

# SANDRA TERRY

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Born: Laurel, Florida    January 15, 1948

## EXPERIENCE & PERSONAL HISTORY

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### AWARDS & REGONITIONS

- Race Unity Day Exemplary Service Award – 2006
- Worked in collaboration with Sarasota County Government and Parks and recreation to secure Community Development Block Grant to purchase land and construct a community center in Laurel.
- Volunteer of the Year –Volunteer Center South - 1992
- Spearheaded a community clean up of over 600 households with CDBG Grant to remove blight, overgrown lots and abandoned and open houses being used by drug dealers.- 1993
- Venice Area Chamber of Commerce Civic Beautification Special Award for coordinating the Great Laurel / Nokomis Clean Up- 1993.

*(The collaboration with the county resulted in the County Wide clean ups held yearly countywide today)*

- New Community Center in Laurel named – SANDRA SIMS TERRY COMMUNITY CENTER by Sarasota County Commission -1994
- “Service to Mankind Award” from Women’s Sertoma of Venice – 1994
- Alexis de Tocqueville Society Award from the United Way of Sarasota County – 1994
- Crystal Heart Award from the Gulfcoast Girl Scout Council – 1994
- Olympic Torch Bearer – 1996
- Community Based Big Sister of the Year – 2001
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Sarasota County Branch, NAACP – Sixteenth Annual Freedom Awards -2001

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Incorporated Laurel Civic Association - 1989
- Successfully applied for and received 501© 3 tax exempt status within 90 days –1990
- Laurel Civic Association became a C.H.D.O. in 1998
- Organized community Red Ribbon celebration for 10 years-1991- 2000 – to bring pride back to community with an alcohol and drug free family activity
- Brought over \$15,000,000.00 in projects and services that benefit low-income residents of Laurel/Nokomis in the form of waterlines, paved roads, new roads, improved drainage, sidewalks, new community center, rehabilitation of housing and new affordable housing.
- Received Cultural Diversity Scholarship to attend National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference – 1993
- Works successfully with local government to bring housing improvements to the Laurel community and the entire County.
- The work that has been done since 1988 by the Laurel Civic Association has garnered an honorable mention, two Wooden gavels, a Silver Gavel and a Golden Gavel from the Sarasota Herald Tribune’s golden Gavel Awards.
- Received XI PSI Lambda Chapter Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Mother of the Year – 1991
- Received Women of Color – Women of Achievement Award – 1991
- Dr. MLK Jr. Memorial Award – 1993
- Martin Luther King Achievement Award – 1994

- NAACP Freedom Award – 1998
- Graduate of Gulf Coast Community Foundation’s Leadership Institute 2012
- Speaker at the TEDxSarasota Salon “IdeasWorth Spreading” 2013 (This is a global initiative)

## BOARDS

- Sarasota County Surtax Advisory Taskforce – 2006-2007
- Community Housing Trust (Sarasota County)- 2005- 2007
- Florida Community Loan Fund – 2004 – 2010
- S.C.O.P.E. Board of Directors – 1999 to 2007
  - Affordable Housing Study Group 2001
  - Affordable Housing Implementation Committee 2002
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation Board – 2000-2008  
(Gubernatorial Appointment) Low Income Advocate
  - Served on Fiscal Committee – 2001
  - Hosted the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and Board for a Non-Profit Roundtable and Rule Workshop. This was the first time the general public and the non profits that serve the low and very low income had a chance to speak to the board about the needs of affordable housing needs in Florida. More than 200 people from all over the state attended at the Laurel Community Center.
- Community Development Advisory Committee (Sarasota County)
  - Member 2000 to 2004
  - Chairperson 2001
  - Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice- Board of Directors – 1996 to 2002
    - Chairman of the Women’s Fund Advisory Council–2000-2001
    - Member of the Strategic Grantmaking Committee-1999 to 2002
  - Consortium for Children and Youth, Board of Directors- 1991-1995
  - Sarasota County School Board Advisory Committee (SAC) –Six years
  - The Community Housing Corporation of Sarasota, Board of Directors-1993-1996
  - Board of Directors, Drug Free Communities Sarasota/Manatee. Chairman of first Weed and Seed – Laurel / Nokomis Neighborhood Action Team
  - (CAYSAC) Children and Youth Services Advisory Committee – 1993-2000
  - Healthy Kids Steering Committee – 1998 to 2007
  - Initiated a Housing Forum in order to bring together non-profits working to provide affordable housing to all of Sarasota County.
  - Member of Sarasota School Board of Sarasota County Citizens’ Tax Oversight Committee – 2000- 2005
  - Sarasota County Affordable Housing Work Group 2004

## EDUCATION

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- Attended all Black Booker Elementary and High School from first to ninth grade.
- Graduated 1966 Venice High School (Venice High was integrated in 1963)
  - In first class to integrate school in 1963
- Non-credit courses at Manatee Community College

WORK EXPERIENCE

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**GTE Corp.**

- Long Distance Operator 1967 to 1976
- Sales Associate 1976 to 1999

**Laurel Civic Association, Inc**

- Volunteer President 1988 to 1998
  - Executive Director 1998 to Present
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