

Advisory Committee Personnel Profile

Karama Neal, Ph.D.

Director

Organization Affiliation

[Southern Bancorp Community Partners](#)

Education

BA in Biology from Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
MA in Bioethics from Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
PhD in Genetics from Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Professional Interests

Karama Neal directs the asset building and workforce development programs at Southern Bancorp Community Partners, the nonprofit affiliate of Southern Bancorp, one of the nation's largest rural community development banks. She supports staff in four locations in Arkansas and Mississippi who offer individual development accounts, credit counseling, financial education, workforce development, homebuyer counseling, utility assistance, and income tax preparation in the context of geographically-focused comprehensive community development activities. Karama is the creator and editor of an award winning social justice blog and joined SBCP in 2009 after having served as an adjunct assistant professor at Emory University in Atlanta. She earned a PhD in Genetics from Emory University and holds an MA in Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University Chicago and a BA in Biology from Swarthmore College. She lives in her hometown of Little Rock with her husband and daughter.

