

## *Albert Lewis, Jr. Biography*

Dr. Albert Lewis, Jr., is a transformative higher education leader whose "Students First" philosophy is rooted in personal experience. A first-generation college student whose father completed only the third grade, he carries an unwavering conviction in education's life-changing power.

Dr. Lewis holds a doctorate in Education from Gwynedd Mercy University, an M.S. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Grand Canyon University, an M.Ed. in Education Administration from the University of Akron, and a B.A. in Speech Broadcasting from Marshall University.

As Chief of Staff and Executive Vice President at Northwest State Community College in Ohio, Dr. Lewis managed multimillion-dollar budgets while overseeing academic affairs, student affairs, workforce development, IT, institutional research, marketing, and grants. He led significant institutional transformation—implementing a new strategic plan, reimagining the workforce division, integrating technology across the student journey, and establishing "Inclusive Brilliance: A Framework for Belonging" to create a welcoming environment for students, staff, faculty, and community alike.

As Vice President for Economic and Workforce Development at Bellevue College in Washington, he expanded community impact through increased completions and innovative industry partnerships, culminating in Bellevue College earning Seattle Magazine's prestigious Job Creation and Workforce Development award. At Moraine Valley Community College in Illinois, serving as Dean of Corporate, Community, and Continuing Education, he secured substantial funding, grew customized training programs, and developed innovative career pathways.

With experience spanning urban, suburban, and rural communities, Dr. Lewis believes transformation happens "at the intersection of academic and workforce development." Operating with a "Can Do Spirit" and guided by the principle that "Learning is Learning," he champions a holistic approach to education—one that prioritizes the student experience, student success, collaboration, inclusive environments, and building communities where everyone can thrive.