

PEACHES M. CALHOUN

Founder, Humanity First Ohio
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Community advocate and nonprofit leader with 14+ years of professional experience in program management, grassroots organizing, civic engagement, and social justice advocacy. Founder of Humanity First Ohio, driving initiatives that expand equity, access, and civic literacy for underserved communities. Skilled in community outreach, coalition building, policy education, fundraising, and volunteer management. Recognized for strategic leadership, cross-sector partnerships, and a commitment to advancing inclusive, people-first solutions.

CORE SKILLS

- Community Advocacy & Civic Engagement
- Nonprofit & Social Service Leadership Accuracy
- Program Design & Implementation
- Event Management & Volunteer Coordination
- Financial & Administrative Management
- Policy Analysis & Public Education
- Strategic Partnerships & Fundraising
- Public Speaking & Facilitation
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives

LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE

Founder & Executive Director

Humanity First Ohio (HFO) – Columbus, OH
2023 – Present

- Founded a nonprofit advancing civic participation, community empowerment, and equity initiatives.
- Designed and implemented the 700 Constitutions Campaign, ensuring statewide access to constitutional literacy resources.
- Facilitated the Civic Starter Series, training residents on policy processes, advocacy strategies, and democratic participation.
- Coordinated community-based programs, including Barbershop Talks for Men's Mental Health and voter education drives.
- Developed recognition and incentive programs to honor volunteers and local leaders, strengthening community engagement.
- Built strong partnerships with elected officials, nonprofits, and businesses to advance the organizational mission.

Commissioner & Secretary

Greater Southeast Area Commission (GSEAC) – Columbus, OH
2022 – Present

- Serve as an elected local official advocating for residents in areas of housing, zoning, public safety, and neighborhood development.
- Lead the Zoning Committee, reviewing and advising on community-impacting projects.
- Manage commission records, public communication, and compliance with city guidelines.
- Foster transparent decision-making and civic participation through public forums and resident engagement.

Community Organizer & Program Lead

*Independent & Partnered Initiatives – Columbus, OH
2019 – Present*

- Directed YWCA women’s initiative, securing and distributing 100+ care packages for women in transition. I also volunteer to serve dinner monthly.
 - Produced community publications (*People’s Pen* and *New American Magazine*) amplifying underrepresented voices.
 - Organized fundraising campaigns, resource drives, and civic town halls addressing local needs.
 - Engaged LGBTQ+, racial/ethnic minority, and low-income communities in advocacy programs.
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

Director of Finance – *Le Meridien, The Joseph* | Columbus, OH | 2022

Assistant Controller – *Embassy Suites* | Columbus, OH | 2011–2014

Accountant Consultant – *Various firms (Nationwide, McDonald’s, John Glenn Airport, etc.)*
2009–2022

(Extensive financial and administrative experience in hospitality and real estate sectors. See full resume for details.)

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION & CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2025 Humanitarian Award, Columbus Chapter of Blacks in Government – honored for outstanding service and advocacy.
- Featured as Lady Humanity, a creative advocacy persona blending education, history, and community storytelling.
- Recognized for grassroots mobilization and neighborhood service.

