

My name is James Jackson

I am a native Washingtonian who has a heart for helping DC students and my community; despite my son James's tragic loss. I raised James, a 2009 salutatorian from Johnson middle school, in one of the worst regarded neighborhoods in our nation's capital. In June of 2009, I lost James to a car accident as he stood in front of the United Black Fund building. I would later learn the building was also home to Total Sunshine, Inc. (TSI) office in Ward 8 DC. TSI got in contact with me for the occasion of their first 1st Annual School Grade Rewards Ceremony to reward James for his tenacity in academics. Yet, Lil' James (my son) had passed, just a month earlier. I later became a TSI supporter, volunteer, and I am currently a Director/Board Member. To me, the mission of TSI embodies the essence of who Lil' James was, as "he always had a smile to give and a helping hand." I have tirelessly supported students, senior citizens, and low-income families through business partnership facilitation, providing donations, providing computers and repairs, providing printing services for Ward 8 students, and many other charitable activities. I have an AA in small business management from ICS and was also honored for outstanding community service in June 2012 by DC Mayor Vincent Gray with a proclamation for my community service and TSI support. I consistently demonstrate my belief in supporting students in the community through Total Sunshine, Inc. Their mission is to bring smiles to every organization.