

Brenda Girton-Mitchell is the President of Girton-Mitchell Associates, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in providing assistance to non-profit, business and government organizations in the areas of conflict resolution, workplace diversity and equity, and transformative leadership development. She is the Founder and President of Grace and Race Ministries, Inc., a ministry dedicated to helping faith-based organizations build bridges of racial understanding and advance the work of dismantling racism. She serves as the Senior Advisor for the Institute for Federal Leadership and co-chair of the A.C.T Now to End Racism Taskforce of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Girton-Mitchell was appointed by President Obama as the Director of the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Education. She was honored to serve there from December 2010 – January 2017. Prior to joining the U.S. Department of Education, she served the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA as Associate General Secretary for Justice and Advocacy. She serves as the Minister for Stewardship and Missions at Metropolitan Baptist Church, provides staff leadership for the Social Justice and Public Policy Ministry and is the assistant chaplain for the Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Her professional life also includes working as an elementary school teacher and serving as the President of the Indianapolis Education Association in her hometown, Indianapolis, Indiana, legislative assistant in the United States Senate, legislative counsel for Sears, assistant executive director for Dr. Dorothy Height at the National Council of Negro Women, and director of diversity for Mitsubishi Motors of America.

Girton-Mitchell is an advocate of lifelong learning. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Ball State University, a Master of Science from Indiana/Purdue University in Indianapolis, a law degree from Chicago Kent College of Law and a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Girton-Mitchell is the recipient of numerous awards including the National Council of Negro Women Bethune Recognition Award for An Outstanding Woman in Ministry, the Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the highest award given by the state of Indiana, the John Wesley Award of Merit presented by Wesley Theological Seminary and the 2012 US Department of Education MLK Drum Major for Service Award for her extraordinary commitment to community service. She was inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers in 2008.

She and her husband, James Mitchell are business partners in Girton-Mitchell Associates, LLC established in 2008.