

Terrence Harris Profile / Black History Month

Video Transcript

I'm, Terrence Harris. I am the director of, external retail sales. And what Black History Month means to me is, you know, every year when it comes around, it gives me an opportunity to kind of reflect on the progress, that, we've made over time. So as I've, you know, grown an experience, being able to understand, get in a healthy dialogue, with kids that I either work with or colleagues. It's just a time to reflect on those, positive contributions that we've made. I've been at Commerce for, almost ten years in April. I've seen that Commerce does things the right way.

Commerce is invested in the community.

Commerce just has good people.

And so in my journey and one of the things that I've been really excited about in my current role is leading our community, outreach and banking program.

That program specifically allows us to do intentional work in our community, helping with financial education and to be able to do meaningful work to help educate on what we can offer, how we can help people with their financial, wellness and their financial situation, I think helps us meet a core value of strengthening our communities.

Yeah. When we're out in the community teaching financial education, we get so much positive feedback. We get stories from, parents that will say, hey, this was really great, for me and this is helping me think about the savings account I want to open and I'm actually bringing my kid in to start wanting to help them with early savings. So, we get feedback on, you know, they're learning something new, that they may not know. They learn about some of the products that they just don't think banks offer, because maybe they're in scenarios where they're having to maybe go through some nontraditional, financial methods.

I come from a background of not having a lot.

Single mom.

And so one passionate piece for me is kind of to be that mentor, that person that can provide opportunities for others and show that you care.

So that's probably what's been really inspiring on why I feel the need to give back. I feel like I'm not who I am today if it wasn't for, men who poured into me, showed me they cared, loved me, and was genuinely interested in helping me become successful.

So, that kind of helps me really stay connected to, do the right thing, be a positive influence out there. And I think that's the same thing we do in bank. When you think about being a banker or being out in the community teaching financial education, we're giving back and we're helping people. And that's just a fun thing to do.