

Nonprofit Career Overview

Over more than three decades in the social sector, I held leadership positions in advocacy, arts and culture, and direct service organizations. Highlights include eight years as Executive Director of Outfest, devoted to nurturing, exhibiting and preserving queer media; four years as Executive Director of Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles, a food justice organization, and nine years at the Drug Policy Alliance, the nation's leading organization advocating alternatives to the war on drugs, serving first as California Director and then as Deputy Executive Director.

I was an effective nonprofit leader adept at transforming organizations through aggressive internal program development and creative formal partnerships. I successfully managed multiple strategic plans, fund development plans, Board transformations, brand analyses and staff expansions. Moreover:

- As a public policy advocate, I managed local, state and national legislative and voter initiative campaigns, including the 2016 campaign that legalized marijuana in California and framed the racial justice imperative of cannabis law reform.
- As an arts administrator, I launched the world's only LGBTQ film preservation program and the nation's first queer people of color film festival, both of which are thriving 15+ years later.
- As the public face of many mission-driven organizations, I published scores of opinion pieces and conducted hundreds of print, electronic and new media interviews including many on live national television.

Organizational Coaching Clients

- ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties
- American Family Housing
- ARC (Activities, Recreation & Care for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities)
- Australians in Film
- CASA of Los Angeles
- Center for Nonprofit Management
- Center Theatre Group
- Changeist
- Drug Policy Alliance
- East West Players
- Feed Black Futures
- Harm Reduction Coalition of San Diego
- The Hood Incubator
- InsideOUT Writers
- Institute for Public Strategies

- Kitchen Table Advisors
- Korean Immigrant Workers Alliance
- Kounkuey Design Initiative
- Los Angeles Community Health Project
- Los Angeles County Arts Commission
- Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
- Marin CASA
- National Advocates for Pregnant Women
- The Obama Foundation
- POPS (Pain of the Prison System) the Club
- Power California
- Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center
- San Francisco SPCA
- Seed House Project
- Southern California Grantmakers
- Westside Food Bank