



Ricki Garrett, Ph.D.

President and CEO,
Sister Cities International

Ricki Garrett is President and CEO of Sister Cities International in Washington, D.C. She served as Alderwoman at Large and Mayor Pro Tempore of Clinton, Mississippi from 2017 to 2025. Ricki also served as Executive Director of the Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association from 2015 to 2023.

In 2014, Ricki founded the first nurse practitioner association in Mississippi, The Mississippi Association of Nurse Practitioners, and served as its first Executive Director.

From 2004 until 2011, Ricki served as Executive Director of the Mississippi Nurses Association. During her tenure, MNA became one of the leading nursing organizations in the country through its advocacy efforts, educational offerings, and collaborations with nursing and other organizations state-wide and nationally.

Prior to her tenure at MNA, Ricki spent twelve years on the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, governing Mississippi's eight publicly supported universities. Ricki has also served as a gubernatorial appointee to the Mississippi Ednet Board, the Mississippi Commission on Volunteer Service, the Mississippi Humanities Council, and the Governor's Task Force on Health Information Exchange. She has also served as president of the Mississippi Stadium Commission and the Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association. In 2005, she was named one of the 50 Leading Business Women by the Mississippi Business Journal and in 2004, was named Woman of the Year by the Mississippi University for Women. She has recently served as the Board Chair of Goodwill Industries of Mississippi and as the President of the Mississippi Society of Association Executives. She currently serves as a Board Member of the Mississippi Municipal League and on the Board of the Mississippi Council on Economic Education.

Ricki has a doctorate in higher education from Jackson State University, an M.A. in English from the University of Mississippi, and a B.A. in English from Mississippi University for Women. Her dissertation on Women in Governance won a national Council of Historical Black Graduate Schools/Proquest award in 2008.