

JAMES EARL HOLLYWOOD III

Global Social Impact Executive | Mental Health & Youth Systems Strategist | Climate Resilience Advocate | Scholar-Practitioner

Ellicott City, MD | 443.800.2037 | jameshollywoodiii@outlook.com | linkedin.com/in/james-hollywood

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

James Earl Hollywood III is a global executive leader, systems strategist, scholar-practitioner, and social impact architect with more than fifteen years of experience advancing mental health, youth development, education, climate resilience, juvenile justice, family strengthening, and human services systems across local, state, national, and international platforms. His work is rooted in a deep commitment to rebuilding systems that strengthen young people, support families, expand healing, improve public outcomes, and prepare communities for the future.

Across his career, James has worked at the intersection of public service, nonprofit leadership, education, behavioral health, climate justice, civic engagement, and community transformation. He brings a rare blend of executive management, lived experience, policy insight, faith-centered leadership, systems thinking, and frontline community engagement. His leadership focuses on redesigning public and community systems so they are more responsive, equitable, trauma-informed, youth-centered, and prepared to meet the complex challenges facing families and communities in the digital age.

James is the Founder and Executive Director of Together for You, Inc. (TFY), a Maryland-based nonprofit organization advancing mentorship, mental wellness, family strengthening, reentry services, leadership development, and community healing. Through TFY, James has developed a growing platform for youth advocacy, workforce readiness, civic engagement, family support, and social-emotional development. Under his leadership, TFY has launched the Together For You Podcast: Conversations on New Generation Challenges, expanded multi-university internship pathways, developed youth-centered leadership initiatives, and built cross-sector partnerships aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Together for You reflects James's broader vision for rebuilding the village around young people and families. The organization is designed to serve as a bridge between education, mental health, mentorship, community development, policy, and public systems. Its work is grounded in the belief that youth need more than programs; they need relationships, structure, healing, opportunity, and a community committed to their long-term growth. Through TFY, James continues to advance models of mentorship, leadership development, emotional wellness, and community-based prevention that respond to the realities facing today's generation.

James also leads Hollywood Enterprise & Associates, LLC, a global consulting and strategy firm focused on organizational development, social impact strategy, climate resilience, mental health leadership, youth-centered innovation, professional development, and systems change. Through Hollywood Enterprise, he supports organizations, leaders, institutions, and communities seeking to strengthen their operations, clarify their mission, build sustainable strategies, and expand their impact. The firm reflects James's executive approach to leadership: practical, systems-oriented, community-rooted, and future-focused.

He is also the creator of HAVII, a digital mental health and leadership platform designed to transform youth screen time into well-being, civic engagement, mentorship, journaling, goal-setting, and personal development. HAVII is rooted in James's belief that technology should not simply capture young people's attention; it should help shape their growth, emotional health, leadership identity, and sense of purpose. The platform is being developed as a response to the rising mental health, social isolation, digital overload, and mentorship gaps impacting youth and young adults.

A scholar-practitioner, James serves as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Baltimore and Anne Arundel Community College, where he teaches and supports students in areas connected to leadership, communication, business, social impact, public service, and community development. His teaching is shaped by his professional experience in nonprofit leadership, public systems, youth development, and organizational strategy. In the classroom,

James brings a practical and justice-centered approach that connects academic learning to real-world leadership, communication, and community problem-solving.

James completed graduate studies at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy through the Center for Nonprofit Management and Leadership. He also served as a Graduate Program Representative in the Student Government Association at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy, representing graduate students and contributing to academic governance, student advocacy, and institutional engagement. This role expanded his work in higher education leadership and strengthened his commitment to preparing emerging leaders for public service, nonprofit leadership, and civic responsibility.

James is a Doctor of Social Leadership candidate at Omega Graduate School, with completion projected for September 2026. His doctoral work focuses on faith-based collaborative youth development, cross-sector governance, digital-age leadership, and community systems transformation. His Forum Paper, *Rebuilding the Village: A Faith-Based Framework for Collaborative Youth Development in the Digital Age*, integrates faith, social learning theory, youth development, mentorship, behavioral health, and cross-sector collaboration. His doctoral research reflects his belief that the challenges facing young people cannot be solved by one institution alone; they require coordinated systems of family, faith, education, community, government, and civil society working together.

James holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminology/Pre-Law with academic grounding in philosophy and sociology, dual master's degrees in Public Administration and Strategic Communication, and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies from Arkansas State University. His academic formation gives him a strong interdisciplinary foundation in law, public administration, communication, organizational leadership, social systems, policy, and community development.

James is a 2025 Asian American Chamber of Commerce 40 Under 40 Awardee, recognized for innovation, cross-cultural leadership, public service, and community impact. This recognition reflects his growing influence as a leader working across sectors, communities, and systems to advance social change.

His governance and advisory leadership spans local, state, national, and global arenas. In Maryland, James serves on the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland Board, the Maryland Civic Education Coalition, the Howard County Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency, and as Vice Chair of the Howard County MLK Holiday Commission. He also supports education alignment and family engagement through the Maryland State Department of Education Superintendent's Family Advisory Council.

James was appointed to the Maryland Climate Advisory Council convened by the Office of the Comptroller of Maryland for a two-year 2026–2027 term. In this role, he contributes to statewide conversations on climate resilience, economic sustainability, environmental justice, public accountability, and the long-term impacts of climate policy on Maryland families and communities. His appointment reflects his broader commitment to connecting climate action with equity, public health, youth leadership, and community resilience.

Nationally, James has served in leadership with the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, including board and executive leadership roles supporting youth justice, community safety, behavioral health, and systems reform. His work in juvenile justice has focused on prevention, youth voice, policy alignment, family engagement, and community-based alternatives that support young people rather than simply punish them. He has consistently advocated for systems that recognize the dignity, potential, and development of young people.

James also serves as a subject matter expert with Georgetown University, advising on juvenile justice, youth development, behavioral health, and systems reform. Through this work, he contributes to national conversations on how public systems can better support youth, families, and communities. His expertise is grounded not only in policy and research, but also in years of practical experience working directly with young people, families, frontline staff, institutions, and community-based organizations.

James is an active climate and public policy advocate through Citizens' Climate Lobby, where he has participated in climate education, advocacy, policy dialogue, and civic engagement. His climate leadership connects environmental justice with public health, youth development, economic resilience, and community well-being. He approaches climate work not only as an environmental issue, but as a human systems issue affecting families, children, housing, health, education, and future opportunity.

His climate leadership extends across multiple networks and high-level policy spaces. He contributes to global climate governance through UNFCCC-aligned youth and civil society networks and supports climate education, mitigation, adaptation, and community resilience through his work with YOUCAN Global and related global mental health and youth development platforms. His work emphasizes that climate change is not separate from youth mental health, community violence, economic instability, displacement, or family stress; it is deeply connected to the systems that shape daily life.

Internationally, James serves as a Country Representative for YOUCAN Global, advancing youth leadership, climate resilience, community development, and civic engagement across borders. He also collaborates with the DMUN Foundation and the Global Africa Community Hive, contributing to global education, governance, human rights, youth empowerment, and sustainable development initiatives. His international work is grounded in the belief that local communities and global systems are connected, and that solutions must be developed through shared learning, cultural humility, and cross-border collaboration.

James has participated directly in several United Nations processes and global policy spaces, including the Constructive Dialogue on Trafficking in Persons, the Constructive Dialogue on the Smuggling of Migrants, and the Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction. These engagements reflect his commitment to human rights, peacebuilding, migration justice, public safety, and international cooperation.

In 2026, James is scheduled to participate in the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York, where global leaders, governments, civil society organizations, and stakeholders gather to review progress on the Sustainable Development Goals. His engagement at the HLPF aligns with his broader work in youth leadership, mental health, climate resilience, community development, education, and public systems reform.

James has also been selected for prestigious leadership development opportunities, including the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative Fellowship and the Military Mentor Fellowship, 11th Cohort. These fellowships reflect his commitment to global leadership, public service, mentorship, civic responsibility, and cross-sector collaboration. They also build on his long-standing work with youth, families, service members, public institutions, and community leaders.

Previously, James served as Deputy Director of NAMI Maryland, where he supported statewide mental health strategy, operations, partnerships, education expansion, outreach, sponsorships, compliance, and conference execution. In this role, he contributed to organizational leadership during a critical period for mental health advocacy, education, and community support. His work strengthened his understanding of the behavioral health system and deepened his commitment to advancing mental health access, family support, and community-based wellness.

