



Dr. Mary Lee is a native of the State of Michigan. She has lived in California, Indiana, Alabama, Virginia, and Washington DC. She has provided business services throughout the USA. The firstborn to McKinley and Annie Lee Poole in Benton Harbor, Michigan, and is now the Matriarch of The Poole Family. The daughter of a truck driver who never had the opportunity to acquire an education beyond the age of 6, (first grade) because of the demand on him to start "plow with mules" (in his voice) from plantation to plantation after the death of his parents. Her mother actually attended school through the 12th grade in the Mississippi, but never graduated, and she didn't understand why until in her later years that it was because of racism and Jim MaryCrow laws. Blacks were not allowed to

graduate. Both parents bred a happy family of 10 children and only wanted their lives to be more than their own. Namely, "get your schooling". They valued education for their children seemingly more than life itself; particularly, Mr. Poole. He provided for his family by any means necessary so that his children would experience the best education possible within his means. And his means were enough for Mary Lee to attain doctorate level in education (EdS/PhD cd). In addition, Mary Lee has received a Master of Divinity and is an ordained Pastor by the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World. Mary's Dad was always her strongest ally and influence in education as she pursued learning all her life through the day of this writing. www.linkedin.com/in/mary-lee-washington-23835711/

Dr. Lee's passion is entrepreneurship for herself and every person in the world! She lives to change the lives of youth, the disabled, Blacks, and all under-served, under-resourced communities. As a skilled successful business development consultant for more than 40 plus years in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors, she endeavors to align herself with progressive community-based services poised for strong growth and expansion. With an outstanding background in working with talented professional teams, meeting aggressive

revenue targets, and delivering first-class solutions, she helps programs meet funding and capital challenges. www.neighborhoodcommerceinstitute.com

Capitalizing on her success with non-profits as a philanthropic strategist and entrepreneur, she helps those seeking funding opportunities to leverage surrounding human skills and talents to qualify for grants, loans, and capital investors. Her exceptional planning, organizing, fund-winning record, and proven account management skills are beyond exceptional. More of a WIN WIN WIN consistently from one vision to another.

For many years she has been successfully planning, developing, and building businesses, grant/proposal writing departments, and management teams from ground zero, resulting in winning proposals in the \$10's millions, and thriving businesses. She is a skilled communicator, instructor, and project leader. Dr. Lee is the proud mother of two: son, Orlando (attorney) and daughter, Cheri' (engineer); four (4) grandchildren; and two (2) great-grandchildren.

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