

# Speaker Introduction

Dr. Sondra Thiederman has 25 years experience as a speaker, trainer, and author on the topics of bias reduction, workplace diversity, and cross-cultural business. Since receiving her doctorate from UCLA in cross-cultural studies, she has helped professionals in Fortune 500 companies, public sector organizations, and dozens of associations find ways to work more comfortably and effectively in an increasingly diverse environment.

Sondra has served on the Diversity Cabinet of the American Red Cross and been widely featured in the media including mention in *The Wall Street Journal*, *U.S.A. Today*, and *The New York Times*. She is the author of five books including *Making Diversity Work: Seven Steps for Defeating Bias in the Workplace* and *The Diversity and Inclusion Handbook*.

In her spare time, Sondra applies her interest in diversity in a very practical way. She volunteers as a Puppy Raiser for an organization call Canine Companions for Independence. In the process of raising her eighth dog for CCI, her hope is that it will one day become a life-changing assistance dog to a person with a disability.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Sondra Thiederman.