

Taneika Goldman is a follower of Jesus Christ, a wife, and mother to three, currently serving the Commonwealth as Director of the Office of Human Rights at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Her commitment to the Department began in 2006 as a volunteer to several Local Human Rights Committees. Upon being hired by the Department in 2013, Mrs. Goldman has held multiple positions within the Office of Human Rights. She served first as an Advocate for the Southside Virginia Training Center, supporting individuals being discharged through the post move monitoring process in response to the DOJ Settlement Agreement. She also served as an Advocate at Central State Hospital prior to transitioning to the Department's Central Office in 2015 to work on special projects such as the Victims of Eugenics Sterilization Compensation Program, where she assisted with developing and implementing regulations outlining the application and compensation process. She also served as Assistant and then Deputy Director until she assumed the role of State Human Rights Director in November of 2020. Prior to coming to the Office of Human Rights, Mrs. Goldman managed community outreach and foster care programming for a nonprofit service ministry organization based in Roanoke Virginia. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degrees in Sociology and Anthropology from Howard University and completed post graduate study at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond. She also holds a Masters degree in Public Administration. Mrs. Goldman admits to a mild obsession with the Turner Classic Movie Channel, enjoys tap dancing for exercise and her greatest joy is sharing life with her husband and children.