

Steven Anthony is a distinguished business and economic development professional with over 18 years of experience, currently serving as the Vice President of Business Development at the Economic Development Corporation of Kansas City. His notable achievements include generating over \$2 Billion in capital investments and spearheading the creation of 3200 jobs, prominently featuring the attraction of Meta to Kansas City. Previously, he held key roles at Pepco Holdings Inc, Washington Area Community Investment Fund, and in wealth management at HSBC, SunTrust Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank.

Steven, a holder of a Masters in Real Estate from Georgetown University and a Bachelor's in Business Management from Dillard University, has been recognized with awards such as the 2018 Dillard University 40 under 40 and the 2023 DCI Top 40 under 40 in Economic Development. His expertise includes Sales/Business Development Management, Economic Development Management, Financial Analysis, and he is a Certified Banking & Credit Analyst (CBCA)TM.



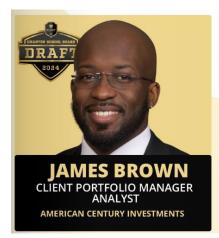
Dr. Bates has demonstrated a strong commitment to educational and social advancement as an active member of several professional and community organizations. He has actively participated in the Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (KIAAA), National Middle School Association (NMSA), National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), and National College Access Network (NCAN), reflecting a focus on educational development and science advocacy. Dr. Bates is also a member of the NAACP and 100 Black Men of America, showcasing a dedication to the advancement of civil rights and mentoring.

His involvement in the Kansas City Teaching Fellows and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., further emphasizes a commitment to educational excellence and fraternity engagement. In a leadership capacity, Dr. Bates served as the Parent Board President for Rosie's Dance Academy and held board appointments with Leadership 2000, YouthBuild KCK Advisory Board, Economic Opportunity Foundation (EOF), Scholar Smart, and The Urban Scholastic Center. These roles highlight Dr. Bates's significant contributions to educational, economic, and community development. His extensive network and recognition are further supported by references from esteemed colleagues and supervisors in the educational and professional community.



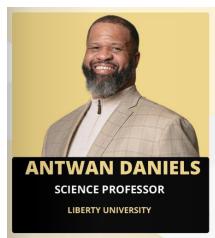
Sophia R. Bond, a distinguished attorney with extensive experience in various legal sectors, currently serves as the General Law & FOIA Branch Chief at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Regional Counsel in Lenexa, KS. Since May 2022, she has been resolving complex legal issues, advising senior management on various matters, and supervising a team of attorneys and support staff. Prior to this, she was an Attorney-Investigator at the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, where she conducted audits and investigated complaints related to federal civil rights statutes. Additionally, Sophia shares her expertise as an Adjunct Professor at Johnson County Community College, teaching Civil Litigation and Business Law.

Her previous roles include Supervising Attorney for the Juvenile Officer at Jackson County Circuit Court and Staff Attorney I at Missouri Protection & Advocacy Services. She holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and African American Studies from Saint Louis University. Sophia is actively involved in community and civic activities, holding positions with the Jackson County Bar Association and other legal organizations, and has been acknowledged with several awards including the 2022 Missouri Pro Bono Award and the Missouri Lawyers Women's Justice Award. Licensed to practice law in both Missouri and Kansas, she is also a certified Missouri Guardian Ad Litem and a Rule 17 Certified Missouri Mediator.



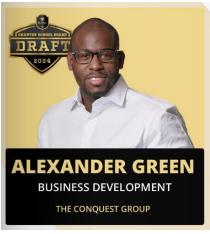
James Brown is a dynamic finance professional and a recent MS Finance graduate (Spring 2021) from the University of Missouri – Kansas City, with a strong background in investment management. As a current Client Portfolio Manager Analyst at American Century Investments, James has shown proficiency in investment analysis and valuation, and plays a crucial role in client communication and sales efforts. His previous role as an Investment Representative at the same firm allowed him to develop financial planning solutions and present them to clients. Before his finance career, James served as a SPED Paraprofessional and Football Coach at KIPP Endeavor Academy/Liberty High School.

