

## **Executive Director James O'Neal Prepares to Pass** the Leadership Baton . . .



## YEAR END

## NEWSLETTER & APPEAL

**Legal Outreach Announces** 



LO Board Chair



Board Chair Executive Director. Tamika has devoted her professional career to advancing

Raising the Bar.

## Two thousand twenty-three will usher in a significant milestone for Legal Outreach. We will celebrate our

**Forthcoming Change in Leadership** 

40th year of educating and empowering youth from underserved communities as well as the transition of our founding Executive Director, James O'Neal. James has announced his intention to step down as Executive Director in August of 2023 after 40 years of service. His vision and direction of Legal Outreach have created one of the most successful college prep and pipeline diversity programs nationwide. James' knowledge and insight are a resource the organization can continue to rely on as he steps into the new role of Senior Advisor on September 1, 2023. Although James will be missed, Legal Outreach is excited to welcome Tamika Edwards, our current

the vision and mission of Legal Outreach. She has served the organization as a leader, creative legal mind, innovator, and advocate. Tamika's vision for the future of Legal Outreach will well-position the organization to continue

Managing Director of Program Operations, as our next

To honor James, LO's Board of Directors and Advisory Board have decided to establish a Fellowship, similar to the one that enabled him to start Legal Outreach four decades ago upon graduating from Harvard Law School. The James B. O'Neal Legacy Fellowship (JBOLF) will be awarded annually to an LO alumnus or dedicated non-profit professional pursuing the development of a new or enhancement of an existing program that expands the impact of

As you think about your Year-End giving and those organizations

most deserving of your support, please consider making

Legal Outreach and pipeline diversity in New York.

meaningful donation to the James B. O'Neal Legacy Fellowship. There is no better investment than in the lives of children. James' dedication and commitment to the lives of children are felt throughout every borough, school, college, and university he's touched. The power of his legacy is formidable. Your donations will vision, the acknowledge his recognize extraordinary accomplishments under his leadership, and honor his 40 years of dedicated service to advancing Legal Outreach's mission. Please join us in continuing his legacy of excellence by helping us to raise \$100,000.00 to support the

**Donate Now** Make a Pledge

annual James B. O'Neal Legacy Fellowship.



WHO KNEW? These two words

certainly apply to my journey. Who

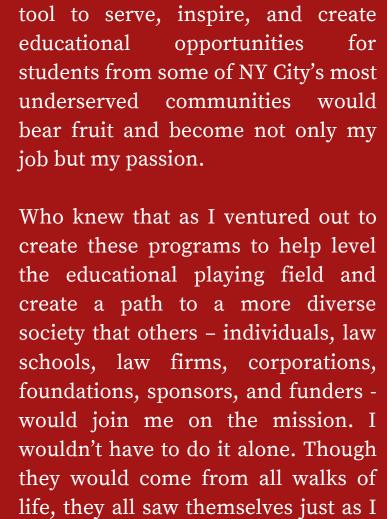
knew that when I started this journey

of faith in 1982 upon graduating from

law school that the journey would

last 40 years. Who knew that my

prayers and efforts to use the law as a



saw myself - as public servants working for a more just equitable society. Who knew that I would be joined on the journey by extraordinary staff members, one of whom would climb the ranks and position herself to become the next Executive Director. Though there were many things I didn't know along the way, the one thing that I do know is that Tamika Edwards, our current Managing Director of Program Operations, is the right person to succeed me. She is ready, willing, and able to take this organization to new heights as she assumes the position of Executive Director in September of 2023.



as its next Executive Director. Several

mottos have been associated with

Legal Outreach, including "Raising

the Bar" and "No Excuses." I want my

characterized by one more saying:

a

lengthy

be

to

tenure

"Claim your Stake." When I encountered James in 1999 and was introduced to the Legal Outreach students and programs, I I would knew be making worthwhile career investment. Having planted my feet within an organization that espouses my beliefs and promotes my personal values gratifying, but has been Legal Outreach has afforded me even

more. I have had the rewarding

opportunity to work directly with students and their families, plan and programs, and build execute relationships with like-missioned individuals, firms, and corporations. For more than two decades, I have watched students develop skills, actualize instilled vision, and change their lives. The "LO difference" remains evident as I work with students and encounter current alumni who are thriving in college and leading in spaces across various professional industries. Witnessing this transformation of lives via education, the "great equalizer" leads me to affirm Jonathan Kozol's claim in Savage Inequalities that "all our children ought to be allowed a stake richness the enormous America." Undoubtedly, there are more students and families to be reached;

more diverse talent to be cultivated; and more stakes within academia and professional sectors to claimed. I'm committed to the charge and invite you to join by becoming a program partner/sponsor and/or contributor to the James B. O'Neal Legacy Fellowship. Together, we will change the futures of students by having them claim their stake.

To support Legal Outreach's new Fellowship Fund to honor our Founder and Executive Director, James B. O'Neal:

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Make a Pledge Donate Now