

WOMEN LEAD NC

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Tammy Martin,
Co-Founder & CPO
Young Black Leadership Alliance (YBLA)

Tammy Martin is the Chief Program Officer and Co-Founder of the Young Black Leadership Alliance (YBLA), a speaker, author, philanthropist, and advocate for women's initiatives. Originally from Statesville, North Carolina, Tammy holds a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy from East Carolina University and a Master's degree in Healthcare Administration from Capella University. She has also earned certifications in Nonprofit Leadership from Boston College, Career Coaching from Paradigm 360, and Nonprofit Management from Duke University.



As YBLA celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, Tammy reflects on a journey rooted in faith, purpose, and a passion for youth development. Tammy's passion for youth development took root in 2006 when she helped her husband, John Martin, establish the Young Black Men (YBM) Leadership Alliance. In 2015, inspired by God's calling, she founded the Young Black Women (YBW) Leadership Alliance. In 2017, the two organizations merged to form YBLA, an organization dedicated to developing the next generation of Black leaders.

Tammy's commitment to leadership development, community impact, and service has earned her numerous honors and recognitions. She received the Sisterhood Award from the National Council of Negro Women and a Community Impact award from the Annie T. Doe Memorial Foundation. She was also recognized as a Leading Lady and Top Donor by A Lady of Influence, Inc. Additionally, she served as a panelist at A Lady of Influence, Inc.'s *Activate Your Influence* conference and was an international featured speaker at the *You Go Girl* Conference in Belize in both 2024 and 2025, inspiring inner-city girls through messages of leadership, purpose, and possibility. In 2025, she was featured in *Career Mastered Magazine* as one of its "50 Honorees of Women in Leadership."

Most recently, Tammy and her husband, John, were recognized as Nonprofit Leaders of the Year by Charlotte Community Activists for their shared commitment to leadership development and community service. Together, they co-authored *We Build Leaders*, a book chronicling their 18-year journey of building YBLA and the faith, vision, and perseverance that have shaped its growth and impact.

At YBLA, Tammy has spearheaded initiatives that empower women and strengthen families, including Building Mothers to Lead, Aspire Sister Circle, and the *Black Mothers, Black Sons* virtual series. As a result of YBLA leaders building their fourth home in Belize, Tammy led an all-women mission trip this past summer. The women had the meaningful opportunity to help complete and furnish the home and participate in the key handover ceremony, celebrating the moment a family of six received the keys to their newly built, fully furnished home. Through these initiatives, she continues to create spaces for women to grow as leaders, build meaningful connections, and positively influence the next generation.