His academic project on the valuation of Emerson Electric Co. demonstrated his ability in financial modeling and equity valuation. James holds a B.S. in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism – Sport Management from the University of Missouri – Columbia, with a minor in Business. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst Level I Candidate and a FINRA Registered Representative with Series 6 and 63 certifications. His core competencies include financial statement analysis, investment management, and strategic planning. Additionally, James is actively involved in community and professional organizations, serving as the Lodge Worshipful Master at Prince Hall Mason, Professional Development Chair at Emerging Professionals ERG, Treasurer at UMKC Black MBA Association, and a volunteer at Preo-KC.



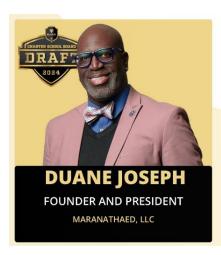
Professor Antwan Daniels is an esteemed academic with a rich background in chemistry and science education. He currently serves as a Chemistry Department faculty member atm the School of Education at Liberty University. With over 11 years of experience as a chemistry professor and community involvement, Professor Daniels has contributed significantly to curriculum design, lesson planning, and department leadership. He holds a strong commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as evidenced by his role in the African-American Faculty Staff Association at MCCKC and his leadership in culturally responsive teaching initiatives. Professor Daniels has an impressive educational background, currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at Liberty University, and holds a Master's from Christian Brothers University and a Bachelor's from Langston University.

His expertise extends to environmental issues and advocacy, and he is recognized for his work in continuous process improvement training and Six Sigma. He is a member of various committees, including the Sustainability Steering Committee and Pipelines and Pathways, and has significantly contributed to science education as an instructional coach and content lead. As an author and presenter, Professor Daniels has shared his insights in various professional settings, demonstrating a commitment to advancing science education and community development.



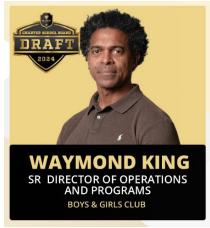
Alexander Green, Jr. is a highly skilled Business Development Executive with a profound expertise in new business development, client service, and project management. He currently holds pivotal roles at The Conquest Group LLC and Ultra Indemnity as a business development specialist and licensed insurance broker, respectively. With an objective to foster growth and pursue long-term career development, Alexander specializes in exceeding goals, implementing innovative selling strategies, and is trained in motivational, persuasive, and coaching techniques. His experience includes significant contributions in telecommunications, energy efficiency, and educational services at New Horizons Computer Learning Center. Notably, Alexander has a track record of over \$2 million in new business sales, demonstrating his prowess as a natural closer.

Alexander's professional journey is marked by his authorship and skill in writing, including a published autobiography, and his proficiency in quantitative data analysis strategies. His educational background is equally impressive, holding a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Saint Louis University with a concentration in Finance, and currently pursuing an MBA at Webster University. He is also a certified Cisco Business Architecture Analyst and possesses various FINRA certifications. Alexander's commitment to community involvement is evident through his membership in the Boys Club of Saint Louis Alumni Association and his selection as a REAP Program graduate.



Duane A. Joseph is a dynamic and accomplished nonprofit leader with a rich tapestry of experiences in business, education, and military service. As the founder and leader of MaranathaEd, LLC, a test prep company in Kansas City, MO, he co-authored the notable "Rule the Kingdom of ACT" and has masterfully managed business metrics, crafted marketing strategies, and built a robust referral network, resulting in marked improvements in student ACT and SAT scores post-COVID. In tandem, Duane serves as the Executive Director of the Joseph Family Foundation, dedicating efforts to enhance the lives of inner-city communities in Kansas City. His dedication to educational advancement is further evidenced by his roles as a Leadership Coach Consultant with Leading Educators and an Academic Coach with the Kauffman Foundation/Kauffman Scholars Inc.

In the realm of teaching, Duane has an extensive background, having instructed Algebra and Geometry in various schools and earning the Teacher of the Year title at H.L. Bourgeois High School and Potter's House Christian Academy. His military tenure as an Operation Specialist in the United States Navy underscores his discipline and leadership prowess. Academically, Duane is well-qualified with a Master of Arts in Teaching from Webster University, a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of North Florida, and multiple teaching certifications.



