



EOC Involvement

Interview with Adrian Cain, EO, Charleston (S.C.) HBA

What has been your journey to becoming involved with the EOC?

I give Caroline Fabacher and Anna Gimeno credit for being “my people” at NAHB. The Federation can be confusion to fully understand how to tap into the people and resources. Through them I have been able to become deeply involved and committees and the EOC. From there, I have been able to build a growing network of professional colleagues that truly enhance my work and the impact that we are having at my HBA's.

What piece of advice would you give to other EOs and HBA staff looking to get more involved within their state and nationally?

Raise your hand and express a desire to get involved and give back. I have gotten so much by just being willing to do any task and by engaging with people at NAHB and other HBA's that inspire me. Take time to meet your national and state HBA staff and ask them to assist you in understanding how you can have an impact and get involved. While volunteering may seem counterintuitive to learning, I have learned the greatest lessons and built the most authentic relationships by giving my time to impact the greater good.

How has leaning into your peer network assisted you at your local or state association?

I am now two years into my HBA journey and finding a group of peers that I can learn from has been crucial. It takes time and intention to put yourself out there, but its more than worth the effort and before long you will have a set of peers that you can call on when you have an issue, challenges, or opportunities that you need advice and counsel on.

How do you keep in touch with other EOs and HBA staff across the country when not onsite?

I communicate weekly, sometimes multiple times a week with my HBA network. Often it's in group or individual text, but I know that I can always call on others for more in-depth assistance when I need it. I have also made it a priority for my board leadership to attend the national and regional NAHB conferences. This has deepened the connection between my board members and NAHB and enhanced my ability to shape my Associations. At the end of the day, nothing can replace the impact of building relationships in person.