

**The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce has implemented three goals in our new strategic plan. Two of our goals are to attract and serve a diverse group of members from all industries representing businesses in Greater Bethesda and to grow awareness of the Chamber among both members and the public.**

**Living up to these principles, we invite you to celebrate Black History Month with us through our third annual member spotlight series. This special feature helps our communities learn more about some of its leaders and their impacts they make every day.**

**Today, we would like you to get to know Anthony Featherstone, GCDF, Executive Director of WorkSource Montgomery Inc.**

Anthony Featherstone joined WSM in early 2021 with over fifteen years of workforce development experience. During his tenure at WSM, Anthony has prioritized community engagement and impact, (workforce) system building, regional collaboration, and streamlined job seeker and business services.

Prior to WSM, Anthony served as the Director of Workforce Operations at KRA Corporation in Columbia, MD – a national provider of employment and training for workforce development boards and human service agencies. In addition to his nine years with KRA, he held leadership roles with the South Carolina Department of Employment & Workforce and a DC-based nonprofit specializing in community-based services. Anthony also served at the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services Office of Apprenticeship, Information & Training.

Throughout his career, Anthony has successfully delivered high-quality programs for WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, In-School & Out-of-School Youth, TANF, SNAP, and NPEP populations. He has also developed expertise in fiscal management, program operations, quality control, strategic planning, stakeholder relations, and human resource development. Anthony earned his MBA with a concentration in Human Resource Development from Webster University in St. Louis, MO, and a BA in Sociology from Coastal Carolina University in Conway, SC. He is also a Certified Career Services Provider (CCSP) and Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF).

Anthony is an active member of the Maryland Workforce Association (MWA), National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP), National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB), Southeastern Employment & Training Association (SETA), and National Career Development Association (NCDA).

**We asked Anthony three questions surrounding leadership and goals. Read his responses below.**

**1. As you look back over your life, at what point did you begin to think of yourself as a leader?**

I don't think there's a point where I've ever thought of myself as leader. I look at myself as someone with responsibilities – to myself, family, community, our organization, partners, etc. Others may (or may not) see me as a leader from my actions brought about from my sense of responsibility, but I have never put much “stock” into being a leader in my self-reflection. I'm more focused on striving to fulfill my purpose and responsibilities—sometimes that requires for me to be out front as a leader, sometimes not.

2. **Do you have a vision that guides your body of work? If so, has it changed over time or remain the same?**

I want to help as many people as possible to find their way to earning a truly livable wage. That has been my focus my entire professional career in workforce development. I'm bias as a workforce development professional, but I think this profession is one of the best ways to be of service to your community.

3. **Does the work you do now play a part in the legacy you wish to leave behind? If not, describe what tools you need to help you achieve your goals.**

I believe so. One of our primary goals at WSM is to build leaders, programs, and systems to affect positive change. If my contributions to those leaders, programs, and systems continue to produce positive impacts, that would be a cool legacy to leave behind.

Visit [www.worksourcemontgomery.com](http://www.worksourcemontgomery.com) to connect with Anthony and WorkSource Montgomery Inc.