

LUKE WEISBERG

5120 Colonial Drive, Golden Valley, MN 55416-1107
763-595-7108 (home) 612-377-3043 (office) 612-201-9130 (cell)
weisberg@lukeworks.net

- Public policy professional skilled in analyzing, negotiating, and resolving complex public problems
- Senior director in public/nonprofit organizations managing strategic planning, finance and personnel
- Recognized leader on workforce and neighborhood development issues
- Entrepreneur with legacy of successful organizational start-ups and special initiatives
- Seasoned fundraiser and facilitator for human service, civic, and political organizations

WORK EXPERIENCE

OWNER/OPERATOR, *LUKEWORKS, LLC* 2005-current

Operate a consulting business focused on ending poverty through employment and neighborhood development strategies. Working with nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and the occasional private business, LukeWorks, LLC serves as a project manager, researcher, facilitator, idea generator, connector, and broker to move forward workforce development programs and policy changes as well as neighborhood development strategies for low-income and underserved neighborhoods. Over six years, LukeWorks, LLC has brought value to twenty-five clients, partnered with dozens of organizations and individuals in working relationships and brought a reasonable return for its ownership.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, *MN GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (GWDC)* 2000-2005

Staff Director for 31-member state board that provides direction and oversight for Minnesota's workforce development efforts. Served as broker and facilitator among Council members, state government Cabinet members, legislators, and other stakeholders in the workforce development arena. Primary accomplishments included establishing the GWDC as a key forum for policy deliberation and strengthening the capacity of the GWDC and local workforce councils around Minnesota to play stronger leadership roles.

In addition to Executive Director duties, completed two special assignments: 1) Staff team leader for merger of state workforce and economic development agencies; and, 2) Served as adjunct policy staff to the Governor's Office during final months of the Ventura administration.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, *CHICAGO JOBS COUNCIL* 1994-2000

Senior manager in a membership coalition of one hundred community-based organizations in the Chicago area, most of whom work directly with low-income Chicagoans to obtain education, training, and employment. Served as administrator and day-to-day manager of advocacy, applied research, and public education activities engaging service providers, public officials, philanthropic funders, and others concerned about workforce development and welfare reform. Provided leadership on federal, state, and local workforce development advocacy efforts, and directly managed national organizing work and technology initiatives for member organizations. Responsible for coordinating policy advocacy efforts and managing the organization's financial operations, staff (7 FTEs), and management information systems. Facilitated expansion of staff from three to eight, as well as doubling membership base and budget during my tenure.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, *MANHATTAN VALLEY MANAGEMENT CO.* 1991-1993

Responsible for daily operation of a nonprofit community-based housing development and management organization in New York City. Managed administrative and tenant relations staff.

Responsible for all legal and regulatory issues. Developed successful fundraising strategies and proposals and enhanced internal management capacity of the organization.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, *INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT* 1989-1991

Evaluated two statewide housing/human services initiatives in Washington State. Completed policy research on homelessness, housing, and employment issues.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT 1987-1991

Worked with nonprofit organizations in Pennsylvania and Minnesota on fundraising, program design/implementation and internal management including strategic planning. Completed design and/or major revision of employment training programs for homeless and mentally ill persons. Raised over three million dollars for client organizations.

PROGRAM STAFF, NEW YORK CITY DEPT. OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT 1990

Helped establish a continuum of care for homeless families placed in newly renovated housing. Created a tenant orientation program and developed a network of supportive services to assist tenants in transition to permanent housing.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR, "*JOBS WITH DIGNITY*", CDFH SHELTER, INC. 1988

Designed and implemented a job training program for homeless welfare recipients. Program was one of eighteen selected as a demonstration under Governor's Joint Jobs Initiative. Supervised staff, subcontractors, and administered a quarter-million dollar budget.

FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER AND CHAIR, *THE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (CHICAGO)* 1993-2000

FOUNDING PROJECT DIRECTOR, *THE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (PHILADELPHIA)* 1986-1987

Created and developed an employment counseling and referral program for homeless people in Philadelphia and replicated in Chicago. Chicago organization continues to operate, helping about 150 homeless people annually find employment and stable housing.

AFFILIATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Appointed Member, Heading Home Hennepin Executive Committee current
- Founding Co-Chair, Golden Valley Community Events Fund / Foundation current
- Trustee and Officer, Congregation Shir Tikvah current
- Community Board Member, YMCA Camp Warren 2006-10
- Board Chair, Neighborhood Employment Network 2007-09
- Founding Board Member, The Workforce Alliance / National Skills Coalition 2000-2004
- Founding Board Member and Chair, The Employment Project 1993-2000
- Committee Member, Chicago Workforce Board and Illinois Workforce Investment Board 1996-2000
- Appointed Member, City of Chicago, Community Development Advisory Council 1996-98
- Board Member, Jewish Council on Urban Affairs 1994-1999
- Appointed Member, Medical Assistance Study Team, WA Governor's Commission 1991-92
- Awarded full academic scholarship/paid fellowship, Evans School of Public Affairs 1989-91
- Elected President, Student Body, University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs 1990-91

EDUCATION

- Humphrey Policy Fellow, University of MN HHH Institute of Public Affairs 2002-03
- Master of Public Administration, Univ. of Washington, Evans School of Public Affairs 1991
- B.A., Political Science, Haverford College 1987