



**Digital Strategy for Community Foundations and
Mission-Driven Local Organizations**
Knight Digital Media Center
USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
In Partnership with The Chicago Community Trust
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PARTICIPANTS



Natalie Anderson

Director of Communications, Community Foundation of the Great River Bend
Contact: natalieanderson@cfgrb.org

Natalie Anderson has a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing with a minor in communications from Wartburg College. She has a Certificate in Organizational Leadership from the Master's of Organizational Leadership Program at St. Ambrose University. Prior to joining the Community Foundation in May 2012, Natalie had seven years of experience in publications management, marketing, and advertising in both the corporate and public sectors. Much of Natalie's work at the

Community Foundation has focused on development of a new website, increasing social media presence, and beginning the process of unifying all marketing materials.



Jeremy Barrows

Director of Development & Communications, Evanston Community Foundation
Contact: barrows@evanstonforever.org

Jeremy Barrows joined the Evanston Community Foundation staff in 2010, and holds responsibilities in donor cultivation and solicitation; coordinating the board's engagement in fundraising; planned giving; direct mail appeals; public relations; and print and social media. Jeremy's prior positions were in arts institutions in Hartford, Connecticut: associate director of development for individual giving at Hartford Stage Company, and marketing manager at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

Jeremy graduated with a B.A. from Wesleyan University, where he studied government and cultural studies of science.



Lawrence Benito

CEO, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

Contact: lbenito@icirr.org

Lawrence Benito serves as the chief executive officer at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), one of the leading organizations with the Fair Immigration Reform Movement fighting for just and humane immigration policies. The son of immigrants from the Philippines, Lawrence has spent the last twenty years working for justice for immigrants and other disenfranchised groups, through community and electoral organizing. Currently, he serves on the board of directors for Chicago Public Media, and is a proud Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Ghana, '93-

95).



David Bennett

Executive Director, Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne

Contact: dbennett@cfqfw.org

He has been the executive director of the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne since 1995. Before that, he was a lobbyist in the Indiana Legislature. His training is as a certified public accountant. He has a B.A. in Economics from Williams College, and a Master's in public affairs from Princeton University.

Julianne Buck

CEO, Community Foundation of Grundy County

Contact: Julianne.buck@gmail.com

Julie Buck is the CEO of the Community Foundation of Grundy County, Illinois. Julie's LinkedIn "skills and expertise" include: the Queen of Networking, Asker of "What if?", Big Wacky Idea Master, Cause Architect, Issues Incubator, Public Forum Designer, Effective Facilitator, and Servant Leader. Julie's caution regarding this workshop is, "If I am more digitally connected to my community, will it require me to be 'on' more?" And, "How do I drag my old-school board members into the new century.... or do I even want to?"

Julie has spent most of her career in government and not-for-profit service, including the Illinois Attorney General's Office, the YMCA, and the Lake County Center for Independent Living. She has a BS in Family & Consumer Science from Illinois State University (Go Redbirds!) and 30 hours toward a Masters of Public Administration from Governors State University.

Katie Buitrago

Senior Policy and Communications Associate, Woodstock Institute

Contact: kbuitrago@woodstockinst.org

Katie Buitrago contributes to Woodstock's policy development, outreach, coalition building, and communications efforts. Katie also works on Woodstock's research and analysis, including reports on the disparate impacts of negative equity on Chicago area communities and racial disparities in FHA/VA lending. Prior to joining the Woodstock Institute, Katie gained experience in research and communications as a reporter and intern at Chicago

Public Radio and the Chicago Reader. Katie is pursuing a Master of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and received her B.A. with honors in Public Policy Studies and Latin American Studies from the University of Chicago.



Joan Dixon

President & CEO, Community of East Central Illinois

Contact: joandixon@cfeci.org

Joan Dixon, has been president and CEO of the Community of East Central Illinois for ten years. Before joining the Foundation, she served as senior director of marketing and public relations for Christie Clinic, a large multi-specialty physician group practice with six locations in east central Illinois. A graduate of Dominican University in River Forest, IL, Joan also holds a Masters in Theatre and an MBA, both from the University of Illinois. She is the immediate past president of the Alliance of Illinois Community Foundations and currently chairs the Governance and Legislative Committees. She also serves on the Illinois Attorney General's Charitable Trust Advisory Council. Of relatively normal intelligence, she is technologically inept. Her accomplishments so far are that she can access email, look at Facebook and check the stock market. A Twitter account and Facebook page set up for the Foundation by interns have remained as a memorial to the work of the students because they have been untouched since the students left almost a year ago.



Joe Entwisle

Senior Policy Analyst, Health & Disability Advocates

Contact: jentwisle@hdadvocates.org

Joe Entwisle is a senior policy analyst and disability employment expert for Health & Disability Advocates, a national health, education and employment nonprofit based in Chicago that powers Think Beyond the Label, a social venture to promote a more inclusive workforce. At age 16, a wrestling injury left Joe paralyzed from the shoulders down. He earned a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, turned his internships into jobs starting at 23 years old, and has been working competitively full time ever since. Joe has worked as a policy analyst for the state of Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin and several private businesses in the areas of healthcare, employment and work incentives. While interim director of the State Independent Living Council, he helped the Wisconsin Department of Health Services transition it to an autonomous organization. Today, Joe is sought after as an expert provider of training and technical assistance to states on many areas of health care and workforce policy. He is also Think Beyond the Label's relationship manager and social media chief.

Dan Fair

Web Communications Associate, Woodstock Institute

Contact: dfair@woodstockinst.org

Through web-based communications such as social media, data visualization, and the Woodstock blog and website, Dan's work focuses on communicating Woodstock's research and policy findings in new and interesting ways.

Dan joined Woodstock in February 2013 after serving as manager of communications & member relations for the National Community Tax Coalition. He received his B.A. in history and political science from Butler University and his Masters in Public Affairs from Indiana University.

Jessica Folkema

Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Fremont Area Community Foundation

Contact: jfolkema@tfacf.org

Jessica Folkema has three years of human resources experience at Calvin College, a liberal-arts college in Grand Rapids, MI. While there, she was a contributing writer on the News & Stories team of the college communications and marketing department. Jessica also has a B.A. in Communications and Rhetoric (minor in Journalism) from Calvin.

Melissa Freye

Director of Communications, Council on Michigan Foundations

Contact: mfreye@michiganfoundations.org

Melissa Freye serves as director of communications for the Council of Michigan Foundations. Prior to joining CMF, she was principal/owner of Insight LLC, providing strategic communications, marketing, and planning to small and medium-sized businesses. As the Chief Communications Officer (2000 – 2008) for Hackley Health System (Muskegon MI), she led the development of marketing, public relations, and crisis communication strategies along with market research and business development support. As the development officer for Hackley Hospital (1998 – 2000) she guided the hospital toward the creation of its own foundation. As public relations/development manager for Muskegon Museum of Art (1985 –1998), she coordinated print publications, museum membership program, fundraising, and capital campaigns. Melissa has a Masters Degree in organizational communication from Western Michigan University, and a Bachelors Degree from Central Michigan University.



Karen Chassin Goldbaum

Communications Officer, Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

Contact: kgoldbaum@cfsem.org

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is one of the country's largest community foundations and it serves a seven-county region, which includes Detroit and Ann Arbor. Prior to joining the foundation, Karen was director of communications at the University of Michigan Museum of Art for six years. She was asked to form the Museum's first communications department in preparation for a capital campaign and large museum renovation and expansion, which opened in 2009. The rebranding and reopening campaign that she led won two Addy Awards. Prior to that, she spent five years as editor of publications and exhibitions at the Museum. Her projects won frequent awards in the publications competition of the American Association of Museums. She has degrees in English from Miami University in Ohio and the University of Toronto. Karen is also a trained community mediator in the state of Michigan and is currently pursuing APR certification through the Public Relations Society of America.

Brandon Hayes

Associate Director of Communications, Openlands

Contact: bhayes@openlands.org

Brandon Hayes joined [Openlands](#) as associate director of communications in June 2012. He has spent his entire career working for non-profit organizations, most recently as manager of communications and development at the Chicago arts education organization, [Marwen](#). Before that, he served two seasons as a publicist for [Goodman Theatre](#). He has also done communications consulting for smaller arts organizations. Brandon has a B.A. in humanities, concentrating in art history, history, and English, from the [University of Michigan-Dearborn](#). He is a founding member of [VOX 3 Vocal Music Collective](#), and he has directed operas and plays in Chicago and his native metropolitan Detroit. He is a long-time volunteer for the [International Crane Foundation](#)'s annual Midwest Crane Count.

