

— TRANSFORMING BUSINESS CHALLENGES INTO TRIUMPHS —

OBSTACLES TO OPPORTUNITY

A BOOK BY PAT ALACQUA



FEATURING C.J. STEWART

Baseball Visionary. Mentor. Transformational Leader.

*"Transformation isn't about changing what you do.
It's about changing who you are."*

AS FEATURED IN CHAPTER 9:

Batting Against Barriers with Baseball Visionary, C.J. Stewart

CHAPTER 9: BATTING AGAINST BARRIERS WITH BASEBALL VISIONARY, C.J. STEWART

For C.J. Stewart, leadership didn't begin with a business plan. It began with transformation.

From professional baseball player to founder of the L.E.A.D. Center For Youth, C.J. has dedicated his life to building stronger futures for Atlanta's underserved youth. But the journey wasn't easy, or linear. Early on, self-doubt and lack of clarity almost derailed the vision that would later impact countless lives.

"I realized the blueprint wasn't just about building an organization. It was about building myself into the kind of leader who could serve others."

In this excerpt from *Obstacles to Opportunity*, C.J. shares how mentorship, self-reflection, and deep strategic thinking reshaped not only his business but his own identity. Through powerful lessons learned alongside trusted mentors, C.J. discovered that true leadership requires a shift from transaction to transformation and from insecurity to conviction.

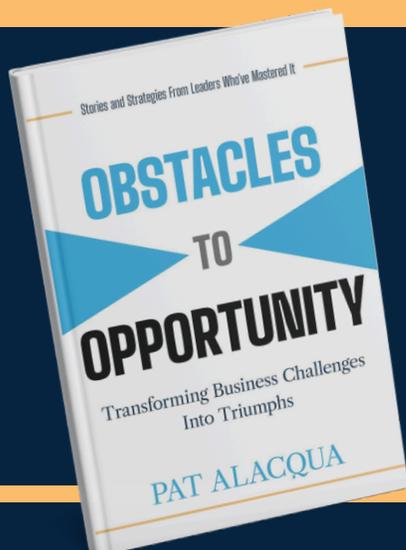
"Transformation starts when you stop searching for the right answers and start asking the right questions."

**LEADERSHIP THAT LASTS IS BUILT ON INNER WORK FIRST.
When you transform how you think, lead, and believe,
the impact you create multiplies.**

ABOUT C.J. STEWART

C.J. Stewart is the Co-founder and Chief Visionary Officer of the L.E.A.D. Center For Youth and Co-owner of Diamond Directors Player Development. A former Chicago Cubs outfielder, C.J. has become one of the leading voices in youth empowerment through baseball, helping Atlanta's at-risk youth access educational and career opportunities. In his featured chapter, C.J. shares how personal transformation became the foundation for building organizations and changing lives.

**READ C.J.'S FULL CHAPTER—AND EXPLORE THE VOICES OF OTHER
TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERS AT [PATALACQUA.COM/BOOK](https://patalacqua.com/book).**



ABOUT THE BOOK

Obstacles to Opportunity is a collection of powerful, real-world stories from leaders across industries. Each navigating a significant business challenge and discovering the opportunity within it.

You'll find practical strategies, mindset shifts, and behind-the-scenes insights from executives, entrepreneurs, and operators who turned challenges into clarity, momentum, and growth.