

The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce has implemented three goals in our new strategic plan. Two of our goals are to attract and serve a diverse group of members from all industries representing businesses in Greater Bethesda and to grow awareness of the Chamber among both members and the public.

Living up to these principles, we invite you to celebrate Black History Month with us through our third annual member spotlight series. This special feature helps our communities learn more about some of its leaders and their impacts they make every day.

Today, we would like you to get to know **Maurice Gadsden, Business Services Consultant of WorkSource Montgomery Inc.**

Maurice Gadsden is a Business Service Consultant for WorkSource Montgomery. He has a passion to help provide valuable resources to local businesses including grants and job placement. Maurice came from the low-income housing consulting world to join the WorkSource Montgomery team. He is also a part time real estate agent which helps him understand the importance of workforce development and the opportunity of homeownership. Maurice's goal as Business Service Consultant is to help find innovative ways to hire and retain great talent in the business community. He also wants to see Montgomery County residents reach their career goals.

We asked Maurice three questions surrounding leadership and goals. Read his responses below.

1. **As you look back over your life, at what point did you begin to think of yourself as a leader?**

In high school I was in band and part of a step team. I recognized that my words of positivity had an influence on my peers. I was in leadership but any request I made was something I was willing to do myself. That type of leadership style gained respect for me amongst my peers. I learned that leadership is not about the title but helping the team achieve a goal.

2. **Do you have a vision that guides your body of work? If so, has it changed over time or remain the same?**

My faith is a huge part of my vision. When the kingdom wins, we win. Growing up in church my father instilled service and helping those with less. That has remained the same now as a father and husband.

3. **Does the work you do now play a part in the legacy you wish to leave behind? If not, describe what tools you need to help you achieve your goals.**

Yes. I have worked in corporate America and did case management for low-income families. Both have allowed me to serve and that's the legacy I want to leave behind. I want people to remember how self-less I am and how much I gave to others. One of the ways to build generational wealth is through homeownership. You need income to qualify for a loan and workforce development is key to finding a career that can provide that income.

Visit www.worksourcemontgomery.com to connect with Maurice and WorkSource Montgomery Inc.