

DONOR PROFILE: DONNA AND LARRY JAMES

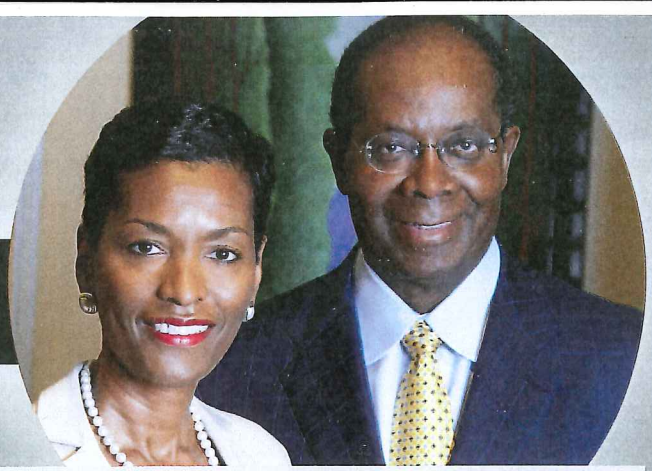


photo courtesy of Shellee Fisher Photography

To say that Donna and Larry James are two of the most generous and engaged leaders in central Ohio does not begin to tell the story of what they mean to our community. For decades they have been actively involved in identifying the most effective ways to move us forward then rolling up their sleeves and making them happen. Donna is the founder and past chair of the Center for Healthy Families, a nonprofit focused on transforming the lives of pregnant and parenting teens and their children. Larry spearheaded the effort to restore the Lincoln Theater, which became an important anchor for the Near East Side neighborhood that is now experiencing revitalization. Those are just two key accomplishments in a long and varied list.

Their professional accomplishments are just as impressive. Larry is a partner at Crabbe, Brown & James LLP and one of the most prominent attorneys in Columbus. Donna is Managing Director at Lardon & Associates LLC and brings her decades of business expertise to her service on the boards of major corporations like L Brands Inc.

One constant throughout their years of service has been generous support and leadership of United Way. The Jameses were part of the small group of local African American leaders who became charter members of Key Club, which soon grew into one of the premier African American giving groups in the country. Key Club just celebrated 20 years of investing in United Way's mission of fighting poverty – raising a total of more than \$16 million. Larry has said of Key Club, "It has no competition – there is not another comparable organization in the country."

The Jameses were also instrumental in helping Key Club take on the mission of preparing the next

generation of black leaders by partnering with The Academy for Leadership and Governance to form The African American Leadership Academy. The academy is designed to expand the number of African American leaders in central Ohio who excel in their professions and engage in community service. Donna serves as the Executive Director of the academy.

In addition to their membership in Key Club, Larry and Donna are members of The Alexis de Tocqueville Society, a giving group of United Way's most generous donors. This year they are serving as co-chairs of the giving group.

Donna sums up the couple's perspective: "We have been supporting the work of United Way for so many years because we know that our investments and service are helping effectively fight poverty and make lives better. It's that simple."

To learn more about The Tocqueville Society contact Betsy McCabe – betsy.mccabe@uwcentralohio.org 614.227.2734.

HOOP DREAMS

Clark Kellogg made his name on the basketball court at The Ohio State University, with the NBA, and as a television analyst. Now he is bringing his star power to bear as the Honorary Campaign Chair for United Way of Central Ohio. Clark, who lives in Westerville, will be deeply involved throughout the campaign year helping to mobilize support for United Way's work to fight poverty in our community. Stay tuned for more details on his appearances. Welcome to the United Way family, Clark!

