
**An Inclusive Economic Business Plan
for Black America:**
*A Blueprint for Wealth, Power & Economic
Dignity*

- by John Hope Bryant

| authored by

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These framework documents, combined with the white papers submitted by the 100 Founding Delegates and Dream Forward featured speakers, will be expanded and deepened by the **Emory University, Department of Economics** under the academic leadership of Professor Caroline Fohlin and Sam Cherribi and the **Clark Atlanta University School of Business** under the leadership of Dean Udoka.

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The Economic Business Plan for Black America (2025-2030): A Blueprint for Wealth, Power & Economic Dignity

The First 100 Dream Forward Meeting

Hosted By: Mayor Paul Young & John Hope Bryant (Operation HOPE)

Vision & Purpose of the Dream Forward Gathering

This gathering is **not a conference. Not a summit. Not a panel discussion.** It is a **working session—a high-stakes, high-impact roundtable** where the future of **Black wealth, business, and economic power is designed, not debated.**

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s **Poor People's Campaign was left unfinished**—but this plan **transforms his vision from a demand into a blueprint, from advocacy into execution.**

Now is the time to be bold and move forward towards achieving his vision.

- **We will not wait for permission.**
- **We will not wait for systemic change to come from the outside.**
- **We will build, invest, and own—leveraging every tool at our disposal: financial literacy, entrepreneurship, homeownership, AI, and capital access.**
- **We will move Black America from a projected \$0 net worth by 2053 to a \$3.5 trillion future—by our own hands, through intentional strategy and economic power.**

This **Meeting** is about **self-determination and dignity**—because if we don't align first, how can we build partnerships that serve us?

Goals of the Economic Business Plan (2025-2030)

1. **Homeownership Expansion**
 - a. **Target:** Increase Black homeownership from **42% to 60%** by 2030
 - b. **Strategies:** Affordable lending programs, new down payment assistance, and community land trusts
 - c. **Impact:** Build intergenerational wealth through real estate ownership

2. **Entrepreneurship & Small Business Growth**
 - a. **Target:** Double the number of Black-owned businesses and their revenues by 2030
 - b. **Strategies:** Expand Black-owned venture capital, increase procurement contracts, and establish a \$100B funding pipeline
 - c. **Impact:** Strengthen Black business ownership and job creation

3. **AI & Skilled Workforce Development**
 - a. **Target:** Train 1 million Black individuals in AI and digital skills by 2030
 - b. **Strategies:** AI Literacy Pipeline (AILP³), tech apprenticeships, and corporate AI hiring partnerships
 - c. **Impact:** Ensure Black America is positioned in the AI-driven economy

4. **Financial Literacy & Wealth Creation**
 - a. **Target:** Increase Black credit scores to an average of 700+ nationwide
 - b. **Strategies:** Financial education, debt reduction programs, and capital access expansion
 - c. **Impact:** Strengthen economic resilience and investment capacity

5. **Capital Access & Investment Growth**
 - a. **Target:** Direct **\$1 trillion in investments** into Black communities
 - b. **Strategies:** Leverage **CRA, CDFIs, and private sector capital**, launch Black-owned investment funds

- a. **Impact:** Create an enduring economic foundation for generational wealth

Implementation Strategy & Timeline

January – March 2025:

- **Final list of 100 Black leaders confirmed**
- **Pre-meeting briefings with leaders**

April 4, 2025 – The First 100 Meeting (Memphis, TN)

- **Private working session (no media, no external participation)**
- **Draft “The Economic Business Plan for Black America (2025-2030)”**
- **Leadership commitments for execution**

June – December 2025:

- **Public launch of the plan with expanded stakeholders (Fortune 500, AI leaders, government, etc.)**
- **Tracking of commitments, progress, and implementation**

A Final Thought: Why This Matters

- **This is not just a conversation—it is a commitment.**
- **This is not an academic exercise—it is an economic playbook.**
- **This is not about asking for help—it is about taking control.**

This meeting is the first step toward executing **the largest economic mobilization in Black American history**. We will build wealth, grow businesses, and establish **an unshakable economic foundation for future generations**.

Pathway to \$3 Trillion in Black Wealth by 2053

With the right execution, it's feasible to **grow Black wealth to \$3 trillion+** by 2053 through:

1. AI-Powered Financial Inclusion

- AI makes **financial coaching, credit repair, and investment advisory services** scalable and affordable for the masses.
- With credit scores averaging **700+**, Black families gain **access to prime credit and lower borrowing costs**, unlocking wealth-building potential.

2. Small Business Ownership & Acquisition

- Capturing even **5-10% of the \$10-\$12 trillion small business transfer** from retiring baby boomers would inject **hundreds of billions in enterprise value** into Black hands.
- With AI, entrepreneurs can operate these businesses more efficiently and profitably.

3. **Homeownership & Real Estate Equity**

- Raising Black homeownership to national averages (from ~44% to 65%) could unlock **\$1 trillion in household equity alone**.
- AI helps streamline buying, selling, refinancing, and equity optimization for Black homeowners.

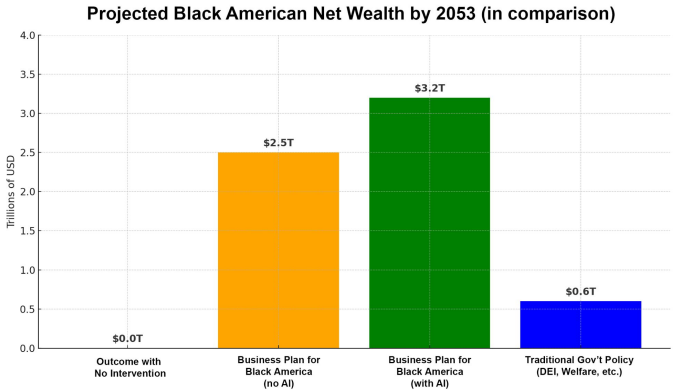
4. **Employment & Workforce Upskilling in AI Economy**

- Training 10M Black Americans in **AI, automation, and tech-forward careers** unlocks massive lifetime earnings and reduces future job displacement.

5. **Community Investing & Institutional Ownership**

- Community-owned assets, investment funds, and institutional vehicles will **retain and grow wealth locally**, not extract it.

- Digital platforms and AI-enabled governance can make cooperative models more transparent and efficient.



Now is the time. **This is the plan. We are the People. Let's build the future—together.**

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