

United Way  
of Central Ohio

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## **Dawn Tyler Lee**

In October, Dawn Tyler Lee was named the Senior Vice President for Community Impact at the United Way of Central Ohio. She leads the organization's work in the impact areas of education, income, health and home and will also oversee diversity and inclusion, public policy and data and accountability. Prior to joining United Way, Dawn enjoyed an 8-year career at The Ohio State University as an Assistant Vice President leading the University's \$10 million community reinvestment commitment on the near east side of Columbus. This transformational effort named PACT – Partners Achieving Community Transformation – is an historic partnership involving The Ohio State University, the City of Columbus, and the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority. Under Tyler Lee's leadership, these three institutions committed to working with stakeholders to create a healthy, financially and environmentally sustainable community where residents have access to safe and affordable housing, quality healthcare, education and employment opportunities on Columbus' near east side. The focus of this work is in five core areas: (1) Jobs and Economic Impact; (2) Vibrant, Safe and Accessible Neighborhoods; (3) Health and Wellness; (4) Education; and (5) Housing.

Tyler Lee has also served in the Office of Outreach and Engagement and the Office of Government Affairs, both at Ohio State. In these roles, she interacted daily with local elected and appointed officials, their staff and community leaders to establish relationships, share information and facilitate community and university partnerships. She also served as a point of contact for university faculty, staff and students who were seeking information or assistance with local government matters and community issues.

Other employment experiences include: Board Liaison for the Columbus Board of Education, Legislative Aide to Columbus City Council Member Charleta Tavares and Housing Policy Director for the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio.

Dawn is a graduate of the African-American Leadership Academy, United Way Project Diversity and a past recipient of the *Business First* 40 Under 40 Award. She has been featured in the last four editions of the publication, *Who's Who in Black Columbus* and in 2007, Columbus Monthly featured her as one of Columbus' "bridge-builders." In 2008, she was named one of 11 *People to Watch* by Columbus Alive! newspaper and in 2010, she was named one of 12 "Women You Should Know" by Women and Economic Leadership



Development and featured in their annual calendar. In 2010, she was presented with the *Leadership Award* by The Ray Miller Institute for Change and Leadership, and this fall, the YWCA named her as a *Woman of Achievement*. She will be awarded this distinction in April 2013.

Dawn is chair of the Central Ohio Transit Authority Board, a member of the Columbus School for Girls Boards of Trustees and a member of the board of ROX – Ruling our Experiences - an organization committed to the leadership development of adolescent girls.

Tyler Lee previously served as a consultant to the YWCA of Columbus and is responsible for the design and implementation of the Generation Y Leadership Project, a personal and professional development program for young women in their 20's. She also helped shape and facilitate the inaugural class of the JPMorgan Chase Leadership Academy in partnership with The Ohio State University, a leadership development program for college-aged women. Through these efforts, Dawn has recruited, coached and mentored over 50 young women.

A member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, The Columbus Chapter of the Links Incorporated and Faith Ministries Church, Dawn has mentored at the Columbus City Preparatory School for Girls and Champion Middle School. She is passionate about the leadership development of young women.

Tyler Lee received a master's degree in Urban Affairs and Public Policy from the University of Delaware and a bachelor's degree in political science from Hampton University. She resides in Berwick with her husband, Robert and her dog, Bert.