

Meredith Handakas

Nonprofit Consultant
Executive Search
Interim Leadership

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History of orchestrating successful partnerships

for nonprofit organizations in Central Virginia and beyond.

Experienced with identifying and cultivating
transformative leaders and leadership teams.

Refined relationship-building skills and experience
working collaboratively with nonprofit organizations in the
development, execution, and oversight of strategic goals.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal, Virginia Non-Profit Associates, LLC, March 2015 - present

A consulting business serving the nonprofit community in Central Virginia with a focus on social service organizations, arts organizations, and schools.

Specific expertise:

- Executive search with strategies to attract, develop, and retain high performance leadership staff
- Conduct feasibility studies to determine capital campaign readiness, along with strategies to ensure campaign success
- Best practices training for boards of directors and leadership staff
- Facilitate identification of strategic goals, including SWOT Analysis, and assist with strategic plan preparation

Associate, Bryan & Jordan Consulting, LLC, December 2010 - present

A consulting business serving mostly museums and historical organizations in Virginia, nationally, and internationally. Specific expertise:

- Strategic planning
- Executive search with strategies to attract, develop, and retain high performance leadership staff
- Board development
- Grant program development and administration (Taubman Foundation Sustainability Grants)
- Conduct feasibility studies to determine capital campaign readiness, along with strategies to ensure campaign success

Nonprofit Organizations Served

Arizona Historical Society
Ashland Theatre Foundation
Blacksburg Museum & Cultural Foundation
Blessed Sacrament Huguenot Catholic School
Catholic Diocese of Richmond
Charlottesville Catholic School
Chesterfield Center for the Arts Foundation
Civil War Trust
Dream Catchers of Williamsburg
Filson Historical Society
Hampden-Sydney College
The Hermitage
Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Holy Cross Regional Catholic School
John Marshall Foundation
Legal Aid Justice Center
Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail Foundation
Louisa County High School
Maryland Historical Society
Menokin Foundation
Museum of the American Revolution
Museum of the Shenandoah Valley
National Portrait Gallery
National Sporting Library and Museum
Nebraska State Historical Society
Newseum
Oakland School
Orchard House School
Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation
Pennsylvania Historical Society
Pentagon Memorial Fund
Preservation Maryland
Preservation Virginia
Richmond Montessori School
Saint Francis Home
Taubman Foundation
Wilton House Museum
Woodbury Forest School
Woodstock Foundation
Wounded Warriors of Central Virginia
University of Virginia School of Nursing
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation
Virginia Commonwealth University/Richmond's Future
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities
Virginia Historical Society
Virginia Home
VMI Alumni Agencies

Temporary Corporate Program Manager, HandsOn Greater Richmond, April 2016 – July 2016

HandsOn provides a link for individuals, families, teams, and corporate groups to join together and engage in meaningful volunteer opportunities within the Greater Richmond region. Specific projects included three large-scale volunteer events for Altria employees to benefit Shalom Farms, Northside YMCA, and Richmond Public Schools.

- Determined project needs including permits, equipment, materials, logistics
- Managed project budgets and purchasing
- Managed event staff
- Coordinated project needs with community partners
- Coordinated details too numerous to mention

Interim Executive Director, One Voice Chorus, February 2015 – April 2015

One Voice Chorus is a community chorus dedicated to singing the beauty and power of diversity.

- Led a rebranding effort, including a new logo and website
- Proposed the gradual conversion to a sustainable funding model
- Developed community partnerships
- As a volunteer, currently serve as Development Committee Chair

Executive Director, Lewis & Clark Leadership, Inc., February 2012 – January 2014

Lewis & Clark Leadership provides outdoor, activities-based leadership training for teens.

- Led the effort to establish the organization with catalyst funding from the Roy. R. Charles Charitable Trust
- Prepared detailed business plan
- Obtained 501 (c) 3 status
- Prepared case for support, website copy
- Established programming
- Established partnerships with camps and nonprofit organizations
- Prepared budgets, handled finance and payroll
- Prepared job descriptions, hired and trained staff
- Drafted safety procedures, disaster preparedness plan, camp registration forms
- Served as interim Executive Director
- Served as Ex-Officio member of the Board of Directors
- Other duties too numerous to mention

Assistant to the President, Roy R. Charles Charitable Trust, February 2009 – January 2012

The Charles Trust provided support to organizations devoted to veterans, nursing, and youth education.

- Evaluated grant requests
- Researched, visited, and vetted requesting organizations
- Assisted in determining awards

Essential Skills

- Knowledge of the norms and narratives of varied organizations in the nonprofit sector
- Broad content knowledge and technical skills including executive coaching, advice on major gift fundraising, strategic planning facilitation, board development, and more
- Business and practice manager skills including how to structure an organization, define and price services, organize projects and overall, deliver projects on time within budget, and marketing strategies
- Ability to guide clients through experience of discovery, change commitment that leads to the project objective
- Client engagement skills including the ability to inspire clarity, confidence, and a sense of possibility in the organization's board, leadership, and staff

Education

Shepherd University, Shepherdstown WV, May 1988

Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration