

Brenda Mahr

Brenda Mahr, MWDP, retired in 2019 after forty-one years of administrative/management service with EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION. Under her leadership the agency developed new and innovative programs in employment, housing, behavioral health, youth services and social enterprise. Ms. Mahr currently serves on the Board of Directors of Employment Connection, George B. Vashon Museum and on the Finance and Administration Committee of St. Alphonsus Liquori (Rock) Church.



Ms. Mahr is a certified Missouri Workforce Development Professional (MWDP) and a Class II Denali Fellow; former member of the International Community Corrections Association, the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, the Faith Labor Alliance, and the Missouri Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee. She is also a Charter Member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, WDC; served as a United Way Campaign Rally Speaker and Ambassador for the Women in Leadership Campaign and is a member of the Vashon High School Hall of Fame.

Awards and recognitions include: May 5 is designated as “Brenda Mahr Day” by St. Louis City and County; “What’s Right with the Region - Improving Racial Equality and Social Justice” by FOCUS St. Louis; J. Bryan Riley Meritorious Service Award – Lifetime of Commitment to Excellence and Innovation in Community Corrections by the International Community Corrections Association, WDC, Torch Bearer Award by the St. Louis Archdiocesan St. Charles Lwanga Center; “Woman of Outstanding Leadership” by The International Women’s Leadership Association; “Inspiring St. Louisan Honoree” - NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner; Ladies of Distinction; the Montford Pointe Marine Association and the U.S. Army Human Resources Command – St. Louis for her commitment to veteran’s services.

She is the proud mother of two sons, Atif and Akil and a “chosen” daughter, Lisa. Granny B to Atif, Jr., Dorian, Shakur, Elijah, Jya, Khamisi, Simone, Isis, Khamil, Sophia, Osiris, Ori, Solomon, and Khalil.