Waymond King is a distinguished professional with expertise in strategic operations and marketing across various industries. As the Senior Director of Operations and Programs at Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City (BGCGKC), he has notably expanded club programming and adeptly managed the organization through the COVID-19 crisis. Renowned for initiating innovative and nationally recognized programs, Waymond has fostered strong collaborative relationships to enhance youth development. His tenure at BGCGKC is marked by securing significant grants and partnerships, including a substantial \$250,000 grant from the Downtown Minority Development Council and a long-term sponsorship with Saint Luke's Health Systems.

Before Joining BGCGKC, Waymond served as the Managing Director of Business Operations at the Ewing Kauffman Foundation, where he managed a \$130M grant's financial and administrative aspects. He also excelled as the Director of Scholarship Management, introducing strategic tools that reduced scholarship expenditures. His diverse background includes roles in education at Edison Learning Inc. - Derrick Thomas Academy and founding King Marketing Group, creating successful campaigns for high-profile clients. Waymond holds an MBA and a BBA in Marketing from the University of lowa and is deeply engaged in community work, serving on the Planning Committee for the KC Male Charter School Initiative and as a board member for the INROADS-KC Advisory Board. His skills in strategic planning, brand strategy, analytics, and team building, combined with his adaptability and resourcefulness, establish him as an influential leader in community engagement and youth development.



Ryan C. Long, residing in Lee's Summit, MO, is a dynamic Project Controls Analyst and entrepreneur, with a strong background in project management and controls. His educational foundation includes a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a focus on Human Resources from Missouri Western State University. Ryan is proficient in several key project management tools, including Primavera P6, SharePoint, and Microsoft Office Suite, as well as Adobe Acrobat Professional. His career highlights roles at Black & Veatch as a Project Controls Analyst since April 2020, and previously as the Owner of Executive Logistics & Transportation, LLC, where he managed the company's operations, staff, and budget.

Ryan's professional journey featured significant positions at Evergy (formerly Kansas City Power & Light - KCP&L), where he excelled as a Project Coordinator and Auditor, managing major projects and performing critical audits for operational improvements and risk management. His career commenced in customer service at KCP&L and Farmers Insurance Group, laying a solid foundation for his subsequent achievements. Beyond his professional commitments, Ryan is deeply involved in community and mentorship activities. He serves as the Vice President of Strengthening Opportunities to Unite Leaders (SOUL) BRG, participates in the H.Y.P.E. mentoring program for young men, and coaches junior football, demonstrating his dedication to community development and youth mentorship.



Carly Mitchell is a committed professional in the mental health field, specializing in violence prevention and community engagement. As a Client Advocate at Partners for Peace in the Kansas City Health Department since July 2023, she works with law enforcement to support high crime drivers, demonstrating her dedication to safety and violence reduction. Previously, as the Violence Prevention Program Coordinator at the Unified Government Public Health Department in Kansas City, Kansas, Carly led initiatives for youth fatality improvements and collaborated on violence reduction projects.

Her role as a Community Resource Advocate and Chief Responder at ADHOC Group Against Crime in Kansas City, Missouri, involved coordinating with law enforcement and responding to homicide scenes, emphasizing her deep involvement in community safety. Carly's academic background includes an MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, specializing in Substance Use, and a BS in Psychology/Child & Family Development from UCM. Her skills in communication, cultural sensitivity, and trauma-informed practices, along with certifications in Restorative Justice and Mental Health First Aid, position her as a key figure in mental health advocacy.



Nathaniel Newbill is an accomplished executive known for his proficiency in leading contact centers, process improvement, and field operation organizations. His skills in strategic planning, operations management, and project management have significantly contributed to operational and technological advancements across various industries. Currently, as the Director of the Client Contact Center at American Century Investments, Nathaniel oversees all operational elements, including budgeting, training, and policy development. He plays a crucial role in enhancing customer experience, managing over 400,000 contacts annually, and devising strategies to broaden the client base and elevate service quality.

