Relations office and in the Community Public Affairs office through various university-wide initiatives.

Her commitment to education has encouraged her involvement with university students and there successful experience at UMKC.

Prior to her arrival at UMKC she was instrumental in developing a not-for-profit community service organization training displaced adults back into the workforce. Although this initiative was only funded for (3) years, Dee volunteered her services for an additional (2) years to ensure adults in the surrounding community had access to job preparation skills and workforce development.

Dee is a board member of the UMKC Women’s Council an organization that provides financial support to women students at UMKC through the Graduate Assistance Fund. She is also a charter member of the Association for Women of Color on the UMKC campus.

Currently, Dee serves on the Greater Downtown Area Plan Steering Committee, the Brownfields Initiative Steering Committee and the Vine Street District Economic Development Plan Committee appointed by Mayor Mark Funkhouser.

In 2008, Dee was among 200 hundred Missouri women nominated for the First Lady Awards (Melanie Blunt) and was recognized in the category for Volunteerism through the Missouri Women’s Council.

Dee was award 2008-2009 Fellowship to the NOBEL (National Organization of Black Elected Legislative) Women National Leadership Institute and attended the National Black Caucus State Legislators in Washington DC in December 2008 and the NOBEL Women’s conference in Chicago in June 2009.

She has been elected 2nd Ward Jackson County Committeewoman for the last 10 years which entails numerous of hours in community meetings on political and legislative issues affecting the community. As a member of Freedom Inc her volunteerism includes voter registration and education throughout the 2nd ward of over 5,000 registered voters.

Dee is currently serving a 4th term (8 years) as President of Beacon McFeders Community Council the neighborhood in which she has lived for 29 years. She is committed to ensuring that the Beacon Hill neighborhood remains the historically African American community of its time

with quality housing and basic services so that people of Kansas City can live, work and play in Beacon Hill.

Appointed by Mayor Kay Barnes, Dee currently serves on the City of Kansas City Climate Protection Steering Committee. In this capacity she attends numerous of committee meetings and programs to support the cities plan for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In July 2008 the city council adopted the City's Climate Protection Plan and incorporated its findings and recommendations into City policy and operations.

Dee has served as Chair of Kansas City Adult Education & Literacy Advisory Board since November 2008. In this role Dee has encouraged advisory board members to support adult education throughout the Kansas City area.

Dee served on the Troost BRT Advisory committee to ensure neighborhood representation in the plans for implementing a new MAX Bus Rapid Transit route in Kansas City from Downtown and along Troost Avenue.

She has also serve on a state commission for Child Abuse and Neglect appointed by Governor Bob Holden.

Dee received her undergraduate degree from Ottawa University in Business Administrations and a Mini Executive MBA from University of Missouri Bloch School of Business and Public Administration.