Before his leadership at NAMI Maryland, James worked with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, where he supported national strategy development, systems innovation, and efforts to improve outcomes for children, youth, families, and communities. His work at the Foundation connected him to national conversations on child well-being, equity, public systems, community change, and data-informed strategy.

James's earlier leadership includes major systems work with Arkansas Early Learning, where he held roles supporting family services, community partnerships, program compliance, and Head Start systems. His work touched multiple counties, families, staff teams, and community partners. He helped support the infrastructure that families rely on for early childhood education, family engagement, compliance, and wraparound support. These experiences shaped his understanding of how policy, funding, compliance, and direct service must work together to support children and families.

He also contributed to community programs with Save the Children and youth workforce development with MERS Goodwill. These roles strengthened his foundation in youth development, workforce readiness, community engagement, poverty reduction, education, and family-centered support. Across these positions, James learned how systems affect real people and how leadership must be both strategic and human.

James is also a Certified Racial Healing Circle Facilitator and has trained in conflict resolution, mediation, and community healing practices. These experiences inform his approach to leadership, dialogue, justice, reconciliation,

and systems change. He understands that lasting transformation requires more than policy reform; it requires trust, healing, shared language, honest dialogue, and the courage to address harm at both personal and institutional levels.

As a minister of the Gospel and faith-centered leader, James's work is also shaped by a belief in calling, service, restoration, and purpose. His faith informs his commitment to youth, families, justice, healing, and community. Rather than separating faith from public leadership, James integrates moral responsibility, compassion, discipline, and service into his approach to systems change.

James brings lived experience to his work, including a personal journey marked by resilience, healing, leadership, and responsibility. His story informs his belief that people are not defined by struggle, but by how they rise, rebuild, and use what they have overcome to serve others. This lived experience allows him to connect with young people, families, professionals, policymakers, and communities with authenticity and clarity.

His leadership philosophy is centered on rebuilding the village. For James, rebuilding the village means restoring relationships, strengthening families, equipping youth, supporting mental wellness, reconnecting institutions, and creating systems that do not leave people behind. It means helping communities move from survival to strategy, from isolation to support, and from fragmentation to collective responsibility.

Across every role, James brings strategic clarity, executive discipline, global perspective, and a deep commitment to human dignity. His work continues to bridge local realities with global priorities, connecting youth development, mental health, climate resilience, civic engagement, education, faith, and social impact into one integrated vision for community transformation.

James Earl Hollywood III stands as a leader committed to building systems that heal, institutions that serve, and communities that prepare the next generation to lead with purpose.

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Executive leader with 15+ years directing multimillion-dollar portfolios across juvenile justice, behavioral health, education, and workforce systems — founder/executive director, adjunct professor, board leader, and national advocate known for building cross-sector partnerships and driving measurable systems change at local, state, national, and international levels.

CORE COMPETENCIES

• Executive Leadership & Organizational Management	• Audit Preparation & Compliance Management
• Strategic Planning & Organizational Development	• Program Evaluation & Performance Measurement
• Board Governance & Executive Advising	• Implementation Science & Systems Change
• Public Policy Analysis & Government Relations	• Strategic Communications & Public Affairs
• Juvenile Justice Systems Reform	• Legislative Advocacy & Public Engagement
• Child Welfare & Family Strengthening	• Climate Policy & Community Resilience
• Behavioral Health Administration	• International Development & Global Partnerships
• Nonprofit Executive Leadership	• Conflict Resolution & Professional Mediation
• Higher Education Administration & Instruction	• Stakeholder Engagement & Facilitation
• Workforce Development & Career Pathways	• Leadership Development & Executive Coaching
• Youth Development & Mentorship	• Change Management & Organizational Transformation
• Community Engagement & Coalition Building	• Research, Data Analysis & Policy Evaluation
• Cross-Sector Partnership Development	• Fundraising, Sponsorships & Resource Development
• Federal, State & Local Grant Management	• Project Management & Operational Excellence
• Budget Development & Fiscal Oversight	• Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Strategies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Executive Director — *Together for You, Inc.* | Maryland | 2024 – Present

Founded and led a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to improving outcomes for youth, families, and communities through mentorship, education, workforce development, behavioral health awareness, leadership development, and community engagement.