Prior to this, Nathaniel held key positions at H&R Block, such as Director of Field Technology Support and Director of Franchise Operations Support, where he skillfully managed large-scale projects, enhanced issue resolution and handle rates, and set strategic directions for franchise support operations. His talent for revitalizing underperforming teams and applying innovative strategies is highlighted by his achievements in these roles.

Academically, Nathaniel holds an Associate's degree in Business Administration and Management from Southern New Hampshire University and has completed Business Management coursework at National American University. He is also a Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Certified professional, with expertise in financial and budget management, team management, and relationship building. Recognized with the H&R Block CEO Award and the Best of Block Top Performer Award, Nathaniel's career is distinguished by his exceptional leadership, adaptability, and ability to develop high-performing teams, making him a valuable asset to any organization.



Dr. Pokam Ngomsi is a distinguished General Dentist and the owner and managing partner at Comfort Dental in Kansas City, MO. She earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from The University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics in 2015, following her Bachelor of Arts in Biology/Pre-Dentistry from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, obtained in 2006. Dr. Ngomsi further enhanced her dental expertise by completing an Advanced Education in General Dentistry program at Northwest Dental Residency in Toppenish, Washington, in June 2016, showcasing her commitment to continuous professional development in her field.

Beyond her academic and professional pursuits, Dr. Ngomsi is deeply committed to community service and healthcare accessibility. She has been involved in the Student/Resident Experiences and Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH) program, providing essential primary care in underserved communities. Her dedication extends to volunteering with the lowa Mission of Mercy (IMOM) in various roles, including operative dentistry, instrument sterilization, and anesthesia administration. Additionally, she has offered her skills at the lowa City Free Dental Clinic, delivering restorative and surgical care to indigent patients. Dr. Ngomsi's journey from academic achievement to professional leadership, combined with her active community involvement, highlights her comprehensive approach to dentistry and dedication to improving oral health in her community.



Born and raised in the vibrant city of Kansas City, Fahteema Parrish has emerged as a visionary leader in the construction industry, setting new standards for success and diversity. Her journey from watching her parents run an HVAC business to the helm of Parrish & Sons Construction, a woman-led construction company, is a testament to her unwavering dedication and ingenuity. Fahteema's early exposure to the world of entrepreneurship came through her parents, who owned a thriving HVAC company. Growing up in this environment, she gained invaluable insights into the mechanics of running a prosperous business. Armed with this firsthand knowledge, she embarked on her educational journey, first graduating from MCC, then continuing her education at Northwest Missouri State University, leading to her master's at Webster University.

Three attributes define Fahteema's leadership style: passion, professionalism, and persistence. These qualities have not only driven her own success but have also broken barriers in an industry traditionally dominated by men. Fahteema stands as one of the few minority-owned businesses in Kansas City to reach such remarkable heights, making her a trailblazer and a role model for aspiring entrepreneurs, especially women. Beyond her business achievements, Fahteema remains deeply committed to giving back to the community that has embraced her journey. She understands the responsibility that comes with success and actively supports various organizations across the city, including aSTEAM Village, Awesome Ambitions, and Big Brothers Big Sisters KC.



Lakeshia Sanders is a versatile and skilled professional, excelling in real estate, compliance management, and asset management. As an Internal Auditor for the City of Kansas City, her role involves conducting in-depth reviews and investigations to ensure fiscal responsibility and adherence to compliance standards in city-funded projects. Lakeshia's expertise extends to her position as a Predetermination Hearing Officer, where she leads impartial investigations, contributing significantly to the city's financial integrity and transparency through her knowledge of operational standards and auditing practices.

Before her current role, Lakeshia managed a commercial real estate portfolio valued at nearly \$1 billion at PNC Financial Services Group Inc. This position saw her analyzing loan documents and market data to optimize asset performance. Earlier, as the LIHTC/Affordable Housing Compliance Manager at Dalmark Group, she oversaw compliance, audits, and quality control reviews. Her academic credentials include a Bachelor of Arts in Corporate Communications from Avila University and several certifications in housing and real estate. Lakeshia is proficient in property management software such as Yardi and Onesite/RealPage and is a Centurions Leadership Program graduate. She has been a licensed real estate agent since 2006, showcasing her deep understanding of the real estate market and client needs. Lakeshia's comprehensive skills in strategic planning, operations management, and financial management, coupled with her detailed and analytical approach, make her a standout asset in her industry.



