

Derrick Alan Higgins

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Resume | Updated 2026

Community Outreach and Field Organizing | LGBTQ+ Rights | Voting Rights | Public Education

Summary

Community outreach and communications professional with experience across broadcast media, retail team leadership, real estate, and event promotion, plus LGBTQ+ affirming small business ownership. Skilled in relationship building, coordinating people and logistics, facilitating community-facing work, and writing clear messages under time-sensitive deadlines.

Core Skills

- Community outreach, relationship building, and partnership coordination
- Volunteer-style coordination, training support, and event logistics
- Public education messaging and audience-focused communication
- Field operations support: canvassing coordination, phone and text banking support
- Conflict de-escalation and calm problem-solving in public-facing environments
- Writing and content: web copy, email communication, social content, and scripts

Experience

Beach Dawg Care® | Founder and Owner

Fort Lauderdale, FL | 2022 - Present

- Operate an LGBTQ+ affirming, community-facing service business built on trust, safety, and clear communication
- Coordinate schedules and logistics across multiple clients and locations while maintaining reliability and responsiveness
- Develop outreach messaging and web and social content that supports visibility and community engagement

Licensed Real Estate Professional | Realtor

Florida | 2013 - Present

- Licensed in Florida | 2013 - Present; Member, National Association of Realtors | 2013 - Present
- Current brokerage: Beachfront Realty Inc. | 2024 - Present
- Build relationships through consistent outreach, consultative communication, and referral networks
- Coordinate multi-party transactions with strict deadlines, documentation accuracy, and compliance awareness

Retail Store Management | Gap Inc. and Quiksilver

Miami Beach, FL | 2008 - 2013

- Led customer-facing teams with hiring, scheduling, training, coaching, and performance support
- Handled escalations and resolved issues calmly while maintaining standards, safety, and service quality
- Tracked sales performance and implemented floor plans, promotions, and priorities to meet weekly targets

Perpetual Vibe, LLC | Owner, Event Promotions and Artist Management

Miami Beach, FL | 2005 - 2008

- Promoted and produced live events from planning through day-of execution, including logistics and on-site coordination
- Coordinated communications with venues, talent, vendors, and staff under tight timelines
- Created promotional messaging and outreach to drive attendance and community participation

Earlier Career (Selected)

iHeartMedia (Clear Channel) | WEND 106.5 The End | On-Air Personality, Programming, and Promotions | Charlotte, NC | 1999 - 2004

CBS Radio | WNKS Kiss 95.1 | Morning Show Assistant Producer (Ace and TJ Show) | Charlotte, NC | 1999 - 2000

KatzCity Records | A&R and Producer | Charlotte, NC | 2004 - 2005

WASU 90.5 FM and AppTV (Appalachian State University) | DJ and Programming | Boone, NC | 1996 - 1999

Education

Appalachian State University | B.S. Communications (Electronic Media TV and Radio Broadcasting) | Minors: Psychology and Sociology

Certifications and Affiliations

- Yoga Alliance | Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT 200) | May 2017 - Present
- Alpha Epsilon Rho (AERho), National Broadcasting Society | Member | Aug 1997 - Dec 1999
- National LGBT Chamber of Commerce | Certified LGBT Business Enterprise (LGBTBE)
- Greater Fort Lauderdale LGBT Chamber of Commerce | Member
- Wilton Manors Business Association | Member