

2011 SWHRMA Diversity & Inclusion Conference

Tuesday, May 17th , 8AM – 1PM
Royal Oaks Country Club, Vancouver, WA

Taking A Broader View of Diversity.
Emerging Trends. **New Strategies.** Fresh Perspectives.

Learn from diversity practitioners and thought-leaders from our community, and take away actionable and measurable strategies to positively impact your organization's diversity & inclusion goals. Don't miss this high-impact event!

Keynote Luncheon Speaker



Rekah Strong
Clark County Diversity Coordinator



Deena Pierott
President, Mosaic Blueprint



Michael E. Benko
Veteran Outreach Program Specialist
State of WA Employment Security Dept.

Register online at www.swhrma.org on the Event Calendar page.
Full Conference \$79 / Luncheon Only Option \$35

Conference Agenda

7:15 – 8:00AM	Registration & Check-In
8:00 – 8:05	Welcome & Opening Remarks
8:05 – 8:20	2011 Outlook, SHRM's National Initiatives & Hot Topics, Presented by Meridith Green, SWHRMA Diversity Director
8:20 – 10:00	Developing a Diversity Strategic Plan: Clark County's Award- Winning Approach! Presented by Rekah Strong, Clark County Diversity Coordinator
10:10 – 11:10	Reintegrating Veterans into the Civilian Workplace: What HR Must Know. Presented by Michael E. Benko, Veteran Outreach Program Specialist, State of Washington Employment Security Department
11:10 – 11:30	Break/Afternoon Luncheon Registration
11:30 – 1:00	Managing While Other: A Synopsis of the 5-Part Leadership Inclusion Series. Presented by Deena Pierott, President Mosaic Blueprint
1:00 – 1:05	Closing Remarks & Adjourn

Who Should Attend This Conference?

- Human Resource Professionals
- Diversity and Inclusion Practitioners
- Career and Training Professionals
- Business Leaders
- Community Leaders

Why Should You Attend?

- Learn Diversity and Inclusion strategies from local leaders in both the private and public sector
- Network with other professionals who are interested in supporting diversity & inclusion in organizations
- Expand your knowledge of today's Diversity & Inclusion issues and bring fresh ideas and suggestions back to your organization
- Earn HRCI Credit (credits currently pending approval)



About the Presenters:

Deena Pierott

Deena is the founder of the award winning Mosaic Blueprint, a Pacific NW firm specializing in diversity recruiting, career coaching, and diversity consulting. Her firm has recently launched a five-part equity and inclusion series titled *"Managing While Other"* which has launched successfully in Portland, Seattle, and next Spokane. She is also coordinating a two-day diversity summit in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

She is also the founder The Urban Entrepreneur's Network of SW Washington which supports multicultural entrepreneurial development to help achieve self-sufficiency, create wealth and increase economic opportunity for business people and our communities. We believe that increasing minority business development creates wealth and income to the business owner as well as the families and communities via job creation, and increases charitable giving to community organizations.

She also holds the following community positions: Commissioner with Washington's Commission on African American Affairs, an appointment granted to her by the Governor of Washington in 2007, Washington State University Diversity Advisory Council Member, and Economic Development chair for NAACP of Oregon, Washington and Alaska; founder of the International Black Women's Collaborative. She is also on the Chief Information Officer (CIO) Advisory Councils for Portland and Seattle.

While with the City of Portland, Deena created the "Deep" Affinity Group series and conceptualized the City's Human Relations Commission. Additionally, she is a former Board

member with NW EEO and former President with the Oregon Chapter for the National Forum for Black Public Administrators.

She has been featured in the following publications: Working Mother Magazine, Deliver magazine, Jet magazine, Colors of Influence, Neurology Now and the Chicago Tribune.

Rekah Strong

Rekah Strong, MSW, is the Diversity Coordinator for Clark County. She is a Portland State University Alumnus and holds a bachelors degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis on African American Studies. She also holds a masters degree in Social Work (Administration) and is currently working on her PhD in Social Work and research.

Rekah has over a decade of experience working with Public and Private Agencies and developing strategies to improve organizational cultural humility. Her current work actives include integrating diversity and inclusion measures into the total fabric of Clark County. She is currently the committee chair of the Clark County Diversity Advisory Committee and the Diversity Steering Committee.

Some of her past volunteer work includes: an advisor for the American Society for Training and Development Cultural Competency Team, South West Washington Chapter Red Cross Board member and Diversity team chair , YWCA personnel committee member, Big Brothers Big Sister African American Advisory Committee, City of Battle Ground Diversity Task Force, and Portland State University Social Justice Committee.

She is a recipient of the 2008 NAACP Diversity Leadership Award, 2009 YWCA Val Joshua Racial Justice Award, 2009 Delta Woman of excellence award for Social justice, 2010 Vancouver Business Journal Accomplished and Under 40 award, and spear headed work for Clark County to Receive the 2009 National Associations of Counties Program Award for Diversity and Inclusion and 2010 Urban Entrepreneurs Network Community Vanguard Award .

Michael E. Benko,

Command Master Chief (Submarines), U.S. Navy (Retired)

Master Chief Benko was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended Parma Senior High School and entered the U.S. Navy following graduation in 1979. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Excelsior College in May 2009.

Michael completed basic training in Orlando, Florida followed by Basic Enlisted Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut. He completed Strategic Weapons Systems Electronics and Fire Control Technician Ballistic schools at Naval Guided Missile School Dam Neck, Virginia, and various service schools at Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine Training Center in Charleston, South Carolina. Master Chief Benko was selected as the Distinguished Graduate for class 78 at the Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy in 1997.

Michael's first assignment was onboard USS VON STEUBEN (SSBN 632) (Blue) home ported in Charleston, South Carolina, where he qualified in submarines. Other sea assignments included USS CANOPUS (AS-34) stationed in Kings Bay, Georgia, and USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) (Blue) stationed in Bangor, Washington. Shore assignments included Navy Recruiting District Cleveland, Ohio and Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN, in Bangor, Washington. Master Chief Benko served as Chief of the Boat onboard USS MICHIGAN (SSBN 727) (Gold) and as Command Master Chief of Submarine Squadron SEVENTEEN. He served as the Pacific Fleet, Submarine Force Master Chief in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii from January 2004 to August 2006, and as the Command Master Chief of Navy Recruiting District Portland, Oregon from September 2006 until September 2009. After taking a one year hiatus, Michael was hired by the State of Washington, Employment Security Department, as a Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist, where he assists Veterans in their transition from military assignment to civilian employment.

Command Master Chief Benko's personal awards included the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal (eight awards), Enlisted Submarine Warfare Insignia, the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Pin (15 patrols), and the Navy Recruiting Command Gold Wreath (11 awards).

Additional Event Information

Contact Meridith Green, SWHRMA Diversity Director
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