Key Leadership Accomplishments:

- Established organization from concept to operational nonprofit, including strategic planning, governance development, program design, organizational infrastructure, and community engagement initiatives.
- Developed organizational mission, vision, strategic priorities, policies, procedures, and operational systems supporting long-term sustainability and growth.
- Recruited, supervised, and mentored 14 interns and 2 consultants across communications, public policy, graphic design, software development, user experience design, grant writing, human resources, and nonprofit management.

- Managed multidisciplinary internship and consulting program providing workforce development, leadership development, and professional experience for emerging professionals.
- Built collaborative partnerships with universities, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, faith-based organizations, and public sector stakeholders across Maryland, Washington, DC, Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, national networks, and international collaborators.
- Directed organizational communications, stakeholder engagement, partnership development, public awareness, and community outreach activities.
- Oversaw budgeting, organizational administration, compliance activities, board engagement, program planning, and operational management.

Founder & Principal Consultant — *Hollywood Enterprise & Associates, LLC* | 2025 – Present

Founded and led a strategic consulting firm providing executive advisory services, organizational development, strategic planning, policy analysis, leadership development, workforce strategy, and systems improvement support to nonprofit organizations, government agencies, educational institutions, and community-based organizations.

Key Leadership Accomplishments:

- Established consulting practice focused on organizational effectiveness, leadership development, public policy, behavioral health, youth development, workforce development, and systems transformation.
- Advised nonprofit, educational, and community-based organizations on strategic planning, program development, stakeholder engagement, governance, and organizational growth.
- Facilitated strategic planning sessions, leadership retreats, stakeholder engagement meetings, and organizational assessments to strengthen mission alignment and operational effectiveness.
- Provided expertise in juvenile justice, child welfare, behavioral health, education, workforce development, public administration, and community engagement.
- Supported organizations in developing performance measures, implementation strategies, partnership frameworks, and sustainable growth plans.
- Designed and delivered professional development, leadership training, coaching, and capacity-building initiatives for executives, managers, staff, and community leaders.

Deputy Director — *NAMI Maryland* | March 2025 – June 2025

Served as senior operational leader for Maryland's statewide affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, overseeing organizational operations, strategic initiatives, financial management, human resources, partnerships, and program implementation supporting the organization's mission to improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness.

Key Leadership Accomplishments:

- Provided executive leadership and operational oversight for statewide behavioral health initiatives, ensuring alignment with organizational priorities and strategic goals.
- Directed day-to-day organizational operations, including administration, grants management, compliance, human resources, volunteer engagement, and stakeholder relations.
- Managed state-funded grants and contracts, ensuring compliance with reporting requirements, fiscal accountability standards, and program performance objectives.
- Supervised staff, contractors, interns, and volunteers while supporting professional development, performance management, and organizational culture initiatives.
- Led cross-functional coordination among program, finance, communications, development, and advocacy teams to improve operational effectiveness and service delivery.
- Oversaw customer relationship management systems, organizational processes, and workflow improvements to strengthen efficiency and stakeholder engagement.
- Cultivated relationships with state agencies, elected officials, healthcare providers, foundations, corporate sponsors, and community partners to advance behavioral health priorities.
- Supported fundraising, sponsorship development, donor engagement, and resource development activities to expand organizational impact and sustainability.

- Served as key leader in planning and execution of statewide conferences, educational programs, advocacy initiatives, and public awareness campaigns.
- Collaborated closely with Executive Director and Board of Directors on strategic planning, organizational development, and long-term growth initiatives.

Program Associate, Center for Systems Innovation — *Annie E. Casey Foundation* | *Baltimore, Maryland* | 2022 – 2024

Supported national and multi-state systems reform initiatives designed to improve outcomes for children, youth, families, and communities at one of the nation's leading philanthropic organizations advancing evidence-based solutions in juvenile justice, child welfare, education, economic mobility, and community well-being.

Key Accomplishments:

- Supported implementation of national and state-level systems reform initiatives focused on juvenile justice, child welfare, prevention, family strengthening, and youth development.
- Collaborated with public agencies, nonprofit organizations, philanthropic partners, researchers, and community stakeholders to advance policy and practice improvements.
- Facilitated stakeholder engagement processes involving government leaders, advocates, practitioners, youth, families, and community-based organizations.
- Supported initiatives designed to reduce youth incarceration, strengthen community-based alternatives, and improve outcomes for system-involved youth and families.
- Assisted in the development and dissemination of research, policy recommendations, implementation tools, and technical assistance resources.
- Coordinated meetings, learning communities, convenings, and cross-sector partnerships to advance systems transformation efforts.
- Engaged with national experts and state leaders to identify emerging practices and innovative approaches in juvenile justice and child welfare reform.

Progressive Leadership Roles — Community Partnership Director | Program Compliance Director | Family Services Assistant Manager — *Arkansas Early Learning, Inc.* | *Arkansas* | 2017 – 2022

Held progressive leadership positions within one of Arkansas's largest early childhood education organizations, supporting Head Start and Early Head Start operations across 13 counties. Provided leadership in compliance, community partnerships, strategic planning, family engagement, workforce development, fiscal stewardship, and organizational performance improvement.

Key Accomplishments:

- Directed community engagement, compliance monitoring, family services, and partnership development initiatives supporting thousands of children and families throughout Arkansas.
- Oversaw compliance with federal Head Start Performance Standards, state regulations, monitoring protocols, and grant requirements across multiple program sites.
- Managed and monitored a \$27 million federally funded program portfolio while supporting accountability, risk management, and operational excellence.
- Led efforts to secure and document more than \$5.7 million in non-federal share contributions through strategic community partnerships and resource development.
- Achieved 100 percent audit compliance for three consecutive years through implementation of quality assurance systems, staff training, and continuous monitoring practices.
- Developed strategic partnerships with school districts, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, businesses, higher education institutions, and community stakeholders.
- Utilized data-driven decision-making processes to improve organizational performance, strengthen accountability systems, and support continuous quality improvement efforts.

Regional Youth Transition Specialist & Adult Education Instructor — *MERS Goodwill* | *Missouri* | 2014 – 2017

Provided workforce development, career readiness, educational instruction, case management, and transition services for youth and young adults facing barriers to employment, education, and economic mobility.

Key Accomplishments:

- Delivered workforce development and employment readiness services to youth and young adults participating in federally and state-funded workforce programs.
- Provided career coaching, employment counseling, job placement assistance, and individualized service planning to support successful workforce transitions.
- Facilitated adult education instruction, career exploration, financial literacy, life skills development, and workforce readiness training.
- Developed partnerships with employers, community organizations, workforce agencies, educational institutions, and training providers to expand employment opportunities.
- Coordinated supportive services including transportation assistance, educational resources, referrals, mentoring, and community-based supports.
- Monitored performance outcomes related to employment placement, credential attainment, educational advancement, and program completion.

Assistant Team Lead — *Consolidated Youth Services | Arkansas* | 2011 – 2012

Provided leadership and direct service coordination for justice-involved youth and families participating in community-based, residential, and transitional services supporting case management, family engagement, behavioral interventions, crisis response, and interagency collaboration.

Key Accomplishments:

- Supervised and coordinated services for youth involved in juvenile justice, behavioral health, and child welfare systems.
- Assisted in daily management and oversight of case management teams responsible for providing individualized services and support plans.
- Facilitated family engagement efforts, parent education groups, and family-centered interventions designed to strengthen protective factors and family functioning.
- Coordinated multidisciplinary case planning with schools, courts, probation officers, behavioral health providers, social service agencies, and community partners.
- Managed crisis intervention and de-escalation efforts while maintaining compliance with organizational policies and safety standards.
- Supported youth transitioning from residential placements back into schools, families, and communities through individualized reentry and aftercare planning.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**Adjunct Professor** — *University of Baltimore | Baltimore, Maryland* | 2025 – Present

Teach undergraduate and college-in-prison courses focused on communication, writing, and professional development. Support diverse student populations through instruction, mentorship, curriculum development, and academic advising.

Course Areas: English Composition • Business Communications • Professional Communication • Written Communication • Workforce Readiness and Professional Development

- Deliver engaging instruction utilizing evidence-based teaching strategies and student-centered learning approaches.
- Support incarcerated and justice-impacted students pursuing higher education through college access and academic success initiatives.
- Develop instructional materials, assessments, and classroom activities aligned with learning outcomes and accreditation standards.
- Provide academic coaching, mentoring, and individualized support to students from diverse educational and cultural backgrounds.
- Foster inclusive learning environments that promote critical thinking, effective communication, and career readiness.

