

## Jared Keaton Chief Operating Officer

Jared Keaton started his career at Alliance Center of Education in 1998, as a member of the Center's Accounting Team. Being recognized as a mission-first leader, Jared was quickly promoted and has led the organization through several growth cycles as Controller, and Assistant Executive Director. Today, as Chief Operating Officer, Jared manages the organization's day-to-day program and services operations and safeguards the organization's mission by ensuring program development and staff training is based on the most up-to-date, successful teaching strategies.

Under his direction, all nine of organization's Early Childhood Education centers hold a 5-Star Childcare Center License from the State of North Carolina, which is just one reason why AC4Ed has become Charlotte's preferred provider of Early Childhood Education services.

Jared has also refined year-round services provided for Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to promote student success in school. Organizational data collected over the last five years demonstrates that 96% of students enrolled these high-quality Out of School Time programs at Alliance Center for Education graduate from high school ontime and are prepared for their choice of college or career. This Out of School Time program has been particularly successful in keeping students engaged in distance-learning during the COVID-19 mandated closure of Charlotte Mecklenburg schools.

In addition to overseeing the day-to-day operations, Jared has successfully communicated with program funders and partners how the Center's focus on education will improve the future economic mobility of children. In response to this message, the Center's program funders and partners continue to support growth and expansion of program offerings, number of children served, and geographic reach of Alliance Center for Education.

Prior to joining Alliance Center of Education, Jared worked as a Trust Accountant at Wachovia Bank.

Jared holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Business Management from Winston-Salem State University.

Learn more and connect with Mr. Keaton on his LinkedIn page.

## **About Alliance Center for Education**

Alliance Center for Education, formerly Bethlehem Center of Charlotte, has been improving economic mobility for thousands of Mecklenburg County children since 1940. AC4Ed's mission is to provide high-quality education and support for children in need through partnership with their families. With its 5-star licensed Early Childhood centers serving children from birth through age five, and its Out of School Time programming for kindergarten through 12th grade, AC4Ed serves more than 800 families daily. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.AC4Ed.org">www.AC4Ed.org</a>.