

Shanell Watson is a program officer with the Woodward Hines Education Foundation, previously serving as an assurance supervisor for HORNE LLP and external grant manager for the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation. Licensed as a certified public accountant since 2005, she received a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Accountancy from Millsaps College's Else School of Management.

Her community roles including service as Board Chair of the Women's Foundation of Mississippi, where she has also served as Treasurer and Chair-Elect. She is also a governing board member for Mississippi Action for Progress, a head start agency.

Shanell is a native of Meridian, MS - she and her husband, Edward, reside in Clinton, MS with their three sons, Nicholas, Sean, and Barrett.