DNP Margo Dirkson Tennessee

Margo holds a Master's in Public Service Management from Cumberland University. Since 2016, she has worked as the office manager and Annual Giving Programs Manager for the Crawford Alumni Center in the Advancement Division at Tennessee Tech University. She is currently the elected Chair of the Commission of the Status of Blacks and works closely with the Black Cultural Center on campus. She was also recently appointed to the Racial Equity Task Force by the University President, as well as the Staff Advisory Committee.

Margo joined the Cookeville Jaycees in 2014, and immediately jumped in with both feet to become an active, energetic member making a difference in her local Jaycee chapter. Co-chairing and eventually chairing successful events early in her Jaycee career. She held several chapter positions before becoming the Local Chapter President in 2017. She also got involved with her state organization, first serving as the Central Regional Director and Program Manager, and after holding other state offices went on to hold the prestigious position of Tennessee Jaycee President in 2018. She currently serves as 2021 Chairman of the Board for the Tennessee Jaycees; and the Deputy National President of JCI USA.

Margo considers her fellow Jaycees as her second family. She believes with her whole heart that the Jaycees are THE PREMIERE organization for young professionals. She works very hard to build beneficial partnerships and relevant (AND FUN!) training that not only benefit members in their Jaycee career but in their personal and professional lives as well. She largely credits her growth, enrichment, and support in the Jaycees to her changing careers and stepping out into a new and rewarding profession. "I have been blessed with awesome mentors and so much support within the Jaycee organization. I owe it to all those wonderful people that have invested in me to pass the gift of encouragement, mentorship, and Jaycee Love to others. I want to do my part to make sure this organization is here for another 100 years and many generations to come."

When Margo isn't working to further her career or putting in work for the Jaycees, she loves to travel, spend time with family and friends, watch movies, and go to theme parks. Her favorite quote that she tries to live by is," *People will forget what you said, People will forget what you did, But people will never forget how you made them feel." – Maya Angelou*