

## PANEL DISCUSSION PARTICIPANTS



**Dr. Michelle Campbell**

*Executive Director, LeBron James Family Foundation*

Dr. Michele Campbell has spent many years pursuing her passion in the education sector. The Akron native attained her education from Ohio institutions including a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Ashland University, a Master's degree from Kent State University's Higher Education Administration, and a Doctorate from the University of Akron as a Doctor of Education.

As the executive director of the LeBron James Family Foundation, Dr. Campbell is able to implement her decades of experience in higher education into thoughtful, family-focused initiatives that connect with the inner-city students and families that need it most. Through the Foundation, which aims to positively affect the lives of children and young adults through educational initiatives, Dr. Campbell brings LeBron's vision to create positive and lasting change in his hometown to life through daily and long term interventions rooted in research and driven by passion. Under Dr. Campbell's direction, in 2011 the LeBron James Family Foundation began working on the high school dropout crisis facing the Akron community and launched its core I PROMISE program in partnership with Akron Public Schools. This deep-rooted initiative targets the district's lowest performing students and provides them with the programs, support and mentors they need for success in school, following them all the way through graduation.

Dr. Campbell's guidance has helped grow this thoughtful and powerful program to more than 1,600 students that has culminated in the opening of the I PROMISE School, a groundbreaking public school that takes an innovative approach to educating the whole child and their entire family: the I PROMISE Village that serves as transitional housing, the upcoming I PROMISE Housing that will be 50 units of affordable housing, and House Three Thirty, an innovative center focused on providing job training, financial health, and family programming for the entire community.