

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Communication  
Public Relations  
Public Speaking

# Karinda L. Washington

Executive Director, Social Impact & Campaigns (Senior Executive Service) at U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

## Summary

A dynamic public relations practitioner that hails from the great city of Detroit, MI with nearly 20 years' experience designing and implementing creative engagement processes and programs within the public and private sectors. Serving as External Affairs Officer for Operation Allies Welcome, being selected as DHS' first Social Impact senior executive, implementing the DHS Loaned Executive Program, and creating the Exemplar training with industry program are the highlights of my DHS tenure. Selected as the Office of Partnership and Engagement's first chief of staff to fully realize the merger of nine offices and campaigns and administer a multi-million dollar budget. I'm a visionary with excellent interpersonal communication skills to effectively build relationships with key internal and external stakeholder groups. Passionate about community relations, community development, social impact, and corporate social responsibility in urban centers.

Faith \* Integrity \* Leadership – The Karinda Brand.

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## Experience

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

12 years 5 months

Executive Director, Social Impact (Senior Executive Service)

May 2021 - Present (2 years 5 months)

External Affairs Officer, Operation Allies Welcome (Senior Executive Service)

August 2021 - Present (2 years 2 months)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

Head of external affairs for Operation Allies Welcome--coordination across the federal government, private sector, NGO/civil society/nonprofit/faith, academia, state and local governments, and individuals, to resettle vulnerable Afghans.

Acting Assistant Secretary for Partnership and Engagement

January 2021 - May 2021 (5 months)

### Chief of Staff

October 2017 - May 2021 (3 years 8 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Partnership and Engagement is comprised of the Office for State and Local Law Enforcement, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Private Sector Office, Office of Academic Engagement, Faith Initiatives, Faith-Based Security Advisory Council, Committee Management Office, Homeland Security Advisory Council, If You See Something, Say Something®, Blue Campaign, Loaned Executive Program, and Exemplar.

### External Affairs Specialist

May 2011 - October 2017 (6 years 6 months)

Private Sector Office

Director of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Loaned Executive Program and creator of Exemplar, a training with industry program. Both programs leverage private sector expertise to remedy challenges across the homeland security enterprise. Led the effort to expand the Programs across the interagency (to additional federal agencies).

### Michigan Legal Services

Office Manager and Program Associate

September 2001 - May 2011 (9 years 9 months)

Detroit, MI

Began my professional career as an office manager for Michigan Legal Services, a nonprofit organization which provides free legal assistance to low and moderate income families in the city of Detroit. The position quickly evolved into a program associate position leading community and government relations efforts to establish the Property Tax Foreclosure Prevention Project, which has saved 1000s of homeowners from foreclosure.

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## Education

Eastern Michigan University

Bachelor's Degree, English Written Communication · (1996 - 2001)

Wayne State University

Master's Degree, Communication Public Relations and Organizational  
Communication · (2008 - 2010)

Harvard Kennedy School

Certificate, Senior Executive Fellows · (2018 - 2018)