Sean Sharp is a talented and innovative IT leader, currently serving as the Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Manager at Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City, MO. In this role, he spearheads the development and maintenance of effective disaster recovery programs, ensuring the integrity and compliance of Information Services policies. His expertise lies in vendor management, risk control, compliance, and communicating complex BCP/DR concepts to diverse audiences.

Previously, Sean was a Sr. Security Manager/Client Operations at Oracle Health in Kansas City, MO, where he enhanced the company's security infrastructure and led critical activities such as vulnerability assessment and patching. His roles at Oracle Health also included Sr. Manager/Client Operations and Sr. Architect/Client Operations, focusing on technical guidance, client relations, and operations. Sean's educational background includes an MBA from Baker University and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems from Lincoln University of Missouri. His skills in strategic planning, project management, and technical leadership have distinguished his career, marked by his ability to lead diverse teams and his dedication to delivering solutions.



Daniel C. Smith stands out as an influential leader and entrepreneur, deeply committed to fostering growth and opportunities within underserved communities in Kansas City, MO. At the heart of his mission is The Porter House KC, a co-working space he founded in June 2017, aimed at providing entrepreneurship access and resources to those typically excluded from the entrepreneurial dream. Through his visionary leadership, Daniel has transformed The Porter House KC into a pivotal bridge for underrepresented individuals, facilitating their journey from mere ideas to full-fledged businesses. His dedication extends beyond just offering space; it's about nurturing a community where entrepreneurs of color can thrive, grow, and contribute to the local economy.

In addition to his entrepreneurial endeavors, Daniel enriches the academic world with his expertise as an adjunct professor and instructor at Kansas University and the University of Missouri - Kansas City, respectively. Here, he teaches entrepreneurship and business management, drawing from his vast experience to guide and inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs. His career also includes significant roles in client management, strategic planning, and community outreach, where he has consistently demonstrated his ability to manage conflict, communicate effectively, and lead with a competitive drive. Daniel's commitment to leadership development and community service is further evidenced by his active involvement in various boards and councils, including St. Luke's South Hospital, the Latino Arts Foundation, and the 100 Black Men of Kansas City, showcasing his all-encompassing passion for making a meaningful impact in both the business and local communities.



Lesley Smith, based in Kansas City, MO, is a distinguished attorney known for her effective problem-solving and transformational leadership. As an Assistant Federal Defender in the Western District of Missouri, she represents indigent individuals charged with federal crimes. Smith's role involves conducting comprehensive investigations and compellingly presenting her clients' stories during trials and sentencing. Her prior experience as a Trial Attorney III with the Missouri State Public Defender contributed to her courtroom prowess, marked by significant successes including a Judgment of Acquittal in her first jury trial and recognition as an outstanding new attorney in 2015.

Smith's educational background is equally impressive, holding a Juris Doctorate from The University of Tulsa College of Law and an MBA in Global Business from Webster University. Her commitment extends beyond the courtroom, as evidenced by her active involvement in various boards and committees dedicated to civic leadership and promoting racial and ethnic fairness. Recognized as a Missouri Lawyers' Weekly Up & Coming Public Service Award Recipient, and as an engaged speaker on topics related to criminal justice reform and racial equity, Smith stands out as a prominent figure in the legal community of Kansas City.



