



Patrick C. Graham, Ph.D. Bio

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Dr. Patrick Graham is a public and social sector leader and justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) practitioner. He has over 20 years of executive-level and policy development experience. Dr. Graham currently serves as the CEO of WeBuild Concord, the affordable housing and resource organization for the City of Concord, North Carolina. He is the former president and CEO of Martin Luther King Center (Long Island), an Urban League affiliate for the Central Carolinas, Charlotte-Mecklenburg's workforce development board, and Senior Policy Advisor for wealth building with the City of Richmond. Dr. Graham is also widely used as a consultant for collaborative systems and strategic plans based on JEDI principles. His experience includes leading regional organizations and serving on national social sector and workforce boards.

As an equity practitioner, Dr. Graham led initiatives to empower families and individuals with employment, education, and housing stability. He is best known for leading the creation of Metro Richmond's (Virginia) eviction prevention model for five counties, a bank that provided over \$6.7 million in loans for small businesses and homeownership. Other efforts include the Careers4All model for workforce development and the Opportunity movement in the Charlotte region. Dr. Graham coined the term "At-opportunity, not at-risk" to redefine how we view talent development and the structures that lead to our nation's global competitiveness. This included work on sentencing reform and the victims of false accusations. His broad interests led to the creation of combined regional housing and talent development efforts connected with economic growth and developing return on investment strategies for the public and social sectors. These efforts are also replicated in many of his academic pursuits.

Dr. Graham's devotion to professional advocacy and curiosity as an academic has led him to chair several policy committees and campaigns and write private and public policy agendas for academic publications and community initiatives. Dr. Graham has also published several scholarly essays on civil rights history and migration. He has worked with departments and faculties at several colleges and universities, such as the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, University of Richmond, Virginia Commonwealth University, Wake Forest University, and others.

Dr. Graham is a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University (B.S. Marketing), University of Wisconsin-Madison (M.A. African American Studies: Ethnicity, Media and Policy), and Stony Brook University (Ph.D. American History). He is a proud father and an outdoor enthusiast.

