

# BIOGRAPHY

*Yevola Smith Peters*

Special Assistant to County Executive John R. Leopold for Human Relations and Minority Affairs. Serves as the County Executive's representative on the following Boards: Anne Arundel County's Department of Social Services, Partnership for Children, Youth and Families (Local Management Board), and Mental Health Agency.

Resident of Anne Arundel County since 1963. 1956 Graduate of Morgan State College (now University) in Baltimore, Maryland, major in music and education. Master of Music degree from Boston University, 1957. Further studies at University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona and University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

Taught music in the public school systems of Kent, Howard, and Anne Arundel Counties in Maryland from January 1960 through June 1969: Kent County, 1960 to 1963, developed Instrumental Music Programs at Garnett Elementary and High Schools and General Music Program at Garnett Elementary School; Howard County, 1963-1965, taught General Music, World History, and directed Choir of Harriet Tubman High School; Anne Arundel County, taught General Music at Overlook and Linthicum Elementary Schools, 1965-1966, and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music and Beginning Band at Corkran Jr. High School, 1966-1969.

In June of 1969, joined the staff of the Anne Arundel County Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc. (local non-profit organization designated by County Government as the anti-poverty Community Action Agency). Served in various capacities with AACEOC, Inc. from 1969 - 1974, beginning as Director of Youth Development Program, then Community Organizer, Coordinator of General Community Programming, Chief Program Officer, and Assistant Director. Became Acting Executive Director in 1974, appointed Executive Director of Agency in 1975 and served in that capacity until November 1, 1991. Returned as Chief Executive Officer of AACEOC, Inc. on March 1, 2001 and served through February of 2005. During tenure at Agency, successfully mobilized and managed over six million dollars of funding annually.

Served as the Resident Services Coordinator for Woodside Gardens Apartments in Annapolis from October 1, 1996 through February 2001. Successfully wrote grants to mobilize \$500,000 of federal funds to establish a Computer Center and renovate space for a Police Sub-station and Community Center to operate After School and Summer Camp programs.

Self-employed as Trainer and Consultant from November 1991 through November 2005, delivering services in the areas of Organizational Development, Board Training, Micro-enterprise development, Program Development, Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) Training and Technical Assistance, Grant Writing and Grantsmanship Training, Mediation and Conflict Resolutions. Became a certified Instructor of Dr. Thomas Gordon's Effectiveness Training for Personal and Professional Development, Parent Effectiveness Training, and No-Lose Conflict Resolution.

Served on numerous Boards of Directors. A Founding Member, past President, life member and current Board Member of Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Inc. A Founding Board Member of the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center, Inc. Life Member of the NAACP. Member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church and volunteer Executive Director of St. Philip's Family Life Center, Inc. Married for 50 years to Everett E. Peters, who died 9/9/07. Three children (all graduated from Anne Arundel County Public Schools), nine grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren.