

Mr. Jared Keaton Assistant Executive Director Bethlehem Center of Charlotte

Mr. Jared Keaton was born and raised in Lenoir, NC where he lived with his parents and a large extended family that included his grandmother and a host of aunts and uncles. Jared was an outstanding student and a standout football player, and he chose to take his talents to Winston Salem State University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. While at WSSU, the all-conference offensive tackle and team captain continued to excel as a student athlete, and he consistently made the Dean's List. Mr. Keaton is a proud graduate of the Reynolds School of Business.

Jared joined the team at the Bethlehem Center in 1998 as a member of the accounting team, and his impact was felt immediately. In only four years, Jared rose through the ranks to become the organization's Controller in 2002. His duties here included the financial oversight of a multi-million dollar budget, as well as the human resources administration of over 200 employees. Mr. Keaton's strong organizational skills and leadership prowess made such a positive impact on the Bethlehem Center that, after just three years, he was named to his current role of Assistant Executive Director, a position which he has held since 2007. Later that same year, Jared also became the organization's Head Start Director and took over daily operations of nine Bethlehem Center locations and the nearly eight hundred students these locations serve. He continues to positively influence the entire organization and the future of the Bethlehem Center is very bright thanks to Jared's ongoing efforts.

Charlotte is honored to call Jared Keaton one of its residents. He and Brooke, his wife and college sweetheart, raise their young daughter within the city's limits. When Jared isn't working or spending time with his family, you are likely to see him out in the community serving in one of the many causes he holds dear, including Boy Scouts of America and the Mayor's Mentoring Alliance, just to name two. He is also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for several organizations, including Smart Start of Mecklenburg County and the North Carolina Head Start Association. Jared's career and community involvement are focused on doing all he can to help ensure that as many kids as possible will have the opportunity for a better start in life. He is an inspiration to us all and there is no doubt his efforts will result in a future that is brighter and more hopeful for us all.

For those wanting to speak with Jared, he may be reached by phone at 704-375-1417 or by email at jkeaton@bethlehemcenter.org.