# **Dr.Narketta Sparkman-Key**

Higher Ed Leader-Professor-DEI Expert-Speaker-Consultant



Dr. Key is an award-winning international speaker, an expert in diversity and inclusion, women leadership and vulnerable populations. She is a scholar, professor and higher education administrator. She is the owner of Sparkman-Key Consulting LLC., an organization focused on providing training and consulting services. She captures her audience through the mastered art of storytelling and her charismatic personality. Dr. Key is a sought- after speaker and keynote for her ability to provide action-oriented steps and research based strategies to empower, transform and transcend her audience. Dr. Key has transcended non-profits, empowered students and transformed women to reach their full potential, which is evidenced through her many career accolades. Internationally, Dr. Key has used her expertise to inform, engage and motivate students, universities and community leaders to become change agents. Dr. Key is a visionary in her field and believes her purpose is to support and advocate for the empowerment of vulnerable populations.

#### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

Dr. Sparkman-Key is a sought-after speaker and has given national and international talks on diversity, cultural competence, equity and inclusion. Dr. Sparkman-Key has experience training organizations on unconscious bias, workplace civility, culturally competent leadership and recognizing bullying. She customizes her diversity, equity and inclusion trainings to meet the needs of the organizations she serves.

## Consulting:

Presentation Topics

Dr. Sparkman-Key is skilled in program development and has created programs to attract diverse faculty. She has numerous initiatives rooted in anti-racist practices, with focus on creating more inclusive environments for all. She uses institutional data, policies, and practices to determine gaps and create targeted programs. She co-founded a university diversity center and lab. She utilizes programs to have open discussion about some of the most difficult topics in order to promote inclusion. She provides consulting services to help organizations develop initiatives and build more inclusive environments through the creation of targeted programs.

#### Leadership Development:

Dr. Sparkman-Key is skilled in leadership development. She customizes workshops and programs focused on mentoring, sponsorship, building women leaders. She has also created programs focused on authentic leadership and culturally competent leadership. Dr. Sparkman-Key hosts an annual woman in higher ed leadership summer institute to promote women leaders. She is aa advocate of career ownership. She has written opinion pieces, given talks on public news radio promoting the need for companies to foster environments that promote women leadership.

















## **Education:**

Phd Human Services MA Interdisciplinary Studies BA Sociology Post Graduate Certificate Global Health Post Graduate Certificate College Teaching Human Services Board-Certified Practitioner Trained in Recognizing and Responding to Suicide and Conducting Suicide Autopsy Harvard Trained in Leadership National Association of Diversity Officers Standards Trained

# Accolades:

2020 University of West Indies International Service Honoree 2019 Woman in Business 2019 YWCA Woman of Distinction Research and Science 2019 Urban League Education Community Leader 2016 Top 40 Under 40

## International Engagements:



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Costa Rica



Germany

Ireland

Dr. Sparkman-Key is a tenured Associate Professor of Human Services.She also has experience as undergraduate program director and assistant chair. She currently holds the inaugural position of Academic Affairs Director of Faculty Diversity and Retention at Old Dominion University. In this role she has instituted messaging, visions, goals and branding that promote a more inclusive environment. Dr. Sparkman-Key research focuses on defining the professional identity of human services practitioners and delineating practice with marginalized populations. She believes in the



empowerment of marginalized populations, which is evidenced through her commitment to inclusion, research efforts, international work with pregnant teens and efforts to support at-risk families. She has a focus on community engagement and can often be found engaging local non-profit organizations in service-learning activities and grant writing initiatives. Dr. Key has focused many of her efforts on the empowerment of women in higher education and through community-based programs. She has over a decade of experience in higher education and has received numerous accolades for her scholarly activities and community engagement. Dr. Sparkman-Key has utilized her 10 years of experience in program evaluation, training and technical assistance to shape the culture and climate of institutions she consults with.

## **Book and Connect with Dr. Key**

