

DAVID R. ASHENHURST
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OBJECTIVE

To continue working in senior staff, management, and consulting capacities using my planning, analytical, and representational skills to improve an organization's services, accountability measures, and communications -- leading to increased employee satisfaction, public understanding, and stakeholder confidence; to favorable regulatory conditions; and to productive governmental and community interactions.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

STRATEGIC RESEARCH INC., Oberlin, Ohio 2005-present
Senior Project Director.

Strategic Research Inc. is a consulting firm headed by Oberlin College Associate Professor of Politics Eve Sandberg, providing training and direct assistance in political campaign management, policy research, polling, and advocacy and communications.

PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY MATTERS/GIVING ADVICE, Oberlin, Ohio 1986-present
Founder and Principal. (intermittent)

Consulting services provided to nonprofits, public agencies, and school districts seeking philanthropic and governmental resources as well as to private and public grantmaking organizations; 501(c)(3) applications, long-range planning, publications development and communications strategies, governance reviews, and related projects.

OBERLIN BY DESIGN, INC., Oberlin, Ohio 2007-present
Founder and President.

This nonprofit directly operates initiatives in greater Oberlin and consults with organizations and jurisdictions outside Oberlin where the intentionality, self-determination, and sustainability of Oberlin, physically and/or socially and politically, can provide a useful model for their aspirations, endeavors, or operations.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO. 2006-2009
Member of Council. Elected November 8, 2005, and November 6, 2007. Appointed previously twice (1998, 2002) to terms on the City's Human Relations Commission; also appointed in 2003 to the Charter Review Committee, which resulted in several resolutions concerning Council rules and three amendments to the City Charter approved by the voters on November 2, 2004.

METROPOLITAN ASSOCIATION FOR PHILANTHROPY, St. Louis, Missouri President. Directed the regional association of grantmakers serving 60 corporate and foundation Members and 250 nonprofit Library Partners in greater St. Louis.	1999-2000
THE NORD FAMILY FOUNDATION, Elyria, Ohio. Executive Director.	1995-1997
THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOUNDATION, INC., Washington, D.C. (Acting) Vice President, Development and Grants.	1992-1993
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL, Evanston, Illinois Endowment/Planned Gifts Supervisor, Fund Development Department, Rotary Foundation Division.	1989-1993
THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION, Chicago, Illinois. Staff Associate (1980); Assistant Director, General Grants Program (1981).	1980-1986
THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS, The Glenmede Trust Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Staff Analyst (1975); Program Analyst (1977); Program Associate (1979).	1975-1979

DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITIES

- Served as a volunteer consultant in assisting several nonprofits to organize, achieve 501(c)(3) status, and file their first IRS Forms 990 and related annual reports; also, served three months in a temporary, “intentional interim” role as an Economic Development Specialist with the Lorain County Community Development Department in 2007.
- Increased membership in the Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy by 15 percent, program contact hours by 30 percent, and grant income by 40 percent in 1999; also, oversaw production of the first comprehensive report benchmarking organized philanthropy and the nonprofit sector in the region, as well as a comprehensive assessment of actual and potential members’ future needs and perceptions of the Association’s ability to meet them.
- At The Nord Family Foundation, exercised full executive responsibility for a \$75-million philanthropic organization (board of 12, 5.5 FTE staff) granting more than \$3.5 million annually in Lorain County and other communities of family interest.
- More than quadrupled estate commitments to The Rotary Foundation in four years (1,800 to 8,200) through volunteer training and club- to international-level promotion. Closed two multi-million-dollar charitable remainder unitrusts as well as numerous other life income gifts. Developed comprehensive administrative procedures for acceptance of real estate and other complex and non-cash gifts.
- Developed MacArthur Foundation’s first guidelines, proposal review procedures, grant evaluation process, and annual report.
- At several different organizations, managed transition of and served as first supervisor for recruits from the for-profit and public sectors.

RECENT COMMUNITY SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio: member of the affiliate board and the affiliate foundation board since 2001. Member of the North Central chapter board since 1999.

Friends of Oberlin Underground Railroad Center, Inc.: founding member of the board and treasurer, 2003-2006; inaugural statutory agent for **Juneteenth Oberlin, Inc.**, 2005; active member of **Oberlin African-American Genealogy and History Group** since 2004.

Lorain County Board of Elections: following a volunteer assignment as a “challenger” in an Elyria precinct in November 2004, service as an official election judge (pollworker) with increasing responsibility in eight different precincts in six primary and five general elections.

Lorain County Board of Mental Health: appointed in 2011 to complete an unexpired term.

Ohio Citizen Action: elected to the board of directors in 2011.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Yale University, Institution for Social and Policy Studies, Program on Non-Profit Organizations: Advisory Committee member, 1983-1998.

Council on Foundations, Inc.: Member of the Research Committee, 1985-1989, and of the Committee on International Grantmaking, 1984-1988; member of the Evaluation Team for the Annual Conference in 1984; panelist at the 1996 Family Foundations Conference; active in the Precollegiate Education Program, 1981-1986, and intermittently in several other affinity groups and special initiatives.

Independent Sector: Member of the Leadership Committee, 1995-1997.

Donors Forum of Ohio: Member of the Public Policy Committee, 1996-1997.

Grantmakers Forum of Cleveland: Member of the Program Committee, 1995-1997.

Illinois Literacy Council: Member 1984-1990, by appointment of Governor; Chair of the Subcommittee on Public and Private Support, 1984-1986.

Chicago Planned Giving Roundtable: Member 1989-1993 (some national activity also).

EDUCATION

Public elementary and secondary schooling in Chicago, Illinois (Kenwood HS);
Bachelor of Arts, English and philosophy, *cum laude*,
The University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;
graduate work in English literature, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.