

Keith Neal Bio

Brother Keith J. Neal is a community activist, youth advocate, mentor, motivational speaker and poet, as well as a basketball coach, referee and athletic trainer who values enriching Columbus, Ohio, neighborhoods through dedicated community services particularly to under-served families. Brother K. Neal is a well-regarded community role model with 38 years of service at J. Ashburn, Jr. Youth Center, beginning as a janitor and retiring as the Executive Director. While employed at the center, Keith instituted the Great Expectation Program as a model of excellence in character building, educational growth, sports activities, healthy nutrition and creativity outlets. Mr. Neal has hosted countless basketball tournaments for raw and professional athletes. In fact, in 2019 he was elected as an inductee Player of the Hall of Fame Greater Columbus Basketball Legends Association (GCBLA). In recent, Brother Neal has been involved with various speaking engagements including elementary and high school Black History Month showcases. He is active in community leadership solutions in combating youth violence and is an advocate of a local youth chess academy.