



# Dr. Aditi Bussells

A modern public leader proving that you can be **powerful, polished,** and **unapologetically** yourself, all while getting real things done.

## ABOUT

Dr. Aditi Bussells is a health care expert, policy strategist, and former At-Large City Councilwoman. The first South Asian millennial woman hold citywide office in the region, she's known for challenging entrenched systems, cutting through insider jargon, and showing how government decisions translate into real impacts for families and communities. With more than a decade of experience across government, nonprofit, and industry, she brings rare governing experience, research rigor, and a distinctly modern voice to the conversation about what leadership looks like today.

As Vice Chair of the SC Opioid Recovery Fund Board — overseeing \$360M — and founder of Rapid Shelter Columbia (200+ residents permanently housed), Aditi doesn't just talk about outcomes. She builds them. Her work challenges outdated leadership norms by modeling presence, policy, and personal story as one unified force.

## EDUCATION

**PhD, Health Promotion Education & Behavior**  
*University of South Carolina*

**MPH, Health Policy**  
*George Washington University*

**BA, American Government**  
*University of Virginia*

## RECOGNITION

2026 South Carolina Women in Business honoree

Free Times Best Local Politician — 3 consecutive years

Post & Courier Most Influential Power List, 2022 & 2023

USC Arnold School Distinguished Alumni Award, 2023

SC Chamber Athena Young Professional Award, 2022

Columbia's Best & Brightest Under 35, 2020

## CONTACT

For speaking availability, brand partnerships, fees, and additional materials, please contact:  
[hello@inkwell-mgmt.com](mailto:hello@inkwell-mgmt.com)

## I DIVE INTO...

Millennial & Gen Z Culture

The Science of Hope

Public Health

Southern Politics

Leading with Substance & Style

Young Women of Color in Power

National & Local Politics

## SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

### PRESENCE + PERSONAL STORY

#### Getting vulnerable with you

Navigating authenticity in a curated world, and what personal story, intentional presence, and human connection teach us about building trust with our created communities

### PRESENCE

#### Showing Up Fully Without Compromising Power

What it really means to lead as yourself and why the parts you've been told to hide are actually your biggest assets.

### PRESENCE + PERSONAL STORY

#### Human-Centered Leadership in Corporate & Public Spaces

How authenticity and accountability aren't opposites, and how leaders who bring their whole selves drive better outcomes.

### POLICY

#### Translating Policy Into Real-World Outcomes

Cutting through the insider jargon to show how government decisions actually land in people's daily lives.

### PRESENCE + POLICY + PERSONAL STORY

#### Identity in Challenging Times

Navigating political spaces as a young woman of color, and what the science of hope tells us about leading through uncertainty.

## I WILL SHOW YOU

1

A redefined view of leadership

2

Permission to lead as themselves

3

Practical insight into how to drive outcomes while staying authentic