



Ashley Walker

Secretary

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Ashley Walker is the former Executive Director of the City of San Diego's Human Relations Commission (HRC) where she provided organizational leadership for the 15-member Commission and confidential facilitations and conciliations to community businesses and organizations. The HRC advises the Mayor and City Council on discrimination and civil rights issues. The Commission and staff provides a mechanism for voluntary mediation of discrimination complaints; technical assistance on community organizing projects and the development of relevant, culturally appropriate education and training opportunities throughout the City. The HRC promotes and sensitizes people to the issues of conflict resolution, multiculturalism, diversity, discrimination, equal opportunity and violence prevention.

Ms. Walker, a 34- year resident of San Diego, brings community organizing, program and fund development, training and management skills to her current assignment. She has a deep commitment to human and civil rights and strong background in community-oriented work. She is an accomplished trainer and conflict resolution facilitator.

She was an administrator, including Interim Director, at the YWCA for 13 years. She, with the assistance of a dedicated paid and volunteer staff, pioneered and administered Battered Women's Services. It provided the first shelter and comprehensive domestic violence family programming in San Diego County. For ten years as a POST (Police Officers' Standards and Training) certified trainer, she diligently trained the San Diego Police Department, Sheriff's Department and all nine police departments in the county on methods of responding to child abuse and domestic violence. She has given over 1,300 lectures and seminars to civic, financial, educational, legal, medical, governmental, business, religious organizations and social service agencies. Her consulting group, Horizons Unlimited - West, established the protocol for domestic violence services in U.S. Navy Family Service Centers in the Western Region. One of her publications includes the first (1983) Emergency Assessment tool for dealing with domestic violence by emergency room staff.

She has received widespread recognition for her work including the YWCA Founder's Award (2007), San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame (2006), Humanitarian Award from the Youth for Human Rights International (2006), the Community Service Award from the Latina / Latino Unity Coalition (2005), Service Award from the LGBT Community Center (2004), the Award of Honor (2003) from the Santee City Council, The Peacemaker Award (2002) from National Conflict Resolution Center, the Domestic Violence Guardian Angel award (2000), the Community Service Award from the National Association of Women Judges (1992); the Distinguished Citizen's Award from the San Diego County Bar Association (1990); and Community Service Awards from National Council of Negro Women, Soroptomist International, Lawyers Club of San Diego, California Women in Government, and the United States Post Office. She also received the Susan B. Anthony Award from the National Organization for Women.