

Stephanie Sandler

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Results-driven entrepreneurial leader with 20+ years of experience driving social impact and organizational growth through innovation and sustainable strategies. Proven track record of delivering exceptional results through inclusive leadership, operational excellence, and a dedication to continuous improvement.

Expertise

- Strategic Planning and Execution
- Operations Management
- Financial Oversight and Budgeting
- Partner and Stakeholder Cultivation
- Program Expansion and Analysis
- Project and Client Management
- Team Leadership and Mentoring
- Grant Writing and Development

Experience

Founder and Principal

January 2024 – Current

Full Circle Philanthropy

Relaunched nonprofit advisory and strategic consulting practice. Often serving as interim or fractional COO to execute strategic recommendations.

Chief Operating Officer (employee)

January 2023 - December 2023

Chief of Strategy (consultant)

July 2017 – December 2022

Raise The Barr

Raise The Barr increases economic mobility for single-parent postsecondary students and their children through comprehensive programming for both generations.

- Pivotal in the six-year transformation of Raise The Barr from a start-up all-volunteer staff with a budget of \$60K to a recognized leader in the whole family approach to postsecondary education with an annual budget of \$1.8 MM and a team of 11+.
- Developed and executed 5-year operational roadmaps for program expansion, revenue diversification, board recruitment, communications, and talent acquisition.
- Collaborated with the CEO to implement strategic plans, growing programming from scholarship for five single-parents to trauma-informed programming impacting 275+ single-parent students and their children.
- Cultivated critical partnerships, fostering collaborative efforts that increased organizational capacity and brand visibility.
- Established a statewide initiative in Minnesota to boost educational opportunities for 70k student parents. Recruited Office of Higher Education as a co-founder, leading to a \$6MM legislative budget for statewide student-parent resources.

- Guided the transition from a sponsored project to an independent 501(c)(3) including board development, financial systems, insurance, legal compliance, and human resources to help keep pace with our growth.

Founder and Principal

December 2014 – December 2022

Full Circle Philanthropy

Founded a nonprofit advisory and strategic consulting practice offering a wide range of nonprofit expertise with a focus on guiding organizations to sustainable growth and increased impact.

- Successfully led multi-year engagements, consistently delivering exceptional results leading to renewal.
- Developed strategic plans for operational, developmental, and infrastructure growth.
- Executed key initiatives for expansion, partner cultivation, and operational management.
- Strengthened board engagement and improved governance structures.
- Conducted thorough research to pinpoint programming opportunities within the broader landscape, advocating for trauma-informed, culturally attuned expansion strategies.
- Worked with a diverse range of clients and missions including a nonprofit consulting firm specializing in social justice, a century-old educational association, and a nonprofit focused on trauma-informed community healing in South Central Los Angeles.

Senior Vice President and COO

December 1999 – October

2014

The Giving Back Fund

The Giving Back Fund (GBF) provides philanthropic consulting and management to high-net-worth individuals and corporations with a special emphasis on the sports and entertainment industries. GBF was a pioneer in leveraging the influence of high-profile individuals for charitable causes and became a recognized leader in the field.

- Managed operations including program development, growth and business strategy, board cultivation, governance, financial oversight, communications, public relations, and human resources.
- Led the philanthropic consulting and management practice, managing up to 36 clients and overseeing grantmaking and programming distributions totaling over \$20MM.
- Negotiated and activated cause-marketing campaigns and corporate sponsorship, receiving tens of millions in media hits and resulting in millions of dollars.
- Supervised 65+ fundraising and programming events, including an annual Super Bowl fundraising event and an annual conference on philanthropic best practices.
- Fostered connections with potential clients, financial advisors, board members, corporate and programming partners, funders, media outlets, and other stakeholders.

Education

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Professional Writing, Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts