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LEADING WOMEN IN BUSINESS | CINCINNATI

Making It HAPPEN

*Experience, attention to detail,
and family values have built
James Hunt Construction
into one of America's top
national general contractors.*



Next time you're at a shopping mall, wander through your favorite shop—that clothing store you love, the purveyor of high-end personal goods, or the bargain hunter's heaven—and take a moment to look past the products. Instead, notice the walls, the floors, the lighting, the counters, and the dressing rooms, and remember: Someone built this.

More than likely, that "someone" was James Hunt Construction (JHC)—a legacy family business with annual sales of more than \$40 million, unparalleled customer, vendor, and employee loyalty, and a heart for giving back to the Cincinnati community from which it springs.

Seeds for Success

"My father, James Hunt, with the help of my mother, Sondra, started this business in 1983," recalls Company Owner and President Veronica Davis. The company quickly earned renowned status as a skilled general contractor for commercial projects throughout the Cincinnati and tri-state area.

"It was so exciting to watch him build this company from the ground up," she adds. "When I was old enough, I started working alongside my father. I admired his dedication and the long hours he devoted to making JHC successful. My parents taught me the importance of organization, attention to detail, positivity, customer satisfaction, and, above all, respect for others."

In 1996, Hunt retired, handing over the reins to his daughter and her husband, Chris Davis, vice president. Today, JHC is a Woman-Owned Business, as certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. A full-service general contractor licensed and active in all 50 states, the company specializes in retail store and tenant finish construction.

Building Excellence

With a committed staff of office employees and a team of highly trained and experienced site supervisors who travel from job to job, the company oversees about 120 projects a year, working closely with some of the country's top commercial architects and designers to build out retail stores and offices. JHC has also developed into one of the fastest growing commercial and health care contractors in the Greater Cincinnati area. In 2018, they were chosen by Cincinnati health care juggernaut TriHealth to renovate the 12-story Baldwin 200 building for its new corporate headquarters.

"Our reputation for quality workmanship and attention to detail sets us apart from the crowd," says Chris Davis. "We value our long-lasting relationships with our clients all over the country; the vendors and subcontractors we work with know they'll be treated well and paid promptly. As a result, we're often hired directly without having to bid on jobs."

The company's extraordinary success goes hand-in-hand with a vibrant philanthropic spirit. "Everything we've achieved is because of this amazing community; it's an honor to help others," says Veronica Davis. In addition to generous support of local charities, the company sponsors an annual scholarship for a young woman studying construction management, which is presented to the recipient at the annual ACI Meeting and Scholarship Awards.

What's on the horizon for JHC? The Davis' daughter, Alexis, recently joined the company. She's working her way up the ladder.

"From the very beginning, our company motto has been 'Make It Happen!' and that's what we strive for. This is a competitive business; if you don't meet your clients' needs, someone else will be waiting in the wings to do just that. At the end of the day, we're a family company—we consider our employees family, too—and I think that makes us work harder to stay true to that motto."

—VERONICA DAVIS, PRESIDENT,
JAMES HUNT CONSTRUCTION



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