

Margaret J. Henningsen is a founder of Legacy Bank, a state chartered commercial bank located in the heart of the city of Milwaukee. At the age of 50, she decided to follow her dream of starting a bank that would address the lack of comprehensive banking services in her community. As a longtime advocate for empowering women and minorities she recognized that access to capital and the ability to create wealth were necessary to transform people's lives. Today, the bank has assets of over one hundred fifty million; provides banking services to thousands of underserved people; funded more than 1,000 small business, commercial and economic development loans creating thousands of jobs. Ms Henningsen focuses on the bank's mission of banking the unbanked and underserved markets. Those banking programs have become a national model for community banks that want to reach out to untapped markets.

Ms Henningsen has a long history of careers in fields that improve people's lives. Through her efforts at Republic Capital Bank and TCF Bank, over 1,200 people became home owners; as a licensed real estate broker she guided over 300 low income women through the process of becoming home owners. As the SDC Head Start Coordinator for Milwaukee, she oversaw a multi-million dollar program that educated thousands of children and parents. She served as a consultant to the Milwaukee Board of Realtors, providing training to thousands of real estate agents on the fair housing and lending laws.

Ms Henningsen is a strong advocate of community service and over the past 35 years has served in a variety of capacities on many community boards and organizations. Currently, she serves on the Milwaukee Public Debt Commission, the boards of: Academy of Leadership and Learning, Walnut Way, Friends of Housing, Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee, African World Festival, and the Wisconsin Realtors Association. Ms Henningsen is the founder of the annual Juneteenth Day Celebration in Milwaukee which recognizes the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation ending slavery.

Ms Henningsen was educated at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee graduating with honors. She lives in Milwaukee with her husband Paul and is mother to Maya Joy.