

Leslie Tyus, known for her big smile and her bigger heart, is the Democratic candidate for County Commission, District 5. She was born and raised in Augusta, Georgia, by a family that had great respect for education. After she earned her Bachelor's degree from Clark Atlanta University, she moved to Birmingham to attend UAB for a Master's degree in Public Health and another one in Counseling. Somewhere amid the enormous work of two Master's degrees, she also got married, started a family, and moved to Pelham. She and her husband now have three bright, lovely children.

While pursuing her graduate degrees, Tyus gained significant experience in the public health field. She did field research for the Birmingham Youth Information Project and UAB Healthy Passages. She was a graduate assistant with the Magic City Stroke Prevention Program, UAB Lung Health, and the UAB Smoking Cessation Project. She interned with Jefferson, Blount, St. Clair Mental Health Authority.

Since earning her Master's degree in Counseling, Leslie has worked full-time in her chosen field, providing counseling through a community mental health non-profit agency and non-profit child advocacy centers.

On top of her professional responsibilities and raising a busy family, Tyus is an active member of the Shelby County Democratic Party, where she serves as the Chair of the Public Relations/Outreach Committee. She is the organizer of frequent community service projects; her committee depends upon her consistent optimism and creative ideas to make their projects successful. She is also a member of the Shelby County NAACP, which presented her with its Community Service award at the 2023 Martin Luther King memorial service. She also belongs to the Military Order of the Purple Heart Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 425, for which she has served as Sergeant at Arms and Americanism Officer.

When asked her motivation for running for County Commission, Leslie replied, "Donald Trump." She went on to explain, "I was bewildered that he was elected president. I knew that we needed to get Democrats in office, but I didn't know there were any in Alabama, so I went looking for them. I discovered the Shelby County Democratic

Party and got active, and when a call went out for Democrats to run for office, I said yes.”

If elected to serve on the Shelby County Commission, Tyus will be aware of the needs of all county residents, such as improving waste management and road maintenance. She is also interested in keeping libraries open to all, and making sure that librarians are able to perform their duties without interference.