



Bernice Whaley,
Deputy Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO)

As Deputy Director, acts in the absence of the Director and manages the day to day activities and functions of a multi-faceted economic development agency. Bernice is a proven business development & logistics executive with over 25 years of retail supply chain experience and several years of business consulting experience, prior to her current role at DEDO.

Beginning her career at Happy Harry's Drugs Stores, Bernice was instrumental in the growth of Happy Harry's first warehouse into two Distribution Centers and in early 2000 Bernice was appointed Vice President of Distribution and Inventory Management for the organization. Bernice's energy and commitment was recognized in 1987 when she was selected as the employee who most exemplified the Happy Harry spirit. In 2006, Bernice skillfully directed the closing of the two distribution centers, as a result of Walgreens acquisition of Happy Harry's.

Upon the sale of Happy Harry's, Bernice joined Karabus Management where she worked on several consulting engagements for national retailers in the US and in Canada. In that capacity, Bernice defined and realigned organizational structures, and designed future state inventory optimization road maps. In June, 2008, Bernice joined Levin Stellini & Associates as a Principal providing business and marketing consulting to small businesses in the Mid-Atlantic region. In February 2009, Bernice joined the Delaware Economic Development Office.

Bernice is a graduate of University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Marketing Management. Having received her Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Wilmington University, Bernice was bestowed the Master of Science Award for Academic & Business Excellence. She is also a member of Sigma Beta Delta International Honor Society. Bernice is currently pursuing her Doctor of Business Administration.

Bernice has held board positions for the HHDH (Holding Company), Chain Drug Consortium's Logistics' group and currently serves as Chair of the Board of Junior Achievement of Delaware. Bernice was appointed to Delaware State University's Blue Ribbon Commission which was charged with defining the University's new vision. She was also a member of the Delaware Workforce Investment Board's Strategic Planning Committee and currently serves as a proxy member of their board. She serves on the Advisory Council of the Dean of the College of Mathematical, Natural Sciences and Technology at Delaware State University. Bernice also serves on various advisory committees for the New Castle County Vocational Technical Schools and on the advisory committee for Delaware Tech's Center for Industry Research & Workforce Alignment (CIRWA).