

# Nancy C. Brainerd

## Houston Program Director

Ms. Brainerd, a native Houstonian, has been involved in the promotion of Houston most of her career. As President/CEO of Downtown Houston Association, she led the non-profit in the redevelopment of downtown Houston. Establishing an *Emerging Leaders* program - engaging young professionals in the promotion of downtown Houston - remains one of the hallmarks of the organization to this day. Most recently, Ms. Brainerd was Director of Development for the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, raising over ten million dollars to build new churches in the diocese. Under her leadership, an important program created to support diocesan efforts was *Leadership & Faith*, a luncheon series featuring city and national leaders who shared how their faith impacts their leadership. Ms. Brainerd previously led two chambers of commerce in the greater Houston area and founded and directed her own human resources recruiting firm.

Community and civic activities are an important aspect of Ms. Brainerd's life. She has been and continues to be active in leadership roles in her church, in homeless issues and in leadership development. She currently serves on the board of American Leadership Forum and the Advisory Boards for SEARCH, a project for the homeless, and New Hope Housing, a single room occupancy community for the homeless.

Ms. Brainerd has two sons and four grandchildren. Mark, a Presbyterian minister, and his family live in North Carolina and Todd, recently retired from the Navy, and his family live in Nevada.