

Sarah Henry Suemnig

Consulting

I help nonprofits get to know their donors. Through prospect research, database assessment, donor communications, or cultivation and stewardship planning and implementation, I help nonprofits gain valuable insight into their own donors, helping them achieve longer, stronger, more lucrative relationships.

MAP for Nonprofits – Minneapolis, MN – Database Consulting for **Minneapolis Parks Foundation** and **Wallin Education Partners**. Worked with organizations to assess database needs, researched CRM products, organized vendor demos, created final report and implementation plans

Mount Carmel Ministries – Alexandria, MN – Researched issues in support of case development

Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps – Okoboji, IA – Researched prospective capital gift donors

OutFront Minnesota Action – Minneapolis, MN – Researched prospective major gift donors and helped create solicitation strategies

The Databank – Minneapolis, MN – Worked with nonprofit clients of the Databank on individual giving, including planning, research, writing, asking, and stewarding

Perpich Center for Arts Education – Golden Valley, MN – Researched and identified new corporate and foundation funding prospects. Laid the groundwork for successful grant applications.

Previous Employment

Major Gifts Officer – Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota – Saint Paul, MN

- Managed and planned all aspects of major giving and new planned giving programs
- Built new major gifts portfolio through best practices in fundraising, including a combination of technology-based and face-to-face prospect research, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship
- Upgraded the size of gifts given by major donors by 20%
- Increased the number of major donors by 25%
- Initiated new program to re-engage former members of the board of directors

External Relations Director – Minnesota Museum of American Art – Saint Paul, MN

- Directed all aspects of external relations. Primarily: fund development, research, and public relations; Secondarily: membership, marketing, and events
- Created and implemented comprehensive development and marketing program case and plans with my External Relations Team, leading to 28% increase in contributed revenue, closer ties to the City of Saint Paul, and more than 10% increase in Museum attendance
- Track record of successful gift solicitations from a variety of sources, including individuals, corporate sponsorships, and government, corporate and foundation grants
- Managed all Membership & Visitor Services, Program & Events, and Development Staff and Interns
- Led Development & Marketing Committee of the Board of Trustees, including conducting training sessions for volunteer solicitors
- Member of and active participant in local arts and culture committees

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Capital Campaign Consultant / Campaign Manager – MGI Fund Raising Consulting /Masonic Cancer Center Fund – Roseville, MN

- Managed, helped create strategies for and coordinated \$10 million capital fund raising project benefitting the Masonic Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota, including case statement and newsletter creation, writing, personnel and volunteer management, and major gift prospect research, identification, qualification and solicitation
- Conducted training sessions throughout Minnesota for volunteer solicitors
- Worked with client to select, implement, and successfully use new donor data management system

Capital Campaign Associate – Episcopal Homes of Minnesota – Saint Paul, MN

- Successfully created and cultivated new funding relationships for the organization with families, businesses, and foundations in the community
- Created and coordinated campaign communications
- Created, modified, and updated prospect tracking tools and reports

Development Manager – Summit Academy OIC – Minneapolis, MN

- Coordinated and completed the organization's first \$1 million Annual Campaign, including strategy, research, writing, major gift solicitation, events, and planning
- Founding member of organization's Diversity Committee

Campaign/Development Associate – Boston Children's Museum – Boston, MA

- Designed Museum's first online giving pages, managed database, created analytical reports, researched giving prospects, coordinated both major and minor special events, served on three cross-divisional committees

Intern – The Octagon Center for the Arts – Ames, IA

- Discovered my love for fundraising and nonprofits. Was able to be involved a little to a lot in nearly every aspect of operating a community arts center: installation of art exhibits, scheduling and teaching children's community art classes, working in the gift shop, writing grants, communicating with members and donors, attending local business meetings with our Executive Director, etc.

Current Volunteer Service

Parent Advisory Board – Wayzata Early Learning School – Plymouth, MN – Coordinated a large committee of volunteers for our fundraising gala, a lively event and bringing in \$18,000 (2016-16). Currently serving as Vice-Chair of the Board and leading fundraising committee. Slated to serve as Chairperson of the Board in 2017-18.

Parents Meeting Parents Committee – Wayzata Birchview Elementary School – Plymouth, MN – Serving as a classroom parent liaison/organizer

Minnesota DFL Senate District 44 – As a campaign volunteer my passion is mainly in talking to voters through Get Out The Vote efforts, encouraging all fellow West Metro Minnesotans to get involved and vote.

Scholarship Selection Committee – Iowa State University – Ames, IA – Honored to serve annually as a member of the Scholarship Selection Committee for the prestigious David J. Henry All-University Leadership Award.

Parent Volunteer - Parade Figure Skating Club - Minneapolis, MN - Serving as an event volunteer, most often as a photographer, documenting club events and the annual ice show.

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Education

Graduate, The Consultants School, a collaboration of AFP and The Giving Institute

Master of Science in Arts Administration – Boston University – Boston, Massachusetts – emphases in Fundraising/Development and e-Commerce

Bachelor of Liberal Studies – Iowa State University – Ames, Iowa – emphases in Arts & Communications, Architecture, and Humanities – Minor in Design

Technological Proficiencies

Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Creative Suite, Google Apps for Business (G Suite), Rasier's Edge, WordPress, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter

Speaking Engagements

“Targeted Fundraising with PowerMail and Online Forms” with William Naylor at 2013 Databank User Conference

“Move It or Lose It: a Moves Management-style Approach to Fundraising” at 2011 Databank User Conference

“Lowering Your Fundraising Costs with Smart Planning” and “Writing Effective Fundraising Copy” for the Databank’s 2011 Dynamic Fundraising Course

“Intro to Major Gifts” at 2009 Center for Nonprofit Success Summit

“Fundraising and Marketing in the One-Person Shop: Making the Most of a Shoestring Budget” at 2008 Center for Nonprofit Success Summit

Published Work

Article: “The Art of Thank You”

Article: “The Year-End Appeal: Reflection and Hope”

Professional Involvement

Member, Association of Prospect Researchers for Advancement (APRA)

Former Board Member, Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Minnesota Chapter

Founding Member, Hip Young Development Professionals with Aspirations (HYDPWA)