

## **Marcus F. Walton** **Director of Programs**

**Marcus F. Walton** is the Director of Programs for ABFE and is responsible for the overall conceptualization and administration of programming, which compiles and disseminates data regarding persistent and emerging issues relevant to the field of philanthropy; convenes key philanthropic leaders to address issues that particularly impact black communities; provides support networks for foundation staff of color; and offers resources to support and develop young people of color working in philanthropy.

Prior to ABFE, Marcus combined his technical experience and passion for public service to work as Program Officer of Community Responsive Grantmaking with the Cleveland Foundation and Sr. Program Officer with Neighborhood Progress, Inc., where he administered grantmaking portfolios in excess of \$10M in support of the empowerment of individuals and families residing throughout his native city of Cleveland and the Northeast Ohio region. Prior to his return to Ohio, Marcus oversaw the administration and implementation of two programs in the Bronx, NY via Highbridge Community Life Center - first as Lead Organizer of The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation's Neighborhood Partnership Initiative, then as Program Director of the Bridge Builders Program, in partnership with the NYC Administration of Children and Family Services

Having lived and worked in several cities across the nation (Miami, St. Louis, Austin, Atlanta, Cleveland, New York City), Marcus's career has included the practice of multiple sociologically-based disciplines such as comprehensive community planning, community building, community organizing, and community/real estate development; each with the end goal of empowering individuals to act collectively as communities.

A long-time student of history & politics, sociology, and human transformation, Marcus is a Newfield Network – trained ontological coach, which serves as an ideal vehicle to further realize his personal empowerment objectives.

Marcus and his wife, Kelley, and their four year old son, Coleman, returned to New York City in 2007. His wife is a marketing manager with Heineken USA.