Ilze Hirsh

Vice President of Communication Programs, Shriver Center

Contact: ilzehirsh@povertylaw.org

Ilze Hirsh, vice president of communication programs who has been with the Shriver Center, www.povertylaw.org, since January 1989, has overall responsibility for the publication of [Clearinghouse Review: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy](#). She also facilitates the development of the Shriver Center's web features designed to share best practices of lawyers representing low-income people and communities, support the lawyers' professional development, and foster the development of innovative legal strategies. She transforms exchanges of ideas with advocates into themes for *Review* articles or entire issues. Ilze has served as the Shriver Center's deputy director as well as acting executive director. With a J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law, Ilze began her legal career as a staff attorney in the general counsel's office of the Illinois Department of Public Aid in Springfield, Illinois. She was an associate with Friedemann, Stone, LaScala, Keto & Fingal in Orange, California, before returning to her native Chicago to work as a legal editor at CCH, a major legal publisher. She has a bachelor's degree in German and health studies from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota.

Don Kalisz

Marketing and Communications Director, Community Foundation for Muskegon County

Contact: don@revel.in

Don Kalisz is currently the marketing and communications director of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County in Muskegon, MI. He is also a current Partner + Jeep Driver at Revel Marketing in Muskegon and Grand Rapids, MI. Don heads up Revel's design group, and he has been known to take unnecessarily rugged routes over curbs to show off his Jeep's suspension. He was previously the owner of Relevant Branding, Marketing, and Advertising. He is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a BFA in graphic communication. He worked in the heyday of Fluid Design, a former Muskegon MI marketing agency for nearly six years before starting his own firm, Relevant, in 2006. Don recently served on the American Advertising Federation of West Michigan board of directors, chairs the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce Inclusion and Community Awareness Committee, sits on several marketing committees, and has won multiple coveted industry awards including a few District, Regional, and even National Gold AAF Addy Awards.

Ryan Kilpatrick

Communications Director, Center for Neighborhood Technology

Contact: rkilpatrick@cnt.org

Ryan Kilpatrick joined the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT) as communications director in March, 2013. Prior to CNT, Ryan worked as an independent communications consultant to nonprofit clients in Chicago and around

the world, including Human Rights Watch and the Museum of Science and Industry. In 2011 and 2012, Ryan served as a consultant to the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria in South Africa, where he managed media relations for special events and created social media campaigns to reach prospective law students in targeted African nations. During his four-year tenure at Grisko, a leading Chicago communications firm, Ryan led public affairs and media relations campaigns for nonprofit, corporate and government clients on issues such as car sharing, housing, transit/transportation, and municipal policy in Great Lakes states. In four years at what is now Planned Parenthood of Illinois, Ryan coordinated online advocacy activities before becoming manager of communications. Ryan holds an M.A. in diplomacy and international commerce from the University of Kentucky, and a B.S. in psychology from Bradley University.



Jane Kimondo

Program Director, Crossroads Fund

Contact: jane@crossroadsfund.org

Jane Kimondo, program director joined Crossroads Fund seven years ago from the Chicago Foundation for Women, where she worked in their program department for four years. She holds two Master's degrees in Organizational Development and Human Resources and a Certificate in Advanced Study in Philanthropy & Non-Profit Sector from Loyola University Chicago. Jane has extensive international and nonprofit experience in both Chicago and her native country, Kenya.

Meredith Klein

Communications Officer in Public Affairs, MacArthur Foundation

Contact: mklein@macfound.org

Meredith Klein is a communications officer in public affairs at the MacArthur Foundation. Prior to joining the foundation, she served as assistant director of communications for the University of Chicago Medical Center and biological sciences division, where she developed and executed strategic communications plans to enhance the center's reputation, served as managing editor for several publications, oversaw internal communications, and supported communications for key executives. She previously spent seven years at two large public relations firms, Edelman and Fleishman-Hillard, working for a range of healthcare and corporate clients on crisis communications, issues management, and day-to-day public relations. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Sharon Kunkel

Director of Marketing and Communications, Community Foundation of Sarasota County

Contact: Sharon@cfsarasota.org

Sharon Kunkel is the director of marketing and communications for the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, responsible for marketing the programs, events, grants, fundraising efforts and financial services of the agency; creating all promotional materials and publications; and utilizing traditional and social media to increase awareness of the foundation's work throughout the community. Before coming to the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, she served as the director of development and marketing for Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida, where she elevated the fundraising totals for all of the organization's major special events, built the organization's now-vibrant social media network, and helped lead the

affiliate to the highest fundraising total in the country in the wake of the Komen defunding situation in 2012. Previously, she served for six years as the communications director for the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee, and before that spent a decade as a writer and editor for area publications. She holds a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Tufts University.

