

## Bemetra L. Simmons

Chief Strategy and Operations Officer, United Way Suncoast; Co-Founder, Corporate Homie, LLC



A long-time banking executive, **Bemetra Simmons** joined United Way Suncoast as Chief Strategy and Operations Officer in February 2020. Prior to joining United Way Suncoast, she served as Managing Director for the State of Florida at Mutual of Omaha Bank, where she led the bank's operations for the entire state. Simmons began her professional career in 1997 as an account manager with WorldCom and served as a global account manager for AT&T Global Services, and has worked in financial services for over 14 years.

Simmons is the daughter of an Air Force Chaplain and has lived in ten states and two countries. She attended Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN, on a basketball scholarship and received a B.S. in business administration in 1997, and her MBA from Wake Forest University in 2004. While in graduate school, she was a member of the Student Advisory Council.

Simmons, along with her identical twin sister Demetra Liggins, is a Co-Founder of Corporate Homie, an organization that seeks to help millennials, women, and minorities advance in corporate America. In addition to speaking at conferences and events, the sisters also engage their audience with a weekly advice-based podcast. The sisters encourage listeners with stories of their "corporate struggles" while providing tips and tools to overcome hurdles in the workplace that are unique to women and people of color. The Corporate Homie Podcast is available on popular podcast platforms like iTunes, GooglePlay, Sound Cloud, and Stitcher.

Simmons is active in the community serving on the Board of Trustees for Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee. She also serves on the board for the Community Tampa Bay and The City of Tampa's Police Review Board. Simmons is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is a 2013 Leadership Tampa graduate, was named an Up and Comer by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal* in 2013, and a finalist for Businesswoman of the Year by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal* in 2017.

Simmons lives in Tampa, Florida and enjoys cooking, listening to music, and playing golf.



LEADERSHIP  
COUNCIL  
ON LEGAL  
DIVERSITY