

DARRYL SETTLES

ENTREPRENEUR · CIVIL ADVOCATE



BIOGRAPHY

Darryl Settles currently serves as president of Catalyst Ventures Development, a Boston-based entity that focuses on the development of and investments in multifamily and commercial properties in Boston and surrounding communities by fostering partnerships and relationships that empower minority communities by providing the resources that encourage financial growth. In addition, he has nurtured longstanding ventures with prominent corporate entities that include Redgate and the WinnCompanies. As a result of these entrepreneurial ventures, he has developed and deployed successful tactics for strategic execution, business development, contract negotiation and governance capabilities.

Additionally, in 2021, Redgate and Catalyst Ventures Development formed Catalyst RCP, a partnership created to expand wealth and opportunity for people of color through real estate development and investments. Catalyst RCP is a 51%/49% minority owned entity.

Settles professional success in the local hospitality and real estate industry has given him the platform to become a vocal advocate for the minority community in Boston. He reinvented iconic landmark “Bob The Chef” into Darryl’s Corner Bar and Kitchen (DCBK), and brought new life to the longtime, traditionally Black-owned institution. Additionally, he served as part owner and managing partner at Slade’s Bar & Grill (SBG), the oldest Black-owned operating business in Boston, where he continued his efforts to elevate daily life in an underserved community. He sold DCBK in 2018 and SBG in 2019. Settles also co-founded The Beehive in Boston’s historic South End in 2007 and sold his interests in 2010.

He has a lifelong commitment to improving society through economic and cultural equality, which he views as vehicles to implement necessary social change. He has evidenced this commitment in professional, personal, cultural and nonprofit arenas with innovative and enduring initiatives, including: founding of the Beantown Jazz Fest, creating a crossover community event; creating and implementing community forums, events and other enduring initiatives exploring the issues and triumphs of the minority community while contributing to civic education and pride (DCBK Black History Month Community Forums, Boston Means Business, Community Game Changers, Critical Mass, A Tribute to James Brown Saves Boston); serving as a board member for multiple entities (including appointments by Governors Weld, Patrick and Baker) that cross political party lines and advance national causes; founding member of both the Black Economic Council of Massachusetts and the Builders of Color Coalition, organizations with missions to advance the economic well-being of Black businesses and entrepreneurs.

By viewing every endeavor with an entrepreneurial spirit, Settles seeks to use his accumulated experience and networks to be the catalyst that helps position Boston as a leader in the fight against income inequality.



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