

About MUL's 2021 State of Black America MKE 2021 panel



Steven Brown is the VP of Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) with Molson Coors Beverage Company where he is responsible for ensuring the execution of the company's DEI strategy across the business. He works closely with the senior leadership team while partnering with the organization to ensure the right tools, resources, programs, and processes for DEI advancements are aligned with recruitment, leadership, employee development, employee engagement, and retention. Prior to re-joining Molson Coors in March of 2020, he was the Global Inclusion & Diversity Leader and Sr. HR Business Partner for Leadership Programs for GE Healthcare. His focus included

strengthening the leadership accountability for fostering a workplace where all 45,000+ employees feel connected and valued while being their authentic selves. Steven has held various human resources roles including Global Talent Acquisition Leader and Senior HR Business Partner. He has previous industry experience with SC Johnson and BMO Harris (formerly known as M&I Bank). Born and raised in Milwaukee, Steven is a proud graduate of Milwaukee Washington High School. He has been a board member of the Washington High School Alumni Scholarship Foundation for more than 20 years. He is also a life member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated. He earned a Master of Science degree in Human Resources at Marquette University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Steven is married to Dr. Monica Kelsey-Brown, superintendent of Brown Deer Schools. They are proud parents to Alexandria Brown.

Chytania Brown has over 20 years of experience in criminal justice, workforce development, community development, policy, and advocacy. In 2020, she became the first woman to be appointed President and CEO of Employ Milwaukee, Inc. Chytania oversees the administration of federal, state, and philanthropic funds and the creation of effective programs that ensure alignment between the skills demanded by a changing economy and those offered by the region's labor force. Chytania began her career as a parole agent followed by advancement into numerous Senior and Executive Leadership roles in workforce development, including 18 years at Employ Milwaukee, which was previously known as both the Private Industry Council (PIC) and Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB). As a change agent at Employ Milwaukee, she led the creation



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of a reentry department to provide tailored employment and training services to individuals involved in the criminal justice system, participated in national research projects, and expanded youth and young adult workforce resources by building an Office of Career Exploration. Prior to rejoining Employ Milwaukee in 2020, Chytania was the Administrator of the Division of Employment and Training at the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) under two gubernatorial administrations. On the state level, she spearheaded innovative American Job Center initiatives that expanded service delivery inside Wisconsin correctional institutions and launched a Mobile Career Lab to enhanced community connectivity. Chytania is working on her Doctor of Philosophy for the Advancement of Learning in Service at Cardinal Stritch University. She is inspired by the quote, "The only way to achieve the impossible is to believe it is possible." – Unknown



Ugo Nwagbaraocha is President of Diamond Discs International, an industry leading construction equipment distributor, wholesaler and light assembly of power walk behind concrete saws, high power gas saws, power tools, safety construction equipment including utility trench covers, safety cones, safety barrels, etc., and certified surgical grade Personal Protection Equipment. One of the nation's largest inventories of

professional grade diamond edged cutting tools, diamond blades, diamond core bits and related products. Nwagbaraocha has received numerous awards in recognition of his commitment to quality leadership in the local business communities. A local graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee majoring in Political Science with a Law Studies Option. Executively managed in the construction industry for over 14 years as Division Sales Manager, General Manager and Director of Sales for several national wholesalers of industrial tools. Demonstrated track record of rapid growth in the total volume of sales with nationwide wholesalers of industrial tooling. Identified and facilitated the compilation of larger customer bases through the integration of diverse marketing strategies which allowed the companies to form long-term mutually beneficial business relationships with different aspects of the industry. Exhibited unique ability to motivate, train and develop new and existing business units comprised of sales representatives, due to acclaimed diligence and integrity. Director of Sales for Diamond Discs for several years before becoming the President of the organization. Diamond Discs is proud to be the largest, fully certified minority-owned wholesaler of construction tools in the local area. Our goal is to continue

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our company motto of providing "Value - Trust - No Headaches" to all of our business relationships in the construction industry, internationally, nationally and to now continue our success here in the local market.