Sharon K. Legenza

Executive Director, Housing Action Illinois

Contact: Sharon@housingactionil.org

Sharon K. Legenza is the executive director of Housing Action Illinois, a statewide, membership-based organization formed to preserve and expand the availability of quality, affordable housing throughout Illinois. Prior to joining Housing Action, she served as the interim executive director for the ACLU of Alaska, as the Fair Housing Project Director for the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and as an attorney with the firms Miner Barnhill & Galland and Sidley Austin. Sharon is currently working on initiatives to mitigate foreclosures and stabilize communities at risk because of the housing crisis. She has been appointed to the Illinois Affordable Housing Trust Fund Advisory Commission and to be a co-chair of the Illinois Housing Task Force Foreclosure Working Group. She currently serves on the boards of the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations and the Asian American Institute. Sharon is a graduate of Northwestern University School of Law (JD) and the University of Chicago (BA).

Rick Manuel

Executive Director, Community Foundation of the Kankakee River Valley

Contact: rick@endowthefuture.org

Previously, Rick was the senior vice president of Kankakee Community College, having served in that position for 35 years. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois—Urbana.



Sara McElmurry

Communications Manager, Latino Policy Forum

Contact: smcelmurry@latinopolicyforum.org

Sara has spent the last decade working, traveling, studying and volunteering in Latin America. Prior to joining the Latino Policy Forum, Sara worked as a research professor at the Universidad Tecnológica de la Mixteca in Oaxaca, Mexico. She also spent a year teaching in rural Japan with the JET Program. Sara has coordinated marketing communications efforts for the American Heart Association and American Red Cross of Greater Chicago, focusing on outreach to Chicago's Latino community. Before moving to the nonprofit sector, she served as an account executive at Concepto Public Relations, a Hispanic marketing boutique affiliated with Dome Communications. Sara holds an M.A. in Linguistics from Northeastern Illinois University and dual B.A. degrees in Spanish and Communications from Bradley University.

Melissa Meighen

Communications Director, Voices for Illinois Children

Contact: mmeighen@voices4kids.org

Melissa Meighen, communications director at Voices for Illinois Children, brings to Voices a career-long dedication to social justice and a personal passion to create positive change for kids and families. Before joining Voices, she applied her experience and enthusiasm on behalf of her PR agency clients at Kathy Schaeffer and Associates in Chicago and, before that, at The Kamber Group in New York City. Melissa has a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's degree in English language and literature, both from Kent State University.



Michelle Nicolet

Web and eCommunications Director, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
Contact: mnicolet@povertylaw.org

Michelle Nicolet is the web and e-communications director at the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law. The Shriver Center provides national leadership in advancing laws and policies that secure justice to improve the lives and opportunities of people living in poverty. Michelle is responsible for managing the Shriver Center's web content, mass email communications, blog, and social media. She has a B.A. from St. Olaf College.



Nicole Paquette

Communications Associate, Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area
Contact: Nicole@cfhz.org

Nicole Paquette is the communications associate for the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland area in Holland, Michigan. Prior to joining the foundation in 2012, Nicole worked as a grant writer, editor, and marketing and communications coordinator in the Great Lakes Bay Region. She also worked in various communications roles for the Bay County Library System in Bay City, MI. Nicole received her B.A. in professional and technical writing and communication from Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan.



Eva Penar

Director of Marketing and Communications, The Chicago Community Trust
Contact: evap@cct.org

Eva Penar is the director of marketing and communications and a member of the management committee at The Chicago Community Trust, where she is involved in day-to-day practices that support the vision for all Trust marketing and communications activities. She previously served as manager of public relations, increasing the Trust's visibility and elevating the work of grant recipients and donors. Prior to joining the Trust, Eva was part of the launch team behind Time Out Chicago. As a marketing manager, she developed partnerships that made the introduction to the Chicago market so successful. Eva also worked at the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum for five years. During her tenure there, she worked on the "Gelman Collection: Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera and 20th Century Mexican Art" exhibition and supported an expansion that tripled the museum's size. Her hard work was recognized at the Chicago Emmy ceremony in 2004, where a public-service announcement that she coordinated with Univision Channel 66 won an award. She has also worked as a communications associate for the Chicago Millennium Celebration, Department of Cultural Affairs for the City of Chicago. Eva is fluent in Polish and Spanish. In 2009, Time Out Chicago recognized Eva as a "Super Connector" in

its feature about Chicagoans who go above and beyond in networking. In 2012, Eva participated in the Young Atlanticist Summit during the NATO summit that took place in Chicago. She serves as a steering committee member for CommA, the professional association of communicators affiliated with the Council on Foundations.

Amy Price

Marketing Associate, Battle