

**Anika Applewhite**

**Director, People and Organization- Ice Cream**

**Mars, Inc**

* Anika Applewhite is the Director, People and Organization (P&O) for the Ice Cream Business Unit, Mars Wrigley Confectionery- US. Anika leads the talent strategy and organizational effectiveness for a unique group of entrepreneurial businesses within Mars. Anika is a key leader within Inclusion and Diversity for Mars-North America and is the prior Inclusion and Diversity Lead for the Mars Wrigley Confectionery –US business. Anika began her career in sales and has over 20 years of people leadership experience.
* Longtime champion of Inclusion, Anika started her first Inclusion focused organization in High School. Throughout her life, she has been a champion for Diversity and Inclusion serving in both formal and informal capacities. She has been an advocate for cultural change throughout her career and has a legacy of building diverse leadership teams in every business that she has led.
* Anika is a graduate of Rutgers, The State University of NJ with a bachelor’s in criminal justice. She holds a master’s in business administration from University of Phoenix. She is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Network of Executive Women (NEW) and is Prosci Certified Change Practioner.
* Anika currently resides in Illinois, with her Husband, Adrian, their two children, Adrian and Aniya and their puppy, Biscuit