Transform Westside Summit

ConnectCommunicateCollaborate

Sponsored by the Westside Future Fund
Friday, May 4, 2018
**WIFI: TGS Guest | Password: tgsvisitor384**

# **Agenda**

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| **7:15 AM — 7:20 AM** | Welcome | **John Ahmann**Executive DirectorWestside Future Fund |
| **7:20 AM — 7:35 AM** | Devotional | **Tavares Stephens**Co-founder, VerbalEyze |
| **7:35 AM — 8:00 AM** | Introductions & Announcements | **John Ahmann** |
| **8:00 AM — 8:50 AM**  | Featured Presentation | **Keith Parker** CEO & PresidentGoodwill of North Georgia |
| **8:50 AM — 9:00 AM****9:00 AM** | Q&AMeeting Adjourns | **All** |

# **Upcoming Summits**

May 18th

June 1st

**Speaker Bios**

**Tavares Stephens, co-founder, VerbalEyze**

Tavares Stephens is the creator of the spoken word cd, “Lend Me Your Ear;” the author of Soulfood Café, a book of poetry; and the author of Reading Revolution, a book of biographies covering important contributions made to civilization by people of African descent. He is also the writer and producer of the Ascension Project, a gospel music project that fuses praise and worship and spoken word poetry. He was also a member of Poetry Atlanta’s National Poetry Slam Team, a former Teacher of the Year, a recipient of Turner Broadcasting’s Teacher Appreciation Award, the United Methodist Church Global Board of Higher Education Ministry Rising Senior Award and the Candler School of Theology John Owen Smith Award for Preaching.

He is the co-founder of VerbalEyze, a non-profit specializing in the professional development of youth and young adult writers, and he serves as a lead animator with the ground breaking non-profit Fearless Dialogues. He will graduate with a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology at Emory University this May; and in July of 2018, he will begin serving as an Assistant Pastor at Saint James United Methodist Church in Alpharetta, Georgia.

* **Facebook:** @tavaresstephensfanpage
* **Instagram:** @tavaresstephens
* **Twitter:** @tavaresstephens
* **Website:** tavaresstephens.com

**Keith Parker, CEO and President, Goodwill of North Georgia**

Keith T. Parker is president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Goodwill of North Georgia. One of the largest nonprofit organizations in the southeast, Goodwill spans a 45-county territory, operating 60 stores, 58 donation centers and 13 career centers. Annually, Goodwill collects upwards of 2.5 million donations and serves more than 7 million shoppers. Through the revenue generated in its stores, the organization is able to connect tens of thousands of North Georgians to jobs each year. Parker took the helm at Goodwill of North Georgia in October 2017. Prior to transitioning into his leadership role at Goodwill, Parker has served as CEO of the largest transit systems in several cities, including San Antonio, Charlotte and most recently, Atlanta.

Throughout his career Parker has received numerous awards and accolades for his work as an organizational leader and transportation visionary. He won Texas CEO of the Year Awards in 2011 and 2012. He was recognized as the nation’s Outstanding Public Transportation Manager by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) in 2015. METRO Magazine named Parker as one of its 20 Most Influential People of the Decade. In 2016, Parker was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC). In November the same year, he was named one of eight Public Officials of the Year by Governing magazine. In August 2017, Parker was selected as one of Atlanta’s Most Admired CEOs by Atlanta Business Chronicle.

A native of Petersburg, Virginia, Parker was appointed to the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors by Governor Terry McAuliffe in 2016. Parker served on the board of directors for Goodwill of San Antonio and Goodwill of North Georgia. Parker holds an MBA from the University of Richmond, as well as a Master of Urban and Regional Planning and a BA in Political Science from Virginia Commonwealth University.

* **Facebook:** GoodwillofNorthGeorgia
* **Instagram:** @goodwill\_ng
* **Twitter:** @GoodwillNG
* **Website:** goodwillng.org