



**Shirley Anne Smith, MPA, CVA**  
**Executive Director, Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation**

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Shirley Anne Smith, affectionately known as SAS, is the executive director of the Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation, Inc. (AFRF), a nonprofit organization solely dedicated to community centered public safety and fundraising in support of the 1,100 women and men of the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD). Smith quickly identified the need for cultivating the next generation of firefighters and created, funded, and launched the organization’s Youth Pathways including Camp Ignite and the AFRD Cadet Program.

Recruited as the first executive director of the AFRF, Shirley Anne brings prudent leadership, fundraising acumen, civic engagement, diversity and inclusion, and nonprofit management experience to her daily responsibilities. She leads a 20-member Board of Directors and a 15-member Young Executives Committee. She and the organization are called upon by City of Atlanta Executive Leadership, Fire Chief Smith, and the first responders across the 36 fire rescue stations for real-time needs including essential equipment, training, and workforce readiness. The newest fire rescue station 37– the city’s first EMS only medical station – will be equipped and furnished by AFRF when it opens in late 2022.

In response to COVID, Shirley Anne and her team raised more than \$500K to support Atlanta Fire. For their leadership, the Atlanta Fire Rescue Foundation was recognized by *WebMD Magazine* as “Health Heroes” and by *Atlanta Intown* magazine as “20 Who Made 2020 Bearable.”

This year Shirley Anne was featured on the cover of *Simply Buckhead Magazine* and named a “Rising Star” by the editorial board. She accepted invitations to the local NPR Advisory Board for WABE-FM, and the American Heart Association’s Health Equity Committee. An *Outstanding Atlanta* awardee (Class of 2020), she is the current 2022 President and is the first Latina to serve in this position. Atlanta City Council issued a proclamation in recognition. She has “40 under 40” designations from Georgia State University in 2022; from *Atlanta Business Chronicle* in 2021; and from *Georgia Trend Magazine* in 2020. One of the “50 Most Influential Hispanics” selected by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, her name is proudly on this coveted list. Last year she attended the Atlanta Regional Commission’s invitation-only Regional Leadership Institute (RLI).

Prior to joining the Foundation, Shirley Anne managed the volunteer experience at the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta. Shirley Anne graduated with a master's in public administration from Nova Southeastern University in Florida and a dual undergraduate degree program in journalism and sociology from Georgia State University.

She is a working mother of three children and a wife to a fire department inspector. She's also a proud aunt to her firefighter nephew at AFRD Station 23, B Shift. Shirley Anne enjoys every moment with her family and her extended family including her pandemic puppy, Asher Leo Smith. She is also newly committed to her personal fitness coach with whom she shares a love-hate relationship.

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