

INTERIM EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Spring 2009

FRANK ABDALE is the Principal of Abdale Consulting, a consulting agency focused on developing vision, strategies and actions for dynamic leaders and organizations. He has twenty years as an executive and consultant with extensive experience in strategic planning, capacity building, policy development and fundraising. The former Executive Director of a national association, Frank is a proven innovator and a gifted author, teacher and public speaker.

JUDITH ALPERT is a senior operations and strategic planning executive. She is currently winding down from her interim position as Special Advisor to the President on International Alliances at the New York Academy of Sciences, a post she's held since serving as Executive Director of Global Operations at NYU. Prior to that, Judith was Associate Dean and Chief Operating officer for NYU's School of Law.

LESLEE ASCH has been Executive Director of NDI since May 2004. She ran her own consulting firm, with clients ranging from Anna Deavere Smith to Walt Disney World. She was Executive Director of the Jim Henson Foundation and Producing Director of the Henson Festivals. She holds a Masters from New School University.

ANTHONY BUONPANE brings over 14 years of nonprofit experience to his consulting business and is recognized as a leader in his field. He manages financial and company development for social service and affordable housing organizations. Currently, he is consulting with nonprofits to enhance their financial and operational performance. By designing comprehensive controls, processes, and systems, he offers his clients fiscal peace of mind.

MICHAEL CHANG is currently a director of Maverick Concerts, teaches art administration classes for the NYU SCPS Division of Humanities, and serves as managing director of *MC ArtStrategies*, a consultancy for nonprofit arts institutions. Formerly executive director for Downtown Music at Grace, Chang also spent 25 years in international tourism management, directing educational and cultural market development for Asian destinations.

DIANE CILENTO has been President and CEO of Sequoia Community Initiatives, Inc. (SCI) since February 2004, has worked in the non profit sector since 1995 and in the private sector for 15 years prior to that. She earned an MBA in Management from Long Island University.

PETER COBB has been VP for Finance & Administration with the International Center for Transitional Justice for the past two years. A 1979 graduate of Columbia Law School, where he was an editor of the Law Review, he became partner at the Fried Frank law firm in 1984 and served as the chair/managing partner of that firm from 1995 to 2003. From 1991 until 1994 he worked for the US Congress, where he was deputy Chief of Staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation. He left Fried Frank in 2005 to be the president of the Legal Aid Society.

DARWIN M. DAVIS is a New Yorker and has devoted his career to the non-profit human services arena. He's led several organizations including Black Agency Executives, the Human Services Council, the New York Urban League and most recently Black Equity Alliance. He has also taught non profit management at New School University, Baruch's National Urban Rural Fellows Program and Columbia University's Institute for Nonprofit Management.

AARON FELDER has been serving for nine months as the Interim Executive Director of the Brooklyn-Queens Conservatory, a large community music school. Prior to this position, Felder was Managing Director at the school for 9 months. Felder has nearly 10 years experience in non-profit management, and holds a BA from Oberlin College.

EMILY FORHMAN, LMSW, is a certified Field Instructor and is skilled in family and couples therapy. Emily was the Program Director at Big Brothers & Big Sisters for over 12 years and maintains professional contacts at institutions such as The Ackerman Family Institute and The Minuchin Family Center.

ELIZABETH GARGER is a management and marketing professional who began her career in the broadcasting industry at ABC. She then moved into the International Sports area, working for a Swiss based agency that represented the International Olympic committee. As COO for Women's Professional Tennis she managed this membership organization, and then took on the position of ED for The Volunteer Center of the United in Westchester, NY. Currently she has been doing Organizational Management consulting work for a private club in the NYC area.

DOUGLAS GROTE has been a state-licensed psychotherapist in private practice in Fanwood, NJ, for over 30 years. He is also a Presbyterian minister who does interim pastorates. Born in Elizabeth, NJ, he has 5 children and 5 grandchildren, and lives in Plainfield, NJ.