Adjunct Professor — *Anne Arundel Community College | Arnold, Maryland* | 2025 – Present

Provide instruction in business, communication, and professional development courses supporting student achievement and workforce preparation.

Course Areas: BPA-111 Business Communications • BPA-113 Professional Communication • BPA-145 Communicating Effectively • BPA-162 Business and Professional Communication

- Design and deliver instruction that connects academic learning with real-world workplace expectations.
- Utilize experiential learning, case studies, and applied communication exercises to strengthen student engagement and success.
- Mentor students pursuing careers in business, public service, nonprofit leadership, and community engagement.

Academic Coach — *Montclair State University | Remote* | 2024 – 2025

- Provided one-on-one academic coaching and student success support for undergraduate and graduate students.
- Assisted students with academic planning, goal setting, time management, study strategies, and persistence toward degree completion.
- Supported student retention initiatives through proactive outreach, coaching interventions, and success planning.

GOVERNMENT & POLICY LEADERSHIP

- Grant Reviewer, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice
- Subject Matter Expert, Georgetown University
- Member, Maryland Comptroller Climate Advisory Council
- Vice Chair, Arkansas Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group
- Graduate Program Representative, University of Maryland School of Public Policy
- On-Site Program Monitor, Maryland Family Network

BOARD SERVICE & GOVERNANCE LEADERSHIP

Board Member → Executive Treasurer — *Coalition for Juvenile Justice* | 2021 – 2026

Contributed to national juvenile justice reform efforts through governance, strategic planning, policy development, and stakeholder engagement; advanced to the Executive Committee as Executive Treasurer (2025–2026), providing fiduciary oversight, financial stewardship, and strategic guidance to the national organization. Recipient of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Five-Year Board Service Award (2026).

- Review organizational financial statements, budgets, audits, fiscal policies, and long-range financial planning activities.

Vice Chair — *Howard County Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission* | 2025 – Present

Provide executive leadership for countywide initiatives honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through education, civic engagement, volunteerism, and community partnership.

- Assist with strategic planning, program development, sponsorship cultivation, and stakeholder engagement activities.
- Lead budget planning and financial oversight for commission initiatives and annual MLK celebrations.
- Collaborate with county government officials, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, faith communities, and business leaders to advance community impact.

Board Member — *Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland* | 2025 – Present

- Support governance, strategic planning, and community engagement initiatives designed to expand access to justice throughout Maryland.

Board Member — *Howard County Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency* | 2025 – Present

- Advise county leadership on policies and programs focused on economic mobility, workforce development, housing stability, and family well-being.

Vice President — *Arkansas Head Start Association* | 2018 – Present

Provide executive leadership and governance oversight for statewide association representing Head Start and Early Head Start programs throughout Arkansas.

- Support statewide advocacy, policy development, professional development initiatives, and strategic planning efforts impacting early childhood education.
- Collaborate with state and national partners to strengthen educational outcomes, family engagement, and workforce development initiatives.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Chair — *Global Boys Council* | 2025 – Present

Lead international network of practitioners, advocates, educators, and community leaders focused on improving outcomes for boys and young men globally.

- Facilitate strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and cross-sector collaboration addressing education, mental health, workforce development, fatherhood, and youth leadership.
- Coordinate global initiatives and partnerships designed to elevate voices and experiences of boys and young men across diverse cultural contexts.

Chair — *Global Boys Summit* | 2026

- Provide leadership for international convening focused on advancing policy, practice, and research related to boys' and men's well-being. Engage stakeholders from government, nonprofit, education, behavioral health, and community sectors.

Country Representative — *YOU CAN Global* | 2025 – Present

- Represent the United States in international youth leadership and community development initiatives. Support global collaboration efforts focused on leadership development, social impact, youth empowerment, and sustainable development.

Global Mental Health Task Force

- Collaborate with international leaders, practitioners, researchers, and advocates to strengthen global mental health awareness, policy, and systems improvement efforts.

United Nations Stakeholder Participation

- Participate in United Nations stakeholder engagement processes related to youth development, mental health, sustainable development, and global policy priorities. Contribute to international dialogue and consultation efforts supporting equitable and community-centered approaches to global challenges.

