

Mary B. Relotto, Candidate for District 6

I have been a resident of Clintonville for a total of 24 years. I received my bachelors degree from Ohio University in Journalism and I am the founder of Dames Bond, an online resource recognized by Forbes, ForbesWoman and Money Magazine as a good tool for women business owners to market their businesses.

Prior to making Dames Bond a full time endeavor, I worked in the non-profit industry for 15 years, serving some of the most marginalized in our community. I was appointed on the Columbus Women's Commission and I sit on the advisory board for the Women's Business Center of Ohio.

Always trying to give back to the community that has given me so much, I recently launched Thrive Columbus, an online directory and calendar that helps women navigate resources and events that can help them achieve their personal and professional ambitions. The ultimate goal is to get more women engaged in the community and to give organizations that meet the needs of women, an affordable avenue to promote their missions. Learn more about Thrive Columbus at www.ThriveColumbus.org.

When I attended the first Women's March in 2017, in DC, I came back with a deeper understanding of the impact one voice can make. There was no way I could return home and do nothing. I decided to run for Ohio State Representative and entered the 2018 primary for District 24. I didn't win, but I gained a deeper respect for those who truly want to serve the people. Whether on an area commission, City Council or in the State House, people deserve someone, like me, who will be engaged in the community and represent them with a strong voice, understanding of the issues, and compassion.

I'm running for CAC because I care deeply about Clintonville and the families that reside here. I want to encourage ongoing discussions and conversations that surround our past, present and drive our future.

What I will do:

- **Advocate** for residents in the Courtyard Estates & responsible development throughout Clintonville
- **Promote** community engagement
- **Support** Clintonville green spot initiatives & smart business development with a focus on local.
- **Ensure** communication between other districts and Columbus City Council

Awards, Honors and Firsts

2019 Launched Thrive Columbus

2018 Candidate for Ohio House of Representatives

2016-17 Appointed on the Columbus Women's Commission

Recognized by WELD – Women Welding the Way

2015 *Speaking of Gender* is initiated to ensure women are included in leadership and speaking roles in public and professional programs in the greater Columbus community.

2013 Mary B.'s Gift Shop opens in German Village, representing local artists and artisans.

2012 Dames Bond opens the first retail shop of its kind, Dames Bond Marketplace, featuring local women artisans.

2011 Entrepreneur of the Year (Columbus, Ohio - Metropreneur)

SBA's Women In Business Champion Award

2010 Sunny 95's Top 20 Women You Should Know

Forbes and ForbesWoman recognizes DamesBond.com as one of the "top 10 career sites for working women"

2009 Women Business Owners Networking Woman of the Year (National Recognition)