



Although she was born in a big city, it was not until she moved to Raleigh, North Carolina when she experienced a personal tragedy that forced her into community activism. Instead of wallowing in this tragedy, Valerie took it upon herself to positively change her community in which she was a proud homeowner. Valerie was a resident in Raleigh, North Carolina for over 20 years and has lived the majority of those years in Southeast Raleigh. That is where Valerie became very familiar with the community's notoriety. On the heels of her personal tragedy, Valerie rallied the community together for an annual community day entitled "Neighborhoods United By A Vision Of Redeeming Families Through Community Empowerment" and started an outreach movement entitled South East Raleigh Combined Community Outreach-(SERCCO).

The mission of this movement was to unite families together as well as to educate and empower residents with information on health care, financial checkup clinics, an array of family resources ranging from resources for domestic violence to home ownership, as well as an educational forum. Valerie has successfully organized a plethora of vendors, speakers and participants,

ranging from Mayor Charles Meeker, City Councilman James West, political leaders, various local church ministries and business owners. Valerie is very passionate about eliminating crime in the community and feels the key to this is empowering and educating the community through local, state and federal resources. She thoroughly understands how crime impacts the community and the lives of others from personal tragedies she has experienced first-hand. On the local level Valerie has worked close with Councilman James West and the Southeast Raleigh Community Association Council and many others to articulate the needs and concerns of Southeast Raleigh.

Valerie served for 9 years as the Community Watch chairperson for Parkside Subdivision. Valerie has also served on the board for the Coalition of Concerned Citizens for African American Children. She has served as the President for the Parent Advocacy Committee for AMW Foundation. Valerie is a graduate of the City of Raleigh Neighborhood Community Voices Class of 1999. Valerie was selected to be the recipient for the John Hope Franklin Humanitarian Award for the 3rd Annual Lamp Lighters Award. Valerie also received the Southeast Raleigh Assembly Volunteer award in November of 2007. Valerie tirelessly solicited equity in community funding from the local government by petitioning the City of Raleigh to invest more. Valerie also rallied equity in treatment from local policing agencies towards the residents of Southeast Raleigh by encouraging those agencies to patrol the neighborhoods and partner with the citizens to make the areas safer. Valerie has a desire for her local as well as national government to stimulate social economic development in the community. She feels this can be accomplished if major businesses invest in their local communities by establishing their companies in the area and investing more in the community outreach programs. Valerie continues to learn and educate herself and others on how to resolve conflicts within the

neighborhoods. She has a passion to reach out to the community and let them realize and understand how crime impacts the quality of their life and the lives of others surrounding them.

Valerie moved back to the North in 2008 after a painful divorce and desperate urgency to save herself in order to continue to care for her 4 sons who were in and out of the North Carolina Juvenile Courts and the NC Dept. of Corrections. She continued to pursue a career in Human Resources worked 7+ years in corporate headquarters as an HR Benefits Analysts for a large company supporting 3500+ employees. It was there in the Garden State where she began to awaken in awareness of the unique calling on her LIFE. In 2015 God's Divine Purpose began to reveal itself to Valerie. She joined Sultry Sistas Organization, based in Jersey City, New Jersey and served as their Event coordinator planning and assisting with organizing many community initiatives bringing awareness to areas such as Domestic Violence, Mental Health and Community UNITY. Valerie also served as an active member and a facilitator of Prison Mom's Prayer Ministry founded by Pastor Brenda Pittman of Irvington, New Jersey.

September 2016 Valerie relocated back to North Carolina after experiencing a health challenge that resulted in her fighting for her life on life support at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey. In 2017 Valerie was appointed to be the Charlotte Chapter President of ACHI Women Supporting Women nonprofit organization. Her commitment to bring about a positive IMPACT whenever and wherever she can was acknowledged in October 2017 by the Charlotte Community Drivers. Valerie was recognized and honored for her commitment to Community service at the 3rd Annual Sisters in Charge Masquerade Gala held in Atlanta, Georgia in October of 2018.

Valerie represents and STANDS for AGAPE LOVE while remaining passionate about the complete healing of the Mind, Body and Soul. She does not take LIFE for granted and has a desire to fulfil God's purpose in her LIFE for the rest of her life. Valerie continues to PUSH FORWARD with PURPOSE on PURPOSE and recently gave birth to a new community outreach/movement entitled AGAINST ALL ODDZ Still I RISE Grassroots Movement. Her first Community Initiative with AAOZ was bringing much needed AWARENESS and Dialogue to what she refers to "The Kissing Cousins " The goal of this initiative is to "Break the Silence and Remove the STIGMA regarding Domestic Violence and Mental Illness .

Valerie enjoys reading, music, traveling, meeting people, engaging in stimulating conversations and lending a hand whenever she can make a positive IMPACT. Valerie is a firm believer in Living a PURPOSEFUL and Purpose filled Life AGAINST All ODDZ and mentors and coaches others to be Trailblazers in their homes and communities.

Valerie's scripture of reference when Life challenges come is, Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.