International Partnerships & Collaboration

- Develop and maintain relationships with organizations, universities, nonprofits, and community leaders across North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. Support cross-cultural learning, leadership development, youth engagement, and community-building initiatives through international collaboration.

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

Published Works

- Brave James and the Journey of Feelings
- Movement is Medicine

Forthcoming Works

- A Road Still Rising
- Manhood Is Earned
- James's Garden of Change
- Jacoby in the Mango Tree
- Dexter Learns to Listen

- Relaxing Mushroom Coloring Book

Research Interests

- Juvenile Justice Systems Reform & Youth Development
- Child Welfare Transformation & Family Strengthening
- Mental Health & Behavioral Health Systems
- Public Health, Health Equity & Social Determinants of Health
- Substance Use Prevention, Recovery & Community Supports
- Domestic Violence Prevention & Family Safety
- Psychology, Human Behavior & Emotional Development
- Sociology, Community Systems & Social Change
- Faith-Based Leadership & Social Transformation
- Public Administration, Governance & Institutional Leadership
- Organizational Leadership & Systems Thinking
- Climate Resilience & Environmental Justice
- Workforce Development & Economic Mobility
- Community Engagement & Collective Impact
- Conflict Resolution, Restorative Practices & Trauma-Informed Care

PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

National, regional, and international speaker with expertise in juvenile justice, behavioral health, public policy, leadership development, climate advocacy, workforce development, education, and systems reform.

Selected Speaking Areas

- National Presenter & Policy Advocate, Citizens' Climate Lobby – presented at national conferences, Mid-Atlantic regional convenings, state conferences, and advocacy summits focused on climate policy, environmental justice, civic engagement, and community resilience.
- Coalition for Juvenile Justice – presenter and participant in national juvenile justice conferences and leadership forums focused on youth development, prevention, diversion, and systems reform.
- Behavioral Health & Mental Health Leadership – delivered presentations and facilitated discussions related to behavioral health systems, community mental health, recovery-oriented approaches, family engagement, and mental health advocacy.
- University & Higher Education – guest lecturer and presenter on leadership, communication, workforce readiness, public administration, nonprofit leadership, youth development, and public policy.
- International Forums & Stakeholder Engagement – participated in United Nations stakeholder processes, World Bank and IMF-related engagements, and international leadership initiatives focused on youth development, mental health, sustainability, and community well-being.

AWARDS & HONORS

40 Under 40 Honoree — Asian American Chamber of Commerce

- Recognized as one of the region's emerging leaders for professional excellence, community impact, public service, and leadership across nonprofit, education, behavioral health, and public policy sectors.

Five-Year Board Service Award — Coalition for Juvenile Justice | 2026

- National recognition honoring five years of leadership, governance, and contributions to juvenile justice reform and youth advocacy.

Military Mentor Fellowship — Cohort XI

- Selected for leadership development and mentorship programming supporting service members, veterans, military families, and community leadership initiatives.

Country Representative — YOUCAN Global

- Selected to represent the United States in international youth development, leadership, and social impact initiatives.

EDUCATION

Doctoral Studies — Strategic Leadership | Omega Graduate School

Dissertation Research Focus: Leadership, Faith, Systems Change, Mental Health, and Community Transformation

Master of Public Administration — Arkansas State University

Master of Science, Strategic Communications — Arkansas State University

Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, Criminology & Pre-Law — Arkansas State University

Minors: Sociology • Philosophy

Graduate Certificate, Nonprofit Management and Leadership — University of Maryland School of Public Policy

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Certifications

- Certified Racial Healing Circle Facilitator
- Professional Mediation Training | Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center
- Implementation Science & Practice | University of North Carolina
- Systems Thinking & Strategic Problem Solving | Cornell University
- Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership | University of Maryland School of Public Policy

Continuing Education & Professional Development

Advanced study in mental health, behavioral health, public health, substance use prevention and recovery, domestic violence prevention, juvenile justice, child welfare, public administration, nonprofit management, organizational leadership, climate policy, higher education leadership, and community development.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Citizens' Climate Lobby
- Sigma Pi Fraternity International
- Prince Hall Freemasonry
- Global Mental Health Task Force
- Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- Arkansas Head Start Association
- University of Maryland School of Public Policy Graduate Leadership Engagement