Joseph C. Thomas, better known as "Joey," blends his barbering expertise with a strong philanthropic spirit in Kansas City. Growing up in his mother's beauty salon, he developed a passion for barbering, leading to the founding of The Know Joey? Foundation in 2007. This foundation focuses on uplifting at-risk males in the urban core through programs like "Grooming for Success" and "Fresh Cut, Fresh Start," along with the "Turkey Tuesday Community Challenge" that provides Thanksgiving meals to thousands. His leadership extends to co-chairing The Citizens Advisory Committee for the Historic 18th & Vine District

Nationally recognized in the hair care industry, Joey owns the 180V Barber Salon, celebrated for its innovative approach. A trendsetter and leader, he has earned accolades such as the Steve Harvey Hoodie Award, but his greatest pride is being a father to Joye, Abigail, and Bailey. Together, they coown Frosty Frogs Water Ice, a family business where Joey imparts entrepreneurial values. His unique blend of business acumen and community service has made him a transformative figure in his community and beyond.



Tony L. Van Trece, an attorney and business owner in Kansas City, MO, specializes in real estate transactions, estate planning, and entity formation. At the helm of Tony L. Van Trece Law, LLC, he oversees various facets of his firm, from client advocacy to financial management. His prior roles include serving as an Assistant City Attorney/Development Specialist in Kansas City, MO, where he played a key role in real estate development projects, and as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Jackson County, where he managed criminal dockets and trials. Tony's legal career commenced as a Law Clerk for Judge John M. Torrence in the 16th Circuit Court, providing him with deep judicial insights.

Tony's academic background includes a Juris Doctorate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, with a focus on Urban, Land Use, and Environmental Law, and a Bachelor's in Political Science from the same university. Beyond his legal career, he is actively engaged in community and professional organizations. He's a member of the Mid-American Association of Real Estate Investors and the Urban Land Institute, and serves on boards of community organizations like WeDevelopment Federal Credit Union and BoysGrow Corp. Tony's commitment to community development is highlighted through his involvement in the Real Estate Diversity Initiative (REDi) and LeadMO 2023-2024 Cohort, showcasing his dedication to legal excellence and community betterment.



Doretha Henry is an experienced professional educator, with a strong background in special education, student learning, and higher education. Her academic credentials include an MA Ed. in Special Education from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, an MS Ed. in Adult, Occupational, and Continuing Education, and a BS in Social Science with an emphasis on Social and Psychological Organizations in the Workplace and Sociology, both from Kansas State University. Doretha holds a Teaching Certification in Special Education Cross Categorical.

In her professional career, Doretha has held several key positions in the Kansas City Public Schools, including Special Education Compliance Officer and Special Education Program and Process Coordinator. In these roles, she has been responsible for teacher onboarding, IEP audits, compliance monitoring, and professional development. Her prior experiences extend to roles as a Special Education Transition Specialist/Teacher at Raytown Quality Schools, Special Education Specialist/Teacher at Kansas City Kansas School District, and Life Skills Teacher and Transition Employment Coordinator at Tolleson Union High School District. Doretha's career also includes positions as Special Education and Transition Employment Coordinator at the Urban Community Leadership Academy, Substitute Teacher, Program Coordinator at Break and Build, Academic Advisor at Kauffman Scholars, and Parent Involvement Specialist at KCPS, highlighting her diverse experience in various aspects of education and community involvement.



Joel Ritchie, a respected Assistant Prosecuting Attorney based in Kansas City, MO, has demonstrated a profound commitment to justice and community service throughout his career. A graduate of the University of Missouri School of Law with a J.D. earned in 2016, Joel was distinguished early on by his inclusion in the Order of the Barristers and his active participation in legal competitions, where his skills earned him national recognition. His academic achievements were complemented by his role in significant competitions and leadership positions within the university's advocacy programs. Before transitioning to law, Joel earned a B.S. in Criminal Justice, cum laude, from the University of Central Missouri in 2002, laying the groundwork for his dedication to law enforcement and legal ethics.

Joel's professional journey spans diverse roles, from serving as a Police Officer and Field Training Officer with the Kansas City Missouri Police Department to his pivotal position at the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. In his current role, he has litigated over 150 contested matters, showcasing expertise across a broad spectrum of criminal cases. Joel's dedication extends beyond the courtroom; as Internship Coordinator, he adapted programs during COVID-19 and addressed racial and socioeconomic disparities, while his role as Board Chairman for Footprints, Inc. underscores his commitment to holistic rehabilitation for individuals battling substance use disorders.