



FRED O. SMITH SR.

COUNCIL AWARD OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Fred O. Smith Sr., a retired Georgia Department of Labor official, currently serves as executive director of the East Athens Development Corporation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the uplift of impoverished individuals and families. Smith spent more than thirty years in state government, retiring in 2013 as district director of the Georgia Department of Labor. His district was responsible for career and unemployment services to citizens in twenty-seven Georgia counties. Prior, he was a regional representative in the Labor Department's Career Development Division in Atlanta, where he provided technical assistance and support to the state workforce areas. Previously, he worked for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, where in 1993 he designed and coordinated DCA's Family Self-Sufficiency Program. A savings incentive program, FSS encouraged and supported economic independence by families receiving federal assistance. Under Smith's leadership, numerous low-income family members gained jobs or better jobs, furthered their education, and started escrow savings accounts.