

Shaka Mitchell serves as a Senior Fellow for the American Federation for Children. Based in Nashville, he is a lawyer, facilitator, and national leader in education reform policy.

He brings experience from several high-performing charter school networks, including Rocketship Education and LEAD Public schools, that serve over 2,500 students in Nashville.

Shaka began his career in education as the Associate Director of Policy and Planning at the D.C.-based Center for Education Reform. He then led outreach efforts at the Institute for Justice, a constitutional law firm based in Arlington, VA.

He is an alumnus of Belmont University where has taught American Government and Constitutional Law as an adjunct faculty member. He earned his Juris Doctorate from the Wake Forest University School of Law where he sits on the Board of Advisors for the Journal of Law and Policy. Shaka is a co-founder of MoreMarrowDonors.org, a non-profit committed to providing scholarships to bone marrow donors who are matches for patients with various blood diseases. Shaka is the past-Chair of the Tennessee State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

He is a member of the American Enterprise Institute's Leadership Network and the Civil Society Fellowship, a project of the Aspen Institute.

He is the creator of the *Come Together Music Project* which uses music to find common ground between people from divergent political, ideological, and socio-economic backgrounds. He and his wife, Dr. Stephanie Mitchell, are members of Edgefield Church in Nashville and are parents to three school-aged daughters.