



Karen R. Jenkins *President & CEO*

Karen R. Jenkins is the dynamic President and CEO of **KRJ Consulting, LLC**, an organizational growth and human capital consulting firm focused on transforming people, strengthening cultures, and building leadership capacity. With over **38 years of experience**, including serving as a **Vice President at NetBank**, Karen is a nationally recognized **speaker, author, certified coach, and leadership consultant** known for turning potential into performance across both the federal and corporate sectors.

Driven by a passion for leadership and a relentless commitment to helping others thrive, Karen founded KRJ Consulting in 2008. Her dedication paid off—in 2020, the company earned national recognition, landing at **#546 on the Inc. 5000 list** for its rapid growth. Today, Karen continues to customize KRJ's services to meet the unique needs of every client, creating lasting impact through her signature approach: **Synergy Leadership**.

Synergy Leadership is more than a philosophy—it's a movement. Karen teaches leaders how to engage, enlighten, and empower their teams by transforming energy into action. Her leadership framework inspires confident decision-making, strategic thinking, and inclusive culture-building at every level of an organization.

Karen is also a recognized **financial expert**, having served as a media consultant for NBC affiliate WIS-TV and authored the book "*Nobody Told Me! The Path to Financial Empowerment*" in 2010. Her expertise bridges leadership and financial literacy—equipping individuals with the tools to grow both professionally and personally.

A pillar in the community, Karen made history as the **first African American woman to chair the Columbia Chamber of Commerce** in its 121-year history. She also serves on the **Executive Board of the SC Chamber of Commerce**, where she chairs the Small Business Committee, and is a member of the **National Small Business Association Leadership Council**.

Dedicated to giving back, Karen leads "**Eat, Learn, and Grow**," her signature group mentoring and coaching experience designed to uplift and guide small business leaders.

Karen holds a **B.S. in Business Management** from the University of South Carolina and an **MBA from Webster University**. During her tenure as **Vice President at NetBank**, she earned the prestigious **Certified Mortgage Banker (CMB)** and **Accredited Mortgage Professional (AMP)** designations from the National Mortgage Bankers Association. She is also a **Certified Housing Counselor, Certified Entrepreneurial Instructor, and Certified Professional Coach**.

Above all, Karen is a woman of faith, family, and service—a devoted wife of 35+ years, proud mother of two, and community leader who believes in the power of relationships and leading without judgment. Her mission is simple yet powerful: **help people, add value, and make a difference**.

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