

KAT JOHNSON

EDUCATION

- Princeton University** (Princeton, NJ) – Master’s in Public Affairs (M.P.A.) 2012-2014
Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT) – Bachelor’s in Sociology and French, with Honors 2002-2006
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief of Staff, Community Solutions, Salt Lake City (remote) Jan 2021 – Present

Lead strategy for a national organization working in 98 cities to create a lasting end to homelessness.

- Lead on the 2026 strategic plan, including tracking and redirection of activity to reach the organization’s goals.
- Led successful 2021 application to the MacArthur Foundation’s 100&Change competition, securing a \$100mill grant.
- Manage key funding partnerships, including our largest funder (\$20M annually) and second largest (\$2.5M annually).
- Lead on internal communication, including all-staff calls, retreats, celebrations, and written correspondence.
- Act as primary liaison to the Board, managing communication and supervising Executive Assistant to prepare materials.
- Facilitate Executive Team strategy implementation and decision-making and support the President with gatekeeping, prioritization, problem-solving and information-gathering.

Senior Project Manager for Strategy, Community Solutions, Salt Lake City (remote) Dec 2018 – Dec 2020

- Led development of the 2020-2024 strategic plan, including coordinating with staff, Executive Team and Board to set targets, gathering feedback from community leaders and funders, and tracking progress.
- Facilitated Executive Team decision-making and strategy implementation, leading weekly calls and quarterly retreats.
- Supported the President through problem-solving, and information-gathering and supervised the executive assistant.

Executive Director, Institute of Global Homelessness, Chicago, IL June 2014 – Dec 2018

A partnership between DePaul University and Depaul International, IGH supports practitioners and policymakers to end homelessness around the world (www.ighhomelessness.org).

- Designed organizational mission, core program areas and first strategic plan, including key performance indicators.
- Supervised three full-time staff, research and technical assistance contracts, and an active board.
- Managed and fundraised toward the annual budget, which grew from \$500,000 to \$1million over four years.
- Oversaw all programs from idea to implementation, including: two convenings of 125+ experts, a globally agreed definition of homelessness, an annual leadership program, an online research hub (www.ighhub.org), successful advocacy for homelessness as the priority issue for the 2019 United Nations Social Development Conference, and launching a campaign to end street homelessness in 150 cities by 2030.

Project Manager - 100,000 Homes Campaign, Community Solutions, Los Angeles, CA Jan 2010 – July 2012

Winner of the UN World Habitat Award, the 100,000 Homes Campaign helped house 100,000 vulnerable people.

- Planned operations in collaboration with campaign director, including hiring, media rollout, and website launch.
- Supervised two staff and managed contracts with quality improvement, research and program consultants.
- Coordinated geographically diverse team members, tracking tasks and leading team calls.

Coordinator, National Programs, Common Ground (Community Solutions), New York May 2009 – Jan 2010

- Supported fundraising, including successful \$3 mill application for NY State Housing/Homeless Assistance.
- Ran internal management system and supervised an executive assistant and two graduate-level interns.

Program Associate, Project Muso Ladamunen, Yirimadjo, Mali May 2008 – May 2009

- Established a need-based health fund, community health worker training, and electronic medical records system.

Assistant to the President, Common Ground (Community Solutions), New York May 2006 – May 2008

- Managed the President’s schedule, correspondence, presentations, travel, and special projects as assigned.

LEADERSHIP

Board Member, Chicago Continuum of Care, Chicago, IL

April 2016 – April 2018

- Served a two-year term as a voting member of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Continuum of Care (CoC), a local planning body that coordinates federal homelessness assistance funds.
- Co-led the Funding Opportunities Task Group, which prepared a successful \$63 million funding application to HUD.

Adjunct Professor, “Homeless in the City,” DePaul University, Chicago, IL

Spring 2018

Taught a 200-level course on homelessness. Course evaluations above the department average on all sixteen indicators.

Graduate Consultancy and Leadership, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

Sept 2012 – May 2014

- *Evaluation committee co-chair, Princeton University Students and Alumni of Color Symposium.*
- *Lead coordinator, Homicide Reduction Policy Workshop.* Led a 10-student workshop on homicide reduction in Honduras, including travel to Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala and a presentation to the US State Department.
- *Summer intern, the Rapid Results Institute (São Paulo, Brazil).* Facilitated workers and managers to improve factory health and safety conditions through 100-day projects.
- *Woodrow Wilson School representative (elected), Princeton Graduate Student Government.*

Financial Manager and Board Treasurer, Project Muso Ladamunen

July 2009 – Jan 2011

Volunteer position managing the \$250,000 annual budget of a growing Malian non-profit employing over 40 staff.

- Approved monthly budgets and prepared materials for state and federal taxes, licenses, and registrations.
- Served as voting member of Project Muso’s Board of Directors, advising on strategic challenges.

Board Member, Community Board 7, Brooklyn, NY

April 2007 – April 2008

- Appointed by the Brooklyn Borough President as a voting member of a local representative body tasked with approving neighborhood-level projects and initiatives.

SKILLS

Language: French – professional fluency. Portuguese and Spanish – beginner level.

Technology: Proficient with Google Suite, Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access), and collaboration tools including Zoom, Skype, Slack, and Asana. Proficient with data analysis and visualization using Excel. Basic familiarity with Stata.