

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY CHAMPION AWARD



THELMA A. SIAS

Thelma A. Sias embodies the description of the Community Advocacy Champion Award. Her life's work continues to be advocating for better opportunities for others and for the community.

Sias is founder and president of The Sias Group, which provides political and leadership consulting expertise. Prior to her retirement in 2017, Sias was the long-time vice president of public affairs for We Energies, where she shepherded critical corporate initiatives to success. Sias served on a number of civic and community boards, including the African American Women's Project, United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, Sojourner Family Peace Center, and Cardinal Stritch University.

Her selfless efforts to put others first have resulted in numerous awards and recognition. She received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Marquette University and was named United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County's Linda T. Mellows Woman Leader of the Year. Sias was a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Milwaukee Business Journal and a recipient of the Doug Jansson Leadership Award from Greater Milwaukee Foundation.

Sias was raised on a farm in Mayersville, Mississippi and credits her parents' activism in civil rights for her involvement in national, state, and local campaigns for Democratic candidates.