ROBERT HYFLER has over 27 years of non profit experience, most recently as the Executive Director of The Healthcare foundation of NJ. Bob has served as a Senior Vice President for United Jewish Communities (UJC), and as the Chief Operating Officer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Currently he is working on a major NY initiative to assist individuals and families dislocated by the current economic crisis.

DAMYN KELLY has worked his entire professional life in the public service sector bringing a diverse range of skills and experience. Educationally trained as a lawyer, he has worked as an assistant district attorney, congressional aide and for the past 13 years as a senior manager/executive director of not for profit social service agencies.

NANCY KIELING has been President of the Princeton Area Community Foundation since 1994. She holds a BA from University of Wisconsin and a MS from Old Dominion University; and was a corporate lending officer at the Bank of New York; and a Regional Director of Admissions at Princeton University.

HEATHER G. KRESS is a corporate attorney for over 15 years, she has handled many business and financial deals and contracts; managed dealings with governmental agencies and corporate governance; directed projects from inception to completion and supervised professionals and staff. Pro bono, Heather has lead and advise boards of non-profit groups on business and legal matters.

LAURA LEWIS is a not-for-profit professional with over ten years of experience as both an executive director and a development director. Born and raised in the UK, she then came to New York and attended the State University of New York, Purchase College and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

JEANNE LUTFY'S diverse experience spans the public, private and nonprofit sectors in the areas of economic development, the arts and marketing. Jeanne led the BAM Local Development Corporation, spearheading development of the \$630 million, mixed-use BAM Cultural District. Other positions include: Forest City Ratner, Burson Marsteller, Greater New York Savings Bank, and NYC Economic Development Corporation.

FRANCINE LYNCH is a senior philanthropic and communications executive with extensive experience in program development, marketing and project management for major corporations and nonprofit organizations. She previously served as the Director for Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at Columbia University as well as the Director for Lincoln Center Corporate Fund at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

RON MEIER, a highly accomplished executive leader with track record of increasing scope and complexity in diverse local and international non-profits. He is currently a senior consultant with the Jewish Funders Network and was previously the Executive Vice President. Ron was the Founding Director and Senior Vice President of Mandel Center for Leadership Excellence.

EMILY MENLO MARKS is currently a consultant doing strategic planning and coaching, Ms. Marks revitalized a nearly moribund 75 year-old organization, United Neighborhood Houses of New York, as Executive Director. She was Deputy Executive Director and Acting Executive Director of the New York City Volunteer Corps. Ms. Marks also worked at the Vera Institute of Justice as the Associate Director and served as Assistant Administrator of the New York City Environmental Protection Administration during the Lindsay Administration.

JANE FINCKE ORENSTEIN career spans all three sectors---private, nonprofit and government--beginning with various real estate management positions at the Rockefeller Group. Longing to "give back", I joined United Way right after September 11th. Most recently, I served as the Chief of Staff to the NYC Commissioner of Housing. I have a BA from Yale and an MBA from Harvard.

SANDRA RUIZ BUTTER has become involved in government assisted housing development, including serving as Vice President at Starrett Housing and at Phipps Houses. In 1992, she became Acting Director, and subsequently, President of VIP Community Services in the Bronx. At VIP she built on its existing programs in addiction treatment and added other services including HIV/AIDS testing and case management; a state licensed primary care clinic; low-income family and special needs permanent rental housing; an employment program.

FLOYD RUMOHR has twenty years experience in arts education, nonprofit leadership, program and organizational management, and consulting. He is the founding President and CEO of Stages of Learning[®] from its 1994 inception through its 2009 acquisition as a wholly owned subsidiary by Queens Theatre in the Park.

CAROLE TRESTON has more than 15 years senior management and executive director level experience in local, national and international health and research organizations, primarily focused on HIV/AIDS and youth issues. Among other roles, she has been the Director of Operations for the NIH sponsored Pediatric AIDS Clinical Trials Group in DC and the Executive Director of Children's Hope Foundation in NYC.