

Ophelia Arnold Bio



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A passion for volunteerism and advocacy shows up every day in the life of Ophelia Arnold.

Currently, she serves her community by leading and overseeing the outward facing work of the Urban Family Development Center. Her current title is Lead Agency Coordinator, but it doesn't denote how intricate her role is and how the success of the organization is dependent on the success of her work.

Ophelia also attributes a lot of her professional success due to being afforded the opportunity to serve with the Columbus Urban League, as a Lead Housing Counselor for 1 year as an employee, and a community volunteer for 6 years with the African American Male Initiative.

Born on an Airforce base in Arkansas, and later raised in Chicago, Ophelia has a unique and comprehensive perspective when it comes to serving the community. Additionally, Ophelia attended Ohio Dominican University and Mount Vernon Nazarene College and jump started her career of service hood with the Alvis House and Talbert House.

In 2008, she worked in administration at the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority. Since that eye-opening and life changing experience, her focus has shifted from policy correction to affordable housing, advocacy, and deepened her emphasis on people centered systemic change.

Ophelia's 15-year housing career has worked in many areas within the industry, including public housing, tax credit, housing choice vouchers, layered funding, and more.

Ophelia holds several certifications: Public housing Manager from NAHRO, Calculation Specialist of occupancy in public housing from NAHRO and Nan McKay.

Ophelia also is certified as: Housing Counselor, Financial Counselor and Foreclosure counselor from NHNLA Unidos.

Her most recent accomplishment is being appointed as the Assistant Secretary of the Columbus branch of the NAACP.

However, the thing that drives, motivates, and makes her most proud is that even though she is in leadership, she diligently works to maintain a level of transparency and relatability with the community she serves.