



2011 Virginia Leadership Institute Board of Directors

President and CEO

Krysta Jones has 10 years of government relations and political experience in the DC Metro area. She is a graduate of The George Washington University School of Political Management, Sorensen Institute of Political Leadership and Leadership Arlington. Krysta has served on numerous boards and commissions for civic and professional organizations.

Vice President, Research

Christmas Chambers is a finance professional with nine years experience in assurance and advisory services. Additionally, she designs and instructs courses on leadership development for high school and college students. Christmas holds a B.S. in Accountancy from California State University, Northridge and is currently finishing her M.B.A. in Finance from Johns Hopkins University.

Vice President, Candidate Recruitment

Monica Reid is a government relations professional with four years of policy and legislative experience. She currently works as a Legislative Assistant/Analyst for Fairfax County, Virginia. Prior to joining the County, Monica served as a Government Relations Assistant for the Thurgood Marshall College Fund.

Vice President, Political Outreach

Amaka Gossett is a Democratic Activist and organizer with experience in precinct operations and African American outreach. Amaka is currently a Precinct Captain for the Fillmore Precinct and holds a seat on the Arlington County Democratic Committee Steering Committee. In addition, she also serves as chair of the Arlington Young Democrats African American caucus.

Vice President, Community Outreach

Susan Lawyer Willis is committed to civic engagement and public service. She is a graduate of Leadership Roanoke Valley and a current board member of the United Way of the Roanoke Valley where she is founder and co-chair of the Community Engagement Program. She is Chair of the National Trends and Services Facet of The Roanoke Chapter of The Links, Inc. and she is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Susan received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Hollins University and her Master of Science degree in Educational Leadership from Radford University where she received the Ruth K. Wood Memorial Award for Educational Leadership. She is currently launching her Educational Consultant firm, *TransformED Leadership*.