## LEADERS OF COLOR MEMPHIS ANNOUNCES 2023 FELLOWS

## 21 selected to take part in year-long leadership development fellowship

**MEMPHIS, TN-** Leaders of Color, Memphis, <u>an organization focused</u> on identifying, training and elevating Black and Brown leaders in Memphis, announced the members of the 2023 fellowship cohort. Leaders of Color works to improve education outcomes for Black and brown children through this leadership development work.

The 23 fellows were named after a selective process that began last year. The 2023 fellows will participate in the year-long leadership development program.

The 2023 Leaders of Color, Memphis fellows include:

- Audrey Elion
- Lenell Burton
- Constance Brown
- Jervonte Richardson
- Margaret Cowan
- Keisha Scott
- Joshua Adams
- Andrea Jacobo
- Amber Sherman
- Geno Brown
- Damon Morris
- LJ Abraham
- Francisco Alvarez
- German Gonzalez
- Daniela Hernandez
- Arturo Colunga
- Sandra Pita
- Sylvia Martinez
- Angshylea Jones
- Lindsay Nicole Porter
- Lucero Amador
- Rachael Spriggs
- Toni Hayes

Mike Bland, Leaders of Color Vice President, welcomed the new fellows to the Leaders of Color family.

"We are thrilled to support yet another dynamic and inspiring group of local leaders this year in Memphis," Bland said. "Each fellow brings something powerful and unique to their communities and to leadership within them. Over the coming year, it is our goal to provide these community leaders with the skills, knowledge, and tools that they need to make a positive impact on their local public schools, their local communities, and well beyond."

A virtual kick-off was held on February 28. United States Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey <u>greeted the Leaders of Color staff and fellows</u>. The virtual kick-off focused on the importance of civil rights, education, and the need to support Black and Latino candidates, campaign operatives, and becoming change agents in their communities.

Leaders of Color, Memphis was launched in 2023 with a cohort of 15 community leaders. Two current Memphis-Shelby County school Board and 4 County Commissioners are Leaders of Color alumnae.

Leaders of Color currently has over 80 program alumni impacting both political and civic space. Some 75 percent are in community leadership positions and 20 percent are engaged politically, either running for political office themselves or serving on a campaign.

To learn more about Leaders of Color, to interview one of the fellows or speak with Mike Bland, please contact Brendan Williams-Kief at <a href="http://www.bwk@georgetownpa.com">bwk@georgetownpa.com</a> or 202-905-6284.