



IT'S MAGIC MONDAY: APRIL 4, 2022!

This month we honor a Woman of Mercy who says, “Mercy absolutely taught me to be who I am today. I think sometimes as women we are taught to keep quiet, not to rock the boat, and to keep things easy for others. Mercy helped me to learn the balance: that you can be respectful while speaking your mind, to never be afraid to ask questions, and to celebrate our differences as individuals. Each of us comes from different walks of life and different backgrounds, and we all have our own story to tell. I am a firm believer that Mercy aids every Mercy Girl in their journey to blossom, grow, and thrive.” Meet **Shelby Ruby Jones '09**, program manager for the Baltimore County Department of Aging.

Name: Shelby Ruby Jones '09

Post Mercy Education:

- B.S., Gerontology, Towson University, 2013
- M.S., Health Science with a concentration in Health Administration, Towson University, 2017

Personal and Professional Achievements:

I am the Baltimore County State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Program Manager for the Baltimore County Department of Aging. I have the honor of helping folks in the county navigate Medicare and everything that comes along with it – I’m out in the community at senior centers, libraries, and senior apartment buildings spreading the word to all. I am so blessed to be able to live my passion of assisting the underserved older population in the community every single day. My husband, Jack, and I have been married for five years and we are the proud parents of twin boys, Jackson and Logan, who were born in July of 2020. I’m currently serving on the Alumnae Executive Board and enjoy giving back to Mercy as well as volunteering in the community in any way I can.

Were there any Mercy faculty members who especially impacted your life? Why?

I want to start by saying I didn’t have a faculty member that I didn’t like and who didn’t impact me in some way. I really want to thank all the faculty and staff who encouraged me and were there for me both during my time as a Mercy student and beyond. **Mr. Eugene Sung** was someone who not only taught me in the classroom, but who I also had the pleasure of working with as a member of the Madrigals when he was the director of the music program. I learned so much about my voice and music, as well as grew my leadership skills when I took on the role of president of the Mercy Madrigals my senior year. Mr. Sung was there every step of the way. **Ms. Tricia Potts** is also someone who impacted me with her teachings about “decorum.” As a teenager, that’s obviously something that doesn’t always come naturally, but her wise words have continued with me throughout my career. I really want to thank all the faculty and staff who encouraged me and were there for me both during my time at Mercy and beyond.

Were there any classes you took at Mercy that stand out to you? Why?

Life Choices Theology class with Ms. Rebecca Egan Hogg '89 really stands out in my memory as an open class where we discussed difficult topics as a group in a judgement free zone. I feel having that opportunity to speak and listen kindly to others in my class was important to my development.

What is your favorite Mercy memory?

As I reflect on my time as a Mercy student, it is so hard to pick just one moment, so I’ll share two! During my freshman year, as a member of the Mercy Madrigals, we traveled to Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, VA to compete at a Music Festival. We gave it our all and we wound up winning the competition! I’ll never forget the cheers and hugs on the bus – what an achievement! My second favorite memory is our class

winning Field Day – TWICE! We all came together and worked as hard as we could, and it paid off. We won as *Jet-Set Juniors* in 2008 and *Seniors Take Center Stage* in 2009. Those were my first two years actively participating with Field Day Exercise for my class and it was certainly unforgettable.