



THE CIVIC COUNCIL  
OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Civic Council of Greater Kansas City Announces New Staff Appointments**

***Sheri Gonzales Warren, McClain Bryant Macklin Bring Experience and Expertise to  
Business Leadership Organization***

Kansas City, MO (January 9, 2019) – The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City announced today two staff appointments that will significantly expand its capacity and reach in key focus areas, according to President Marc Everett Hill.

Joining the Civic Council on January 28, 2019 as Vice President and Director of KC Rising is Sheri Gonzales Warren, who has served as Community, Economic and Workforce Development Director at Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). McClain Bryant Macklin, Director of Public Policy in the Office of Mayor Sly James, assumes the role of Director, Policy & Research for the Civic Council on January 10, 2019. “These new additions to the Civic Council team will help the organization and our members make an even greater impact on the important issues facing our community and region,” said Civic Council chairman Bill Gautreaux. “Their subject-matter expertise will significantly expand the Civic Council’s ability to collaborate with key partners and stakeholders on KC Rising and regional public policy issues.”

Ms. Gonzales Warren, who joined MARC in 2015, is well known in the region for her leadership in workforce development. She has served as the staff lead for KC Rising’s Human Capital Work Group since its inception. With early career experiences in public broadcasting and international relief and community development, she served as a Program Officer and Director of Grant Programs for two major healthcare foundations in Virginia before returning to Kansas City. In her work at MARC, Gonzales Warren helped establish GradForce KC, a collaboration funded by the Lumina Foundation to guide post-secondary attainment initiatives, and substantially retooled the Regional Workforce Intelligence Network (RWIN) to coordinate and provide decision-making data to economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, workforce investment boards, and educational institutions focused on increasing talent to attract and retain business. Ms. Gonzales Warren holds a BA in Communications and Journalism from the University of New Mexico and a Master’s of Public Administration from the University of Kansas, where she is completing coursework toward a PhD in Public Administration.

“Sheri will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new role, particularly in advancing the KC Rising work around trade, innovation and people,” said David Warm, executive director of Mid-America Regional Council. “We’re pleased that we will be able to continue working with her on KC Rising and other Civic Council initiatives that are important to our region’s economic competitiveness and prosperity.”

Ms. Bryant Macklin has served as Director of Policy in the Mayor’s Office in Kansas City, Missouri, for the past five years, working on issues such as digital equity and inclusion, affordable housing, workforce development and economic incentive research/policy. Prior to joining the Mayor’s office, she was an attorney at Husch Blackwell for seven years, specializing in regulatory and government affairs, investigations and white-collar defense, and public policy. A native of Kansas City and graduate of the Civic Council’s KC Tomorrow program, Bryant Macklin has been active in numerous civic, charitable and community groups in Kansas City, including service as a trustee of Metropolitan Community College and as a Commissioner of the Kansas City Department of Parks and Recreation. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and an MBA from Florida A&M University and a JD from George Washington University School of Law in Washington, D.C. She succeeds longtime staff member Jerry Lonergan, who retired from the Civic Council in December 2018.

"McClain's keen judgment, professionalism and deep understanding of Kansas City have made her an important member of my senior staff," said Mayor Sly James. "Her love for our city and commitment to its future are inspiring--the Civic Council has made an excellent choice, and I look forward to seeing how McClain will continue to help shape our community."

The appointment of Ms. Gonzales Warren and Ms. Bryant Macklin are the first senior staff hires by President Marc Hill since he joined the Civic Council in June 2018. “The Civic Council works on strategic, long-term opportunities to advance economic prosperity and quality of life in our city and region,” said Civic Council President Marc Hill. “Our members count on a staff team that has the experience, expertise and community relationships to help produce positive results for our region. Both Sheri and McClain know how to collaborate with community leaders and partners to get things done.”

In additional staff moves, Consuelo Ross has been promoted to Manager, Finance Administration for the Civic Council. In addition to assuming leadership over the daily financial transactions of the organization, Ross will be the staff lead for KC Tomorrow and the KC Rising Diversity & Inclusion task force. The move will allow Randy Riggs to significantly expand his staff leadership on a number of key issues as Director, Community Initiatives. Steven Levy will continue his role as Manager, KC Rising.

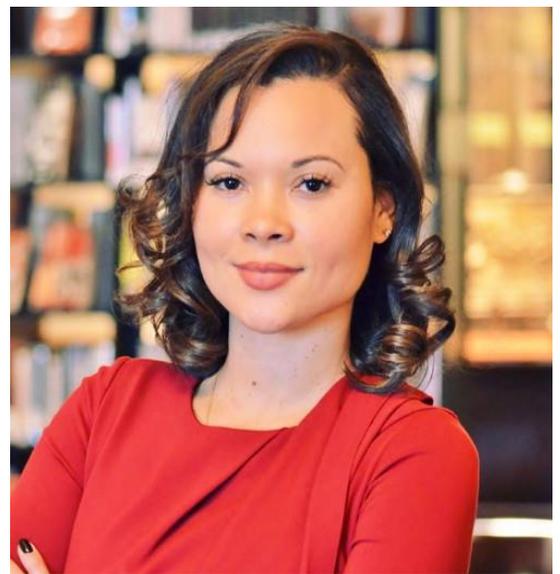
## About the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City and KC Rising

The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City was formed in 1964 with the goal of aggregating the resources of the leaders of the region's largest companies to address major challenges and opportunities. As a privately-funded, nonprofit membership organization of business CEOs, the Civic Council focuses on long-term issues that will impact the quality of life and the economic development of the Kansas City region.

in 2014, the Civic Council launched KC Rising ([kcrising.com](http://kcrising.com)), a collective impact initiative to grow the region's economy. This large-scale effort emerged from a review of the region's economic performance, showing a metropolitan area that was lagging its peer metros in job growth, population expansion, and innovation and business development. KC Rising was developed to promote and initiate strategies focused on Trade, Ideas and People. KC Rising is business-led, highly collaborative, informed by research, and accountable to sponsoring organizations and the community through a performance evaluation process. Key KC Rising Partners include: Kansas City Area Development Council; Mid-America Regional Council and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.



Sheri Gonzales Warren  
Vice President and Director of KC Rising



McClain Bryant Macklin  
Director, Policy and Research