

## Trey Darnell Biography – Kingsport Library Commission

Trey Darnell is a lifelong Kingsport, Tennessee, resident with deep community roots and a passion for service. Born and raised in Kingsport, he attended Sullivan South High School as an active band member. Though his career as a commercial airline captain took him to multiple airline bases in Columbus, Atlanta, New York, Indianapolis, and Newark, he always knew that Kingsport was home. His dream has long been to live in Fairacres, reflecting his love for the city and its rich history. Over the years, he has immersed himself in civic engagement, even running for the Kingsport Board of Education in 2021, demonstrating his commitment to education and the future of local schools.

Trey's career has spanned aviation and nonprofit leadership, each requiring precision, dedication, and strong leadership skills. As a former commercial airline captain, he developed expertise in operational procedures, strategic decision-making, and team management—skills that have translated seamlessly into his work in nonprofit healthcare and a passion for servant leadership in children and youth leadership. He serves at Friends In Need Health Center, where he has worked alongside the Board of Mayor & Alderman Betsy Cooper to expand access to medical and dental care for underserved populations. His experience in grant writing, strategic planning, and community collaboration has strengthened the organization's ability to secure funding and grow its services, ensuring a lasting impact on the region.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Trey has dedicated himself to community service in many capacities. He has served on numerous boards, including as Treasurer of the Parent Teacher Organization at his daughter's school. He remains actively involved in the Visionary Councils with the United Way of Greater Kingsport. His passion for education led him to work with Kingsport City Schools to improve student literacy, securing grants to support tutoring students striving to reach grade-level reading proficiency while the volunteer interim CEO at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Kingsport. A firm believer in the power of libraries as gateways to knowledge and opportunity, he is eager to contribute his leadership and experience to the City of Kingsport Library Commission, ensuring it continues to serve as a vital resource for the community.