



## **Lakesha Mathis, CSSYB** Vice President, Strategy (SupplySTL)

**Lakesha Mathis** is a seasoned business leader and strategic thinker with a deep commitment to fostering economic growth and equity. As the **Founding Director of Greater St. Louis Inc.'s Diverse Business Accelerator** and **Vice President of Strategy**, she has been instrumental in driving the organization's initiatives to support and scale BIPOC and women-owned small businesses.

Through her leadership of the **SupplySTL** initiative, Lakesha has played a pivotal role in connecting diverse businesses with essential resources, including business development assistance, technical support, capital, and contracting opportunities. Her strategic vision has also been instrumental in building a robust and interconnected small business ecosystem that supports the region's economic vitality.

Prior to joining Greater St. Louis Inc., Lakesha gained valuable experience as a **Senior Business Performance Analyst** at Missouri American Water, honing her skills in data-driven decision-making and operational efficiency. Her extensive experience as a **small business owner** for over two decades, coupled with her deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by women and business owners of color, provides her with a unique perspective that informs her work.

Lakesha's dedication to fostering economic growth and equity is evident in her active involvement in community organizations. She currently serves on the **City of St. Louis Workforce Development Board**, the **COCA Associate Board**, **Delmar Main Street Board**, and the **Cortex Entrepreneur Advisory Board**. Her contributions to these organizations have helped to shape policies and programs that support the region's small business community.