



GRACE & MERCY

CENTER OF HOPE

Crystal L. Jackson is a dynamic engineer, entrepreneur, and transformative consultant/coach known for her powerful story of resilience and her impact across aerospace technology and leadership development. Despite a childhood marked by instability and her mother's struggle with bipolar disorder, Crystal became a teen mother at 15—and chose to rewrite the narrative. She beat the odds by graduating high school with honors, earning a B.S. in Computer Engineering with a minor in Mathematics, and later completing an M.S. in Systems Engineering.

Crystal built a distinguished career in aerospace, thriving in an industry where African American women represent only 1% of the workforce. She has served as Chief of Staff of a \$6B aerospace company, Director of F-15 Radar Development, and recipient of numerous honors including Raytheon's **Dr. King's Keeper of the Dream** award and the **BEYA Modern Day Technology Leadership Award**.

As founder of **The No Quit Zone** and **#READY**, she teaches her signature P.O.W.E.R. formula—helping students, professionals, and entrepreneurs create their blueprint for success. Crystal continues to lead her companies and inspire others to rise above circumstances and build lives of purpose, confidence, and impact.

Ashley Jackson is a dynamic and entrepreneurial operations leader with 10+ years of experience driving strategic initiatives, improving processes, and leading high-performing teams across logistics, aerospace, and healthcare. Known for her ability to turn organizational goals into actionable systems, she consistently delivers operational excellence through structure, accountability, and collaboration.

As Chief Operating Officer of **CLJackson Logistics (Amazon DSP)**, Ashley partnered with the CEO and Amazon leadership to oversee strategic planning and daily operations for a 50+ member team. She managed a \$2.8M annual budget, implemented company-wide SOPs, improved compliance and safety, and achieved a 20% profit margin within the first year, establishing the business as a leading performer within the Amazon network.

Before joining CLJackson Logistics, Ashley served as an Operations Program Manager at **Raytheon Technologies**, coordinating engineering, manufacturing, and finance on F-16 and F-35 aerospace programs to ensure on-time, on-budget project delivery. Her earlier roles at **McKesson** and **Otis Elevator Company** further refined her skills in client relationship management, sales operations, and strategic account leadership.

Ashley holds an MBA in Entrepreneurship and a BBA in Marketing. A former Division I soccer

player and honor society scholar, she brings the discipline of an athlete and the strategic vision of an executive to every team she leads.

Alexis A. Wells is a dynamic communications professional, creative strategist, and proud HBCU alumna committed to elevating culture, community, and meaningful connection. Originally from Chicago and raised on a farm in Missouri, she brings a grounded work ethic paired with a bold, innovative voice to every space she enters. Alexis earned her Bachelor's in Mass Communication from Lincoln University and her Master's in Organizational Communication from Bowie State University.

She currently works with **Fidelity Investments**, where she continues to strengthen her communication, client experience, and relationship-building expertise. Highly regarded for her leadership and service, Alexis serves as **National Secretary for the 1866 Alumni Association** and remains actively involved in **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**

Whether she's leading alumni initiatives, supporting her community, or championing cultural excellence, Alexis shows up with purpose, passion, and authenticity—carving a path that reflects the fullness of who she is and the impact she intends to make.

Andrea Jackson is a seasoned leader in training, development, and operations management, bringing more than 20 years of experience in building high-impact teams, improving performance, and delivering exceptional customer experiences. After a successful corporate career, she transitioned her passion for people development into the nonprofit sector and now serves as **Director of Training & Development** for the **Grace and Mercy Center of Hope**, where she also serves on the Board of Directors.

Before joining Grace and Mercy, Andrea excelled as a Unit Manager at **ADT, LLC**, overseeing 500+ employees in a 24-hour contact center environment. She led multiple teams, mentored emerging leaders, strengthened operational processes, and introduced innovative training programs that improved engagement, quality, and accountability.

Earlier in her career, she held key leadership roles at **Brink's Home Security** and **Excel Communications**, designing and facilitating national and international training programs focused on customer service excellence, leadership development, and employee retention.

