



## Biographical Sketch

**Mrs. Sheryl Blowe-McDowney**

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A native of Sussex County, Virginia, Mrs. Sheryl Blowe-McDowney is the daughter of the late Mrs. Grace Massenberg Blowe and the late Mr. Learne C. Blowe.

Sheryl is a graduate of Sussex Central High School and Virginia Commonwealth University, where she received the Bachelor of Science degree in Administration of Justice and Public Safety. Mrs. McDowney received the Master of Arts degree in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond, Virginia.

Upon receiving her degree in Administration of Justice and Public Safety, Sheryl worked several years as a Counselor/Case Manager with a Community Treatment Center for Federal inmates. She has served as Director of Christian Education with the Zion Baptist Church in Richmond as well as with the Bethany Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY.

For the past 20 years, Mrs. McDowney has served as the State Director of Christian Education for the over 1100 member churches of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia.

She serves as the editor of the Baptist Herald newsletter; a member of the Coordinating Cabinet and is the immediate past Vice-President of the Virginia Council of Churches; Board Member of the Center for Congregational Ministry; Optimist Club of Westmoreland; and, has been cited three times in Who's Who in America and International Who's Who of Professional & Business Women. Mrs. McDowney is a certified grants writer through The Grantsmanship Center in Los Angeles, California. She is the lead writer in securing almost \$500,000 in grant funds for the BGC Health Ministry and the anti-smoking education program for youth. In addition, Mrs. McDowney is the writer/compiler/editor of several resource manuals on Planning and Organizing Christian Education; Stewardship; VBS; Stewardship of the Gift of Our Heritage Series; Grace for Giving; and, has published articles in The Christian Education Informer.

Sheryl and her husband, Preston, reside in Milford, Virginia with their daughter, Preshel.