

# JAHKEEN I. HOKE

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Jahkeem Hoke is the Chief Executive Officer of the Business for Good Foundation, Co-Founder & Chief Development Officer of 4th Family, and Co-Founder & Board Member of the Upstate NY Black Chamber of Commerce. He is also an Owner/Partner of other businesses, a Business Consultant to many start-ups and small businesses, and a Board Member to other community and municipal organizations. Mr. Hoke spends most of his time overseeing the daily business activities and the long-term strategy of the various organizations in conjunction with teaching entrepreneurship and onboarding new programs and strategic partners to these organizations.

An Albany, New York native, he grew up in the South End with his sister and single Mom spending much of his time at his grandparents' house. Mr. Hoke comes from a family with deep American patriotism and Capital

Region of New York History. He is the grandson of one of the first Black NY State Troopers and descendant of many Law Enforcement, Military, Business Owners, and documented slaves. Most notably, his 4th Great Grandfather Chester "Bromley" Hoke was a Civil War Veteran of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) who served as a Private in the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment from 1863-1865, along with participating in the Underground Railroad in Upstate New York.

While growing up, Jahkeem overcame an environment riddled with drugs, crime, gangs, teenage pregnancy, and domestic abuse through strong Male role models and the platform of sports. He stayed active in bowling, baseball, basketball, and football. Jahkeem also participated in activities and programs through school and the YMCA and various Teen Centers, all places and programs that no longer exist or operate in the same capacity.

Mr. Hoke graduated from Albany High School and went on to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA. where he learned to understand and appreciate the importance of giving back and being involved in the community. Throughout his matriculation, Jahkeem led numerous social engagement projects, tutored and mentored youth in the Atlanta area, and worked a full-time job to pay for housing and tuition. While at Morehouse, Mr. Hoke had the opportunity to develop the vision and business strategy for 4th Family Incorporated through a Social Entrepreneurship Course. Jahkeem graduated Cum Laude from Morehouse in 2011 and returned to Albany to spread his newfound knowledge of community and responsibility in his hometown. Before returning to Albany, he reconnected with his grade-school classmate and friend John Scott. Together, Jahkeem and John worked tirelessly to make 4th Family become a reality.

In addition to his commitment to community, his professional career includes positions working for private and public entities, which includes General Electric: Global Research, Key Bank, AT&T, the City of Albany, AVillage Inc., and consultant to a variety of start-up companies. Mr. Hoke has also contributed much effort to the community by serving on many Non-Profit and Municipal Boards, including The City of Albany Human Rights Committee, The City of Albany Industrial Development Agency & Capital Resource Corporation (IDA/CRC), Albany Symphony, and the City of Albany COVID Rebuild Taskforce, to name a few.

Mr. Hoke is passionately committed to making a difference in his community and communities throughout the nation. His combination of savvy business & political awareness, family history, and real-life experiences make him the perfect candidate to help lead the way.