Andrea earned her Bachelor's Degree in Broadcast Journalism from Lincoln University of Missouri and holds a Lean Six Sigma DMAIC Green Belt. Recognized with numerous awards for leadership and performance, she brings a passion for mentorship, empowerment, and community growth. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling, painting, live music, football, and culinary exploration.

Francescah Smith is a seasoned technology consultant, application developer, and digital strategist with more than 25 years of experience transforming organizations through IT governance, learning technologies, and intelligent automation. She is the founder of **Smithedge Media LLC**, where she provides solutions in Cybersecurity Awareness Training, Ethical AI, Workflow Automation, and Digital Design.

Francescah launched her career at **Cisco Systems**, managing global WebEx and TelePresence deployments that generated over \$1.4M in service-delivery revenue and strengthened enterprise communication infrastructure. She later joined **Western Governors University**, where she led multi-college content and workflow improvements that reduced project delays by 60%.

Her technical expertise spans AWS, SaaS, Blockchain, Google technologies, LLMs, and Adobe applications. She also brings instructional design experience from mentoring adult software-development students.

Francescah created **Tender Greetings**, a generative-AI greeting-card brand, and continues to advance human-centered AI through consulting and educational programs.

Jannetta Brass is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker specializing in mental health, with a strong focus on family systems and trauma. Her earlier career as a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer exposed her to the profound impact of gang violence, law enforcement encounters, domestic violence, abuse, and neglect—experiences that deeply affect families within the Black community. Coupled with her own childhood and adult trauma, these experiences ignited her passion for helping others heal through mental health support.

Jannetta began her formal journey into the field in 2012, earning her undergraduate degree in Psychology from Ottawa University, followed by a Master of Social Work from Capella University in 2019.

As an LCSW, she founded **Hidden Counseling Solution LLC**, a practice dedicated to providing parenting classes, mental health counseling, and specialized mental health training. Through her signature program, **L.E.A.D. Better**, she equips church leaders, educators, public service professionals, and law enforcement with the tools to better understand and support individuals facing trauma.

Jannetta is committed to restoring hope, strengthening families, and fostering healing in the communities she serves.

Tameika Culler Morris is a Missouri native and proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She is a 1998 graduate of Lincoln University in Jefferson City, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She later completed her Master's degree in Public Administration at Southeast Missouri State University in 2007.

Tameika began her career at Southeast in the Office of Pre-collegiate Programs, serving first as a School Coordinator and later as an Education Advisor for at-risk students and their families. In 2012, she transitioned to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, where she supports faculty and professional staff with grants, contracts, and sponsored projects.

She is the proud mother of one son, Jeremiah Morris II.

Tameika believes in treating others the way she wishes to be treated and strives to lead by example. Her guiding goal is to leave the world better because of the work she has done.

Andrea Morehead is a consummate professional in broadcasting, known for her compassionate, sultry, and joyful delivery on television and radio. With over 30 years of experience, she has covered major events including the 2008 Inauguration of Barack Obama, the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, two Super Bowl Championships, the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, NBA Finals in Los Angeles, and NCAA March Madness finals.

Her work has earned **seven Emmy Awards** and an **Edward R. Murrow Award** for a documentary on combating the AIDS epidemic through a partnership between Indiana University Medical School and Moi University in Kenya. She is the founder of **Clover Lane Media, Inc.**, which was Emmy-nominated for the three-part documentary Indiana Trailblazers, featuring one of civil rights icon **Congressman John Lewis**' last interviews.

A sought-after public speaker and event host, she is deeply committed to philanthropy. As a triple-negative breast cancer survivor, she founded **"I'm THAT Chick Who Ain't Afraid"** and supports **Pink-4-Ever**, helping women navigate cancer through education, clinical support, and programs like The Power Trip.

She believes in manifesting goals and collaborating with people who are intentional about leaving a positive legacy. She has also appeared on Parks and Recreation in a non-speaking role.