

Asandi S. Conner

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

A dynamic professional with experience collaborating with diverse stakeholders in the nonprofit sector. Recognized and promoted servant leader who builds consensus and enriches organizational culture. Demonstrated ability to lead initiatives, supervise staff, manage programs, and employ communication strategies to leverage support. Effective problem-solver able to accomplish individual and organizational objectives. Talented verbal and written communicator with interpersonal relations expertise. Reputation for building relationships while managing resources and projects.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY

Say It Write, LLC

Consultancy
Detroit, MI

Founder + CEO | 2013 – Present

Wayne State University

Detroit Revitalization Fellows
Detroit, MI

Director | 2016 – 2020

Strategy Leader | 2014 – 2016

Central Michigan University

Center for Charter Schools
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Compliance Coord. | 2014

The Conner Group, LLC

Consultancy
Detroit, MI

Principal | 2009 – 2014

Black Star Educational Mgmt.

Nsoroma Institute PSA
(Charter School Service Provider)
Detroit, MI

Operations Mngtr. | 2011 – 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Leadership & Strategy

Led the creation and implementation of the Detroit Revitalization Fellows' overall strategy and five-year strategic plan. Provided leadership, implemented new systems, and developed new processes to address organizational issues and improve efficiency. Effectively delegated tasks and coordinated projects across functional units to facilitate a productive work environment. Represented organizations/programs locally and nationally.

Communications

Wrote and edited grant proposals and collateral materials. Created newsletters, web and social media content, fundraising letters, sponsorship invitations, and presentations. Wrote blogs to inform, educate, and persuade. Conveyed key and difficult messages for internal and external audiences. Served as spokesperson and ambassador at events and conferences raising organization/program awareness locally and nationally. Panel participant, live stream featured guest, and conference presenter. Provided communications coaching for fellows, peers, and private clients.

Thought Partnership

Led the effort to adapt the fellowship model for Detroit's evolving leadership needs. Explored post-fellowship career opportunities for transitioning fellows. Brainstormed solutions for fellow-employer conflicts. A key contributor to the Co.act Executive Director interview team. Collaborated with clients to develop strategies to execute organizational/programmatic vision.

University of Michigan

Office of Alumni Engagement
Dearborn, MI

Prog. Coord. | 2010 – 2011

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt
- Microsoft Office & Teams
- Wrike
- Squarespace
- Calendly
- Zoom

Coaching & Facilitation

Organically and formally coached new hires, clients, fellows, interns, and colleagues in-person and remotely. Worked with fellows to facilitate their employment transitions. Developed strategies and practices to bolster clients' confidence, clarity, and productivity. Designed and applied a curriculum to accomplish clients' communications goals. Convened and facilitated difficult one-on-one and stakeholder conversations. Led communications, board development, and branding workshops and trainings.

Relationship Building

Fostered a professional environment and cultivated relationships with fellows to create a network of doers. Identified and cultivated potential employers, fellows, and funders. Developed and maintained positive relationships and communications with the public and key stakeholders including board of directors/advisory entities. Facilitated partnerships and served as a liaison with other organizations and programs for greater impact and collaboration.

Project Management

Integrated various project management tools to successfully translate organizations'/clients' visions into reality. Led large-scale, long-term projects exceeding outcomes. Skilled at monitoring, team empowerment, assessment, and wrap-up. Created detailed project plans and communicated progress. Consistently achieved on-time completion rates for project tasks. Ensured continuous improvement of program design, development, and implementation. Coordinated program evaluation with a national consultant partner.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Master of Public Administration
Nonprofit Leadership

University of Phoenix

Bachelor of Science
Business Management

AFFILIATIONS

Board Member Emeritus – Teen HYPE

Board Member – First Step & U of M-Dearborn African American Alumni Affiliate

Advisory Board Member – Brilliant Detroit