Wendy Katherine Baumann serves as President/CVO of The Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC), a statewide economic development corporation. Baumann accepted this challenging position in the community in 1994, providing the leadership required to insure the achievement of WWBIC's mission and to uphold the philosophy of serving businesses owned by women, minorities and low wealth individuals in Wisconsin. Former Director of Small Business Development at The Milwaukee Enterprise Center (MEC), Baumann's credentials, experiences, and enthusiasm has been key in obtaining the objectives set forth for WWBIC in developing new and innovative models for business assistance programming and small business development. Baumann's ability to dialogue and successfully collaborate with public, private and diverse groups has been key. Wendy K. Baumann served as Executive Director of The Hispanic Chamber Of Commerce of Wisconsin in 1987 and 1988. During that time, the Chamber was honored as "Hispanic Chamber of the Year" by the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Under her direction, the membership organization was recognized on a state and national level, increasing membership by over 500%. Baumann has also worked at The Council for the Spanish Speaking as Director of Development and Research and prior to that, as a Program Coordinator for a job placement program for disadvantaged individuals at Goodwill Industries. Wendy has served on numerous national and local Boards including: The Association of Enterprise Opportunity, Office Depot – National Women's Advisory Committee, The Association of Women's Business Centers, The National SBA Advisory Board, Johnson Bank, WHEDA, and Northern Trust – New Markets Tax Credit Boards, Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, The Institute of World Affairs, The Milwaukee Public Market Board, UW-Milwaukee Alumni Board, Milwaukee Metropolitan Civic Alliance, Milwaukee North Shore Rotary Club and others. Current membership and Board service includes: Consumer Federation of America – America Saves, Governor's Council on Financial Literacy- Chair, Opportunity Finance Network, Association of Enterprise Opportunity, The Association of Women's Business Centers, Kiva US Advisory Committee, Greater Milwaukee Committee, Associated Bank Advisory Board, UW- Milwaukee Women Leadership Conference Advisory Committee, Self Help Credit Union Advisory Board, Herzing University Board - Secretary, Professional Dimensions, TEMPO, Milwaukee Women, Inc., Cardinal Dery Board



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and others. Baumann received both Masters Degree and Baccalaureate from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. She was honored by UW–Milwaukee as The Graduate of the Last Decade in 1998, Professional Dimension's - Sacajawea Award in 2014 and BizTimes Media's Woman Executive of the year in 2017. Wendy has two adult daughters and sons, a fabulous border collie and a big red fat cat (both in spirit), and resides in a log cabin in Mequon, Wisconsin.



Giacomo “Jack” Fallucca is Chairman of the Board and CEO of Palermo Villa, Inc. He has more than 40 years of experience in the food industry, primarily working in the family business. A legacy Milwaukee business, Palermo Villa, Inc. d/b/a Palermo's Pizza began 55 years ago when Fallucca's father and mother opened Palermo Bakery on Milwaukee's East Side. Palermo's growing portfolio of branded pizzas includes Palermo's® Pizza, Screamin' Sicilian™, Urban Pie Pizza Co.™ and Connie's® Pizza. In addition to the company's popular branded products, Palermo's is the nation's leading producer of private label frozen pizza for the retail and club industries. Fallucca serves on several local and national boards; he is Executive chair of FAB the board of Food and Beverage Wisconsin. He is president of the board of Operation Dream, a peer-mentoring program that builds leadership, academic and social skills among at-risk youth. Giacomo is involved with the Sherman Phoenix development as a donor and mentor for new business development. Additionally, he serves as a board member for U.S. Bank Milwaukee and MMAC. He is a member of GMC, and through GMC he is on the Leadership Committee of MKE United. A lifelong basketball fan, Giacomo is a minority owner of the Milwaukee Bucks.

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Nancy Hernandez stepped away from actively running her marketing firm ABRAZO in 2019 to launch the Hispanic Collaborative, a civic initiative housed out of the MMAC aimed at improving outcomes for Hispanics and moving Milwaukee into a Top-10 City on the Hispanic Well-Being Index. She has built a coalition of over 500 individuals and organizations making strides in Latino entrepreneurship, voter turnout and median household income through career upskilling. She is building the infrastructure, processes, and the long-term financial model of her third organization in the region meant to connect and improve the lives of diverse populations. In 2001, Ms. Hernandez started ABRAZO and grew it to the leading integrated marketing firm dedicated to connecting companies, institutions, and organizations with diverse audiences. As a full-service agency, ABRAZO has solely focused on diverse audiences throughout its 20-year history. Its process of market-insight driven communication solutions delivered by a team of insightful, diverse professionals has helped countless companies and organizations get closer to their audiences and built win-win situations. Her team continues to operate her company while she has stepped into a broader community role. She continues to be a voice for outcome driven D&I practices based on data and metrics and has been a leader in diversity & inclusion initiatives for her clients, for civic equity initiatives, and for gender parity efforts amongst others. Prior to launching her agency, Ms. Hernandez spent 10 years in the Hospitality Industry with Marcus Corporation and Kohler Corporation. She held executive leadership positions in their hotel divisions including P&L oversight of food and beverage divisions. It was in these roles that began to leverage her marketing expertise by growing revenue and developing new products and services for the companies.

