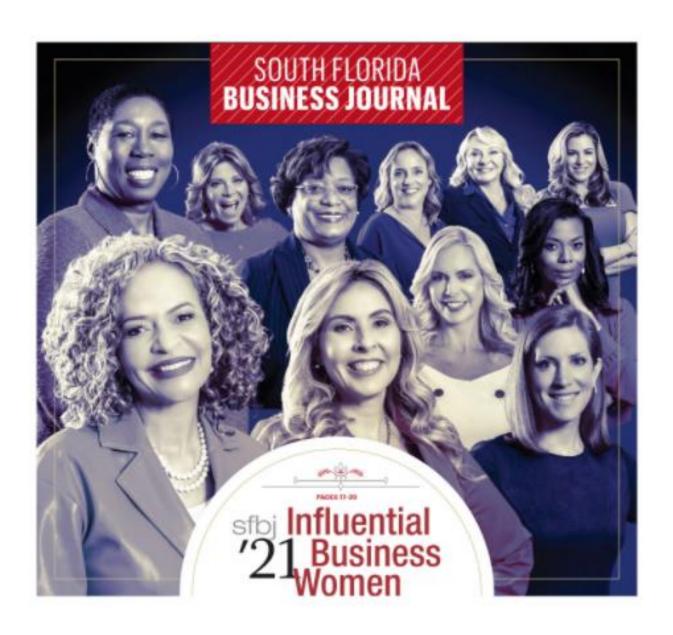


April 9, 2021





# WOMEN WHO DEFINE SUCCESS IN GOOD TIMES AND TOUGH

uring times of business stability and challenge alike, female leaders of all ranks are frequently praised for their ability to steer organizations through both the anticipated and unexpected.

The pandemic has tested those abilities. This year's Influential Business Women proved their mettle. They've relied on and rallied teams hired and mentored to complement their own strengths and shore up their weaknesses. They've learned to pivot in the face of struggles few could have foreseen, and embraced solutions they might not have even considered in the past.

Together, they've created

### '21 Business Women

award-winning organizations that have driven both customer and stakeholder value, while also preparing the next generation of leadership.

With praise for the women who came before themselves, many credit their success on a focus on family, health and self that keeps their minds clear and vision alive. They are, as one said, authentic, self-aware and, as

another said, "unapologetically me. Coming to that realization is the point at which you'll find true success."

In the end, they "leave it all on the field," one said. As another advised: "Be bold and take chances in work and in life."

These are the attributes that describe successful leaders – and this year's Influential Business Women.

The honorees were feted at an April 9 virtual awards program presented by Wells Fargo. Corporate sponsors were the Florida International University College of Business and GCI Worldwide Corp., with associate sponsors Crown Castle, Durée & Co. and Gallagher.





#### SANDRA "SANDY" BENNETT

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**BIRTHPLACE:** Salisbury, North Carolina **EDUCATION:** B.A., Florida International University

A CPA by trade who also holds her property manager license, Bennett has leveraged 25 years working with area developers of residential and mixed-use properties to fuel the company's growth. She generates significant new business by helping developers cost-effectively deliver on the vision they sell to buyers. A longtime mentor to those in the firm and community, she shares principles of transparency, integrity and credibility.

**PEARL OF WISDOM:** Enjoy what you do and do it with integrity.

HOW HAVE YOU AND YOUR TEAM EXCELLED DURING COVID? Keeping our team members safe is a priority, so we worked together to source PPE when it was difficult to find. We have kept our properties and team members informed of local government rulings, and have stood by requirements provided by the CDC.

## THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF MY DAILY ROUTINE: To be responsive. This is important for not only our clients important for not only our

clients, but also for our team members.

#### A SUPERPOWER I WISH I HAD: Flying would be awesome.

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: I love the mountains. Whether snowboarding and snow hiking in the winter or hiking in the summer, the environment is so peaceful and enjoyable.

IF I COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANYONE, IT WOULD BE: My mother. She made everyone feel special

