

# BRIGHTBRIDGE CAPITAL

## **Monica Blanton**

Monica Blanton currently leads the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) division for BrightBridge Capital, a certified CDFI and non-profit commercial lender focused on supporting economic development.

Since 2005, Monica has worked in all aspects of NMTC operations and plays a key role in BrightBridge's success in being awarded over \$300 million in federal and \$28 million in state NMTC allocations and deploying approximately \$173 million to date. She was also instrumental in the CDFI certification process and business expansion, which has resulted in raising more than \$190 million of capital.

In addition to closing loans using BrightBridge's NMTC allocation to projects that positively impact their local community, Monica provides consulting services, in which she has helped borrowers obtain and close approximately \$134 million of NMTC financing from other CDEs, a role for which she has been dubbed a NMTC "Sherpa". Monica also shares awareness of the NMTC financing tool through individual and group presentations.

Monica previously practiced as a Certified Public Accountant. Her professional experience includes eight years with international public accounting firms. She then used her skills to provide management and supervisory consulting services in the areas of general business, financial systems, policies and procedures, financial reporting, and analytical analysis to a variety of businesses.

Outside of work, Monica loves spending time with family, including her children and all the family pets. She enjoys outdoor activities, including gardening, hiking, and pickleball! As an alumnus of the University of TN – Knoxville, Monica enjoys supporting and following the Vols athletics.