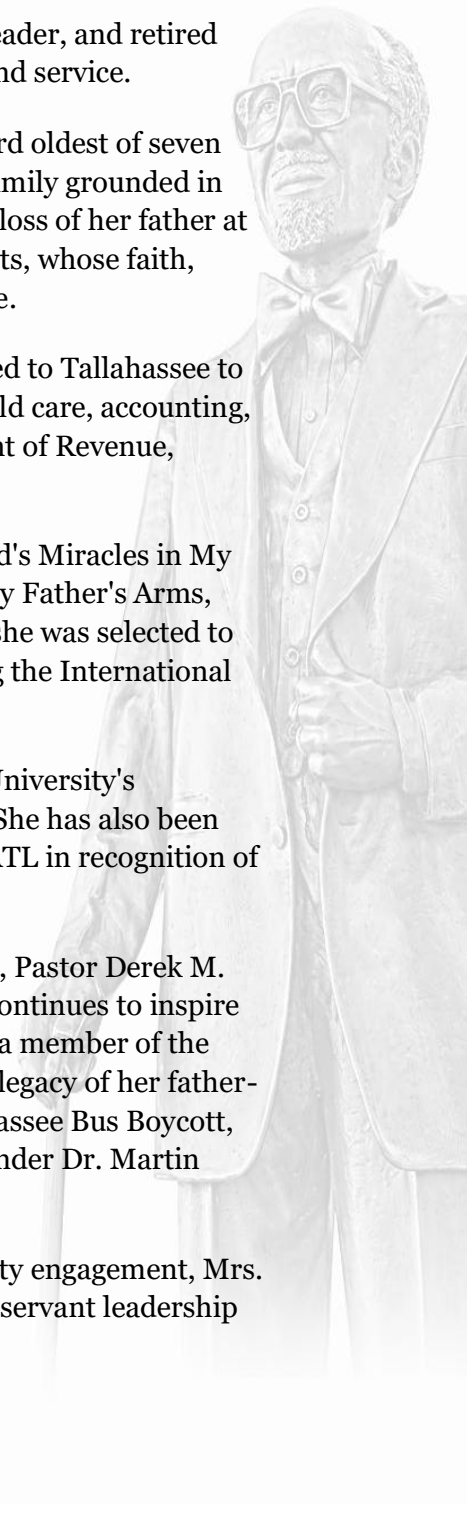
C.K. Steele Human Rights Institute

Fostering Legacy · Inspiring Justice · Safeguarding Tomorrow

Mrs. Tillie Hogans Steele



Mrs. Tillie Hogans Steele is a distinguished author, minister, community leader, and retired public servant whose life reflects a steadfast commitment to faith, family, and service.

Born to the late William Lee and Ruth Goode Hogans, Mrs. Steele is the third oldest of seven siblings. Raised in DeFuniak Springs, Florida, she grew up in a close-knit family grounded in Christian values and nurtured in Macedonia Baptist Church. Following the loss of her father at age seven, she and her siblings were raised by their mother and grandparents, whose faith, sacrifice, and perseverance helped shape the values that have guided her life.

After graduating from Walton Senior High School in 1971, Mrs. Steele moved to Tallahassee to pursue educational and professional opportunities. Following studies in child care, accounting, and medical coding, she began a 35-year career with the Florida Department of Revenue, retiring in 2013 as a Revenue Specialist II.

An accomplished author, Mrs. Steele has published six books, including God's Miracles in My Life, By the Grace of God I've Come a Long Ways, Outside Looking In, In My Father's Arms, Crying Out, and A Mother's Touch. Following the release of her first book, she was selected to appear on the nationally recognized Bobby Jones television program during the International Gospel Industry Retreat in Las Vegas.

Her achievements have earned numerous honors, including Florida A&M University's Honorable Mention Award for Best Decorated Homecoming Parade Float. She has also been featured by Tallahassee Woman Magazine, WCTV, FAMU TV, and VoyageATL in recognition of her accomplishments and community impact.

Mrs. Steele was blessed to share her life and ministry with her late husband, Pastor Derek M. Steele. Together they established a legacy of faith, family, and service that continues to inspire others. Today, she remains active in ministry, community outreach, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the C.K. Steele Human Rights Institute, honoring the legacy of her father-in-law, the late Rev. C.K. Steele Sr., civil rights pioneer, leader of the Tallahassee Bus Boycott, and first Vice President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference under Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Through a lifetime devoted to faith, public service, literature, and community engagement, Mrs. Tillie Hogans Steele continues to exemplify compassion, perseverance, and servant leadership while inspiring others through her enduring legacy of service.

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