

INNOVATION RESUME

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Innovation has returned as a hot commodity. While I like that for many reasons, I see it mostly as validation that the future will be a place where nonprofit, for-profit and advocacy initiatives join together in the hunt for a better, more empowering, more engaging platform that balances profit and purpose. My primary skills center on writing grant proposals, developing business enterprise packages, and enveloping advocacy and communication materials with smart tactics for change. Below are examples of some innovative projects that I had the pleasure to be significantly associated with across the years of my work through executive management and consulting roles. I am currently a freelance writer moving towards creative and digital efforts.

MAJOR NOTABLE INNOVATION PROJECTS

These efforts are listed in reverse chronological order. I trust that the writing I am doing now will bring about more such achievements once the focus becomes better known:

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENTERPRISES (2002-2004): *Preschool for All.* As a consultant for **Solano First 5** in Solano County and a home-based childcare collaborative, I helped design and secure funding for an original idea that offered an impressive way for valuing local childcare businesses seeking to sell their models for academic readiness. Often home-based programs (around 50% of local options) are left out in favor of center-based businesses. Recent assessments and growing interests shows what may happen in this area as more resources are made available. This has been proven very desirable for low-income families of color.

TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS TO EQUALITY (1998-1999): As the first executive director of an Oakland-based gender and racial justice nonprofit, I had the frustrating pleasure of being part of the team the created the first **Take Our Daughters To Work Day** events. **The Oakland Men's Project** was asked to design workshops to help men and boys learn how to be champions and allies for gender fairness, respect and justice in the workplace. Over 40 million people have participated so far.

IT TOOK VILLAGES BACK THEN (1994-1997): Before there was a **World AIDS Day** (what some see as corporate-comfortable activism), thousands of people took to their villages, towns and urban neighborhoods across the planet on a given day to march in the light of their candles remembering those who died in the early days from the horrors of AIDS. I coordinated, out of San Francisco, what has now been thousands of events that

were the basis of the **International AIDS Candlelight Memorials**. It has been recognized that this and other projects helped draw the Bush presidency into a serious look at what could and needed to be done.

TEETER-TOTTER ROIs (1989-1992): Early in my career, I helped open the playground, one might say, to the idea that a balance of social purpose and monetary profits is like a teeter-totter. It assumes not only that participants are on both sides of the balance, but that each must regularly and constantly get their feet on the ground, so to speak, to allow them to gain forward traction -- without this the game is no fun. In association with Rubicon Programs in Richmond and with leaders in the field like Jed Emerson (www.BlendedValue.org), we showed how both nonprofit and for-profit models could work together. That concept has now evolved into strong and powerful validation of multi-bottom line models and towards Impact Investing. Government programs like Pay-for-Success similarly mirror elements, and more modern cyber engagement models are carrying this idea into the future. Under this approach, Rubicon grew from a \$600,000 agency to nearly \$14 million.

RECENT CONSULTING PROJECTS

- ✓ **Capitol Region Education Council** (Hartford, CT): Designed and detailed a complex federal grant application for bringing multi-site advances in physical and nutritional education programs to diverse magnet school campuses. The project's design sought to integrate quickly advancing personal technologies into elementary and middle/high school PW and wellness activities.
- ✓ **Black Economic Council, Pacific Gas & Electric** (Oakland, CA): Created a demand-based services and energy efficiency proposal for bringing minority, women and disadvantaged contractors and skilled workers of color into California's mandated energy transformational steps. I wrote a comprehensive operational strategy plan (seeking \$500,000) to radically modify the state's implementation efforts to overcome discriminatory and unfair contracting, project award and consumer use strategies.
- ✓ **Musical Health Technologies** (Santa Barbara, CA): Developed a successful LOI response package to enable this for-profit business to compete for nonprofit funding to develop algorithmic and software adaptations of a lyrical, song and singing therapeutic application for persons and caregivers living with degenerative brain conditions. The LOI was approved but the final project was not funded.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

May 2001- March 2004

Executive Director, California Coalition for Youth/California Youth Crisis Line (www.CalYouth.org), Sacramento, CA. Fully responsible for agency management, board interaction, fundraising, public policy implementation, legislative and youth empowerment activities. I edited the production of a creative youth engagement publication (**Young Enough To Matter**) for the California Wellness Foundation.

February 1998 – April 2001

Assistant Director, Xanthos, Inc., Alameda, CA. (www.Xanthos.org). Primarily responsible for general, fundraising for seven major program components, community partnerships and two capital purchase

and renovation campaigns serving family counseling, education, mental health training and project services for families and runaway/homeless youth. Double the agency's revenues from about \$2 to \$4 million.

September 1993 – September 1995

Executive Director, Oakland Men's Project, Oakland, CA. Served as first executive director for this agency, where I helped increase budget from \$80,000 to over \$250,000 while implementing anti-violence and gender-awareness initiatives. We were a founding partner in the first **Take Our Daughters To Work Day**.

January 1986 – July 1992

Development Assistant/Consultant, Rubicon Programs, Inc. Richmond, CA. (www.RubiconPrograms.org). Undertook several fundraising initiatives that secured federal and state funding for transitional and supportive housing, critical care counseling, money management, and education/vocational training skills for persons reentering the community following criminal justice involvement, or for those with severe mental disabilities or homelessness.

EDUCATION / OTHER WRITING

- Western Michigan University, BA Sociology/Criminal Justice. 1976-1980.
- Ohio State University, MA Sociology, 1980-1983.