



BIOGRAPHY FOR BESSIE M. JACKSON

Bessie M. Jackson is the President/Owner of Bess Solutions, a Professional Development and Management Operations Consulting firm based in Lexington, KY, specializing in professional and business development. She is an **engaging speaker** and an energetic results-oriented learning and development professional with untold year's experiences as a day-to-day hands-on practitioner at the local, federal government and community levels, and as a private sector entrepreneur.



Bessie retired from the federal government after many years of award-winning service with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). At the time of her retirement, she was Chief of Staff and performing Deputy Regional Administrator for HUD's Southwest Region, which encompassed 5 states involving about 1020 employees and the expenditure of over \$17.5 billion in federal funds. She has over 13 years' experiences as an entrepreneur in the private sector, operating a retail business in Louisville, KY and an information research business in Huntington Beach, CA. She studied urban problems and community development at Harvard University (Boston, MA), is licensed in real estate (Kentucky), a certified housing development specialist (Catholic University, Washington, D.C.) and is a court-approved Mediator listed on the Roster of Court-Approved Mediators in Kentucky. She holds a Master of Science Degree from the University of Louisville (KY) where she served a number of years on the University's Board of Overseers. She is a graduate of Leadership Louisville and the Bingham Fellows in Louisville, KY

Bess Solutions grew out of Bessie's strong passion and commitment to share her insights, experiences and business acumen to motivate individuals to achieve new heights and levels of success. She believes one must move beyond self-imposed limits to successfully address the monumental challenges of succeeding in today's rapidly changing world through excellence in management, leadership, communication, teamwork, partnerships, risk taking and personal accountability. Her custom-tailored learning and business management assessments and solutions encompass these principles and involve practical principles and proven concepts focused on: Leadership, Employee, and Team Excellence; Organizational Effectiveness, Organizational Strategies and Change; and Coaching and Mentoring.

Bessie's retirement signaled for her a new beginning for which, along with establishing Bess Solutions, she adopted the following as "My Philosophy on Life".

"Life shouldn't be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty, well- preserved body; BUT rather, to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out and loudly shouting, "WOW... WHAT A RIDE!! THANK YOU LORD!"

-----Roger Cooper- "The Simple Life"

Bessie is quick to share her experiences and advise with others, including:

"We must look for the opportunity in every difficulty instead of being paralyzed at the thought of the difficulty in every opportunity".

-----Walter E. Cole