

Dawn Cullars Johnson

Owner/Agent

Dawn Johnson State Farm Insurance, LLC

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Professional Background & Experience

Dawn Cullars Johnson is a dedicated business leader and community advocate with over 30 years of experience in the insurance and financial services industry. As the owner and operator of Dawn Johnson State Farm Insurance in Rock Hill, South Carolina, Dawn has been committed to providing exceptional service and financial products to individuals and businesses alike. Her agency's mission is to enrich lives and empower clients by offering customized insurance, banking, and investment solutions that meet their unique needs. As a Wife, Mom, Change Agent, Business Owner, Author, Workshop Facilitator and Servant, Dawn leads transformative work across three pillars: women's empowerment, civic and community engagement, and financial empowerment. These initiatives reflect her dedication to creating spaces where meaningful conversations lead to tangible change, and where people are inspired to work together for a better future.

- **State Farm Insurance Career:**
 - Began career in 1992 in Jacksonville, FL in Claims, Operations, and Management
 - Transitioned to State Farm Corporate Headquarters in Bloomington, IL in 2000, specializing in Project and Business Management
 - Opened an independently owned and operated State Farm Agency in Rock Hill, SC in 2006
- **Dawn Johnson Empowers, LLC - DawnJohnsonEmpowers.com**
 - Launched Women's Empowerment and engagement events currently in the 6th year of evolution into annual Self Care Weekend event the 1st weekend of November
 - Launched "Women of Impact" recognition and awards
 - Launched a Self Care Movement to help women focus on all aspects of their health and wellness
 - Amazon #1 Bestselling Author of "Rules of Engagement", with first published work being "8 Steps to Financial Empowerment"
 - Workshop Facilitator for life empowerment matters focusing on Civic Engagement, Financial Literacy and Personal Impact

- Launched the “So Tru Network” on YouTube to share the stories of community growth, impact and achievement with a focus on walking in one’s truth while channeling the legacy of Sojourner Truth
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Education

- **Florida State University**
 - B.S. Economics, double minor in Psychology and African American Studies, Class of 1991
 - **Orangeburg Wilkinson High School**, Class of 1987
 - **New York City Public School System in the South Bronx**, Elementary and Jr. High
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Civic Involvement & Leadership

Dawn has long been a fixture of civic engagement in York County, SC where she has served on numerous boards and committees, advocating for economic development, education, healthcare, and the empowerment of disadvantaged communities. She is a highly respected leader across various local organizations, with current roles that include:

- **York Technical College Board of Directors**
- **Piedmont Medical Center Board of Directors**
- **South State Bank Board of Directors**
- **Nation Ford Land Trust Board Member**
- **Upper Palmetto YMCA Board Member**
- **Rock Hill Economic Development Corporation** (Past Chair, Finance, Leadership, Talent Pipeline, Business Recruitment & Expansion Committees)
- **B.E.L.L. (Black Economic Leadership League)**, Co-Founder, Chair, Co-Chair Business Development and Innovation Committee
- **African American Cultural Resource Committee**, Chair
- **The Legacy League, Inc.**, Board Member & Mentor
- **Central City Optimist Club**, Member
- **Minority Scholarship Foundation**, Board Member
- **The Gravity Center**, Board Member

Past leadership roles include:

- **Communities In Schools**, Board of Directors
- **Boys and Girls Club of York County**, Board Member
- **Winthrop University Foundation**, Board Member
- **York Technical College**, Business Administration Advisory Committee
- **Rock Hill School District Foundation**, Board of Directors
- **South Pointe High School & Saluda Trail Middle School** Improvement Councils
- **Foundation of The Carolinas**, York County Community Foundation, Board of Directors
- **York County Chamber of Commerce**, Small Business Advisory Board

Prior to South Carolina:

- The Links, Inc - Bloomington, Illinois
 - S.T.A.R.S. (Students Taking Action, Reaching Success) - Bloomington, Illinois; Co-Founder and Coordinator
 - United Way - Jacksonville, FL; Fund Distribution Assessment Committee
 - C.I.T.Y. (Christ In Teenage Youth) - Jacksonville, FL; Youth Ministry President at First Baptist Church of Mandarin
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Awards & Recognitions

Dawn's career and community service have been recognized through numerous accolades and awards, showcasing her exceptional leadership and contributions to both business and society. Some of her notable recognitions include:

- **State Farm Insurance Select Agent** (2006 – present)
- **State Farm Insurance Legion of Honor** (2007 – present)
- **State Farm Insurance Ambassador Qualifier** (2007, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014)
- **State Farm Insurance Bronze Tablet Award** (2011, 2012, 2013)
- **Uplift Award**, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity (2008)
- **Citizen of the Year**, Uplift Award, Omega Psi Phi (2017)
- **Rock Hill Schools Outstanding Business Partner Award** (2012, 2018)
- **City of Rock Hill Dream Keeper Award** (2015)
- **50 Most Influential Women in Charlotte, NC Area** (2018), The Mecklenburg Times
- **NAACP Visionary Leadership Award** (2018)
- **Career Mastered 2020 National Women's History Leadership Award** Honoree
- **No Sad Stories Ministries Bertrina Lawson Community Service Award** (2020)
- **York County Regional Chamber Athena Leadership Award** (2023)
- **Career Mastered 2023 Entrepreneurial Woman To Watch**