



Biography
Of
Edith Lee-Payne

Edith is Executive Director and Co-founder of the Lee-Lovett Foundation (LLF) a non-profit organization that educates, promotes, and encourages organ and tissue donation. The LLF was co-founded with the late James Lovett Jr., the heart recipient and in memory of her eldest son, Antoine Christopher Lee, an innocent victim of gang gun violence exchange. The LLF targets potential donors particularly in the African American community where donors are most needed. Edith's past and present affiliations include the Michigan Donor Family Advisory Committee, Michigan Donor Family Council, the President's Health and Human Services Council on Organ & Tissue Donation, Health and Human Service Workplace Partnership for Life, and the Transplant Support Network in London, England. Her advocacy for organ and tissue donation has been recognized nationally and internationally.

Edith is a freelance consultant in marketing, political and public affairs, a political strategist and community and civil rights activist. She has been an activist for social justice for more than four decades in areas of education, housing, police/community relations, public safety and civil rights. She remains vigorously involved with recently enacted legislation in Michigan that reverses democracy and the republican form of government provided for in the U.S. Constitution. This legislation also led to the Flint water crisis. In 2008, Edith learned she had a permanent place in history after discovering three photographs taken of her at the August 28, 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom are among the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration. Most notably, one of the images appears in the National Park Service Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial brochure and is in the Records of Rights permanent exhibit in the David M. Rubenstein Gallery of the National Archives Museum in Washington, D.C.

Spanning four decades Edith has been or remains affiliated with the Prince George's County Maryland Police/Community Relations, Detroit Police/Community Relations, Black Parents for Quality Education, Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), Coalition against Police Brutality, Detroit Urban League, NAACP, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Recognition for her advocacy, professional and political service include; the National Congress of Black Women, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Task Force, Inc., Detroit City Council, Detroit School Board, Oak Grove African American Church's Commission on Christian Social Relations, National Alliance of Faith and Justice, and Presidents William Jefferson Clinton and Barack H. Obama.

Edith is the 2018 Ambassador for the **"From NonViolence to No Violence"**™ Campaign of the National Alliance of Faith and Justice. This initiative seeks to have students learn about **nonviolence** while encouraging a commitment to **no violence** in a school wide effort for 50, 55, or 60 days.

Edith is a native of and currently resides in Detroit, Michigan. She received her education through the Detroit Public Schools and earned a B.P.A. in Public Affairs from Wayne State University. Edith is a member of Carter Metropolitan Christian Methodist Church in the Third Episcopal District of the Michigan-Indiana Conference. She has one adult son and eight grandchildren.