



Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments

CHRISTOPHER H. MCKINNEY



Chris McKinney is the Executive Director of the Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments (SLRCOG). McKinney facilitates the strategic vision and oversees all assistance provided to a four-county region, consisting of Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee and Sumter Counties and all of the associated municipalities. Based in Sumter, South Carolina, the SLRCOG has a professional staff of 30 people who serve a population of approximately 223,000 people and is responsible for a \$6.8 million budget. The SLRCOG is a premier organization committed to leading regional unity to ultimately create global impacts.

SLRCOG serves the region by working with local governments to bring public and private sector leaders together. By communicating and working together, SLRCOG seeks to find and create efficiencies across the region, proactively set priorities, identify challenges and develop creative solutions that are mutually beneficial. SLRCOG is also a key organization utilized to administer certain federal and state programs across our region aimed at improving the quality of our workforce, facilitating community and economic development of our communities and improving the quality of life of our seniors.

McKinney became the Executive Director in October 2017.

In September 2017, he retired from active duty in the United States Air Force, after over 30 years of service. Prior to retiring McKinney, served as the Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 20th Fighter Wing, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, where he was an executive advisor to the Wing Commander and the installation's senior enlisted leader. He was responsible for the training, professional development of 8,500+ military personnel and the morale, and welfare over 31,000 families and retirees at the nation's largest F-16 combat fighter wing in the Combatant Air Forces.

From April 2013 until June 2015, McKinney served as the Group Superintendent in the 33rd Operations Group, at Eglin AFB, Florida, where he was an executive advisor to the Operations Group Commander. He helped provide oversight to facilitate the training of F-35 pilots, F-35 intelligence professionals, and Air Battle Managers. He was also responsible for the training, professional development, morale, and welfare of 368 military personnel.

Prior to this McKinney served in numerous leadership roles and performed various functions as a Meteorologist. His military service includes four combat tours of duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq and Afghanistan.

McKinney also serves as a member of the board of directors for the YMCA of Sumter, South Carolina.

A native of Texas, he has an Associate's Degree in Meteorology from the Community College of the Air Force. He also holds a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Business Management (Leadership Focus) from American Military University and a Master's of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership from Columbia Southern University.

He is married to the former Danya Foster and they have a blended family of six: Chanel, Jamal, Khalil, Kareem, Khloe, and Chris Jr.