



BIOGRAPHY

ELIZABETH "Betty" JOHNSON

Elizabeth "Betty" Johnson has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from California State University, Los Angeles and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

Ms. Johnson retired, after 33 years, from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power. Her career included increasingly responsible positions: Governmental Affairs Representative, Director of Affirmative Action and Diversity, Personnel Officer and Manager of Administration and Customer Service. She was recruited, post retirement, by the County of Los Angeles and was Director of Diversity for the Department of Health Services, before leaving that position to promote her consulting business. Ms. Johnson's training and consulting business clients included the City of Los Angeles where she provided training and career development to City employees. She also formally served as an Adjunct Faculty member for the Federal Government's U.S. Graduate School providing training and course development to uniformed and civilian employees in the United States and internationally.

After being recognized as a California Senior Leader by UC Berkeley's School of Public Health, Ms. Johnson was recruited by them to be the Executive Director of the California Senior Leads Alliance (CSLA), a Project of Community Partners. CSLA was a statewide senior advocacy and civic engagement organization. With over 100 active senior members representing communities of color, low-income seniors, LGBT seniors and seniors with disabilities, CSLA was committed to meeting the needs of the aging population by creating healthier communities that enable seniors to age in place by promoting education and awareness about programs, policies and legislation that focus in particular on the needs of the most vulnerable seniors. Ms. Johnson provided overall management, research and grant writing, oversight and direction for the CSLA Advisory Board on strategic planning, policy and budget.

Ms. Johnson formally left CSLA after successfully transitioning the organization and its members to the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) as a chapter in good standing.

Ms. Johnson is currently on the Board of Directors of the Museum of African Art (MAAA). She has served on several Boards, including KCET Public Television's Community Advisory Board, Girl Scouts of America and the Advisory Committee for the Advocates for African American Elders (AAAE). She is a member of Travelairs Senior Club, AARP, holds lifetime memberships in the Girl Scouts of America, Los Angeles City Affirmative Action Association for Women and the New Frontier Democratic Club. She has held leadership positions in the Affirmative Action Association for Women; National Forum for Black Public Administrators; Black Women's Forum; NAACP/ Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Black Women of Achievement Committee; 48th Assembly District Caucus; AARP Chapter 5117 and the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) for the City of Inglewood.

Ms. Johnson has traveled extensively. She was a member of the United States Women in Business Development Trade Mission to South Africa and traveled to Cuba with a Congressional Delegation led by Congresswomen Maxine Waters and Barbara Lee. She is a first time published author of a children's book "Nobody Knows My Name" about the African American tradition of nicknames.

Ms. Johnson has been recognized for her community service by local and national elected officials and received a number of awards and honors including: UC Berkeley School of Public Health 2014 California Senior Leader Award; Top Ladies of Distinction 2014 Senior Citizens Award; State of California Legislature 2008 Woman of the Year; NAACP/Legal Defense and Educational Fund Black Woman of Achievement; Justice, Unity, Generosity, Service (J.U.G.S.), Inc. Corporate Diamond Award; Black Public Relations Society Board of Governors Award; National Forum for Black Public Administrators/Los Angeles Chapter Outstanding Legacy Member, and National Council of Negro Women, Inc./Athens Westmont Section Distinguished Community Leader to name a few.

Ms. Johnson is a widow. She has two daughters, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.