

Debbie Clements

1. How has being a member of CSCF's Board of Directors impacted you personally or professionally?

My favorite part of our CSCFL Board meetings are our "Mission Moments" where we get to meet and hear the stories of people who have benefited from our services. It is very gratifying to know you are part of something that is changing lives. It has also been great to be able to share information about CSCFL with businesses and organizations that I interact with in the community as part of my day job and see them take advantage of programs & services they did not know about previously.

2. What's an interesting or little known fact about yourself?

I have a "hobby job" as a travel agent. It has grown so significantly, I am retiring from my role at Duke Energy effective July 1 to work on my travel business full time!

3. What are some of your favorite hobbies?

Travel, cooking & entertaining, reading, working in the yard.

4. If you could eat one thing every day, what would it be?

My current obsession is avocados but I'll always love ice cream.

5. In another life, what would your dream career be?

Cruise Director

6. Would you rather be invisible or read minds?

Invisible

7. How do you recharge/de-stress?

A little time away at our beach house. Favorite time on the beach is an hour before sunset.

8. What would you name the autobiography of your life?

I'm Not Done Yet

9. Who has had the biggest influence on your life thus far?

Hard to pick one. Professionally, it was my first manager after I got out of college and started working as a management trainee at the phone company. He called me into his office one day to tell me I smiled too much at work. Dead serious. I was a Finance major in college and had accepted a position that was rather intense and analytical in nature. My manager was completely satisfied with my work but did not want me to

smile so much because he did not want anyone walking through our department to think we were “too happy-go-lucky.” It changed the trajectory of my career because I sat down with the head of Human Resources the next day to identify a different career path within the company. As a result I have spent 90% of my 34-year career working in community and/or government relations.