Julie Cofer Hussey

Financial Management and Family Legacy 2022- present: CEO, Cofer and Company

Founded by Carl Cofer in the 1990's, Cofer and Company is a real estate investment and management firm focused on forward thinking community assets with patient investors. After serving as the board secretary for twenty years, Julie took on the CEO position upon her father's passing in 2020.

Real Estate Development and Community Building 2014 – present: CFO, Carolina Workshops, LLC

Approaching affordability in housing and workspaces, Carolina Workshops develops and upgrades properties which honor the craftsmanship, commitment to community, and history of the Howard Heights and Union Heights neighborhoods in North Charleston, SC. Properties include: Workshops at Howard Heights, coworking, light-industrial space for messy artists (woodworkers, metalworkers, mechanics, small manufacturers, and painters) and 1903 Hampton Avenue.

Communications Consultant 1996- present: Owner, Civic Communications, Inc.

For more than 25 years, Julie has invested her time and talents assisting public, private, and non-profit organizations with their planning, infrastructure building, and engagement communications. She can organize and execute public information and outreach plans for small start-ups such as <u>SC Mentor</u> and <u>The Hatcher Model</u> as well as for large-scale regional infrastructure projects, such as the <u>Charleston City Plan</u>, the <u>SC Port Access Road</u> the <u>Cooper River Bridge</u> and the <u>Ben Sawyer Bridge Rehabilitation</u> construction projects. She has provided website development and feedback analysis for the <u>Central Midlands Freight Mobility Study</u>; database management for the <u>Navy Base ICTF EIS</u>; stakeholder advisory support and outreach for <u>BDCCOG's Commuter Study</u> and <u>Navy Yard Charleston</u>; leadership updates for the <u>SC 41 Bridge over the Wando River</u>. <u>701 Bridges between Georgetown and Horry Counties</u>), or targeted engagement <u>BCDCOG's I-26 Alternative Analysis</u>. No matter the task, Ms. Hussey is a responsive team member who always seeks ways to educate, engage, and connect others in a positive, informative, and collaborative manner.

Efforts Focused on Governing and Equity Issues

- Candidate for SC Senate District 43 April November 5, 2024. Lost race but won a lot of determination, insight into opportunities for SC, and understanding of gerrymandering.
- Social Justice Racial Equity Collaborative (2017-present) Council member, Communications Co-Chair – media relations; Narrative Change Pillar; Education Committee; Affordable Housing Committee; and Slavery Apology Drafting Team
- League of Women Voters (1991 present) LWV of the United States/LWV Educational Foundation Board of Trustees (2018-2020), DEI Committee (2018-present); LWV of South Carolina: Co-President (2015-'18); LWV Charleston Area: DEI Committee (2019- present) Nominating Chair (2019-20) President (2011-'15) Education Director (2010-'11), Transportation Committee (1993-1996)
- Lucy Garrett Beckham High School Improvement Council (2020 present) Chair 2021-2022, Secretary 2022-2023
- I 'On Neighborhood Assembly, Board of Directors (2019- present) President 2022
- Slave Dwelling Project (2019 present) Fundraising and Strategic Planning
- South Carolina First Steps Board Legislative, appointee (2011-2020), Vice Chair (2015-present). Acting Chair (September 2018-March 2019 & August 2019 to present) -Led the hiring process for the new Executive Director, the dissolving of the Early Head Start Grant and the acquisition of the state's Kindergarten Readiness Grant.
- Mount Pleasant Planning Forum (2017-2019) Long Range Planning Committee



Competencies

Values Based communication planning and implementation

Copywriting for websites, emails, social media to educate and engage

Media relations focused on public updates

Government relations at the local, state, and national level

Crisis management

Thoughtful questioning and deep listening

Collaborative connector

Formal Education

Bachelors of Business Administration (BBA) from the University of Georgia, 1998 in Marketing