

## **DEREK LEWIS II PHILANTHROPY BIO ~ MARCH 2024**

Derek Lewis II is the president of the Derek Lewis Foundation (DLF) whose mission is to improve community health by addressing health disparities and collaborating with healthcare thought leaders to improve health equity in the state of Arkansas. The foundation was created by his father Dr. Derek Lewis in 1993. Since its inception, the DLF has provided a wide range of projects and events to cater to communities across Little Rock, such as anti-obesity programs, annual Health and Wellness Expo, and Bikes for Kids.

In 2018, Derek convened with a group of Black philanthropic leaders to discuss how to build a network for Black Philanthropy in Arkansas. This discussion framed and paved the way for the creation of the Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative (ABPC), formalized in 2020 through the DLF, to partner with Black philanthropy professionals to connect Black-led organizations with resources to transform social and economic outcomes for Black communities across the state. Since its creation, ABPC has launched the Give Black Arkansas Fund and has partnered with the Arkansas Community Foundation to create the Building Black Communities Fund; ABPC has also held various educational and networking events to unite Black professionals, leaders and communities.

Derek is an alumnus of the University of Central Arkansas where he obtained his BA in Finance; he earned his MBA from the University of Phoenix.

### **Other Affiliations:**

- Founder and President, DL2 Consulting
- Board Member, Arkansas Coalition of Obesity Prevention
- Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Derek is the proud husband of Karen and the humble father of three beautiful children: Derek III, Karis and Kyra. His hobbies are reading, traveling and cooking.