

Ericka L. Plater Bio

Ericka is a mission-driven nonprofit leader with over 25 years' experience in the areas of organizational development, business and strategic planning, diversity, equity and inclusion, leadership development, program development, and training and conferences. Ericka has utilized her skills in the fields of public education, healthcare, public health, philanthropy and community development. She has written articles, spoken at and facilitated conference and program sessions related to the various areas she has mastered throughout her career.

She is the Executive Director of Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach, a 30-year-old nonprofit providing direct services, education and health services to the rural Sea Islands of Johns, James and Wadmalaw as well as the eastside of downtown Charleston.

Ericka also served on the board of the D5 Coalition focused on diversity, equity and inclusion in philanthropy as well as the Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area and Amethyst & Indigo Community Action Support. She currently serves on the board of the Carolina Catholic Professional Network and MUSC Health Partners and the Executive Committee of Trident United Way's Healthy Tri-County Initiative in Charleston, SC.

Committed to improving the lives of women and children as well as underserved communities, Ericka has lead workshops in the DC metro area for women and girls in collaboration with Whitman-Walker Clinic, and DC Rape Crisis Center. She also coaches woman along their life and career journeys. Workshop topics have included healing from sexual abuse, living healthy, eating to live, and aspects of self-development. Her October 2019 speaking engagement with Whole Foods Foundation in Detroit centered on overcoming trauma and negative choices to reclaim your personal power.

A native Washingtonian, Ericka holds a M.S. and M.B.A. from University of Maryland University College and a B.A. from Howard University. She is a mother of two beautiful daughters and a handsome son who keep her on her toes. She enjoys a good book, a good movie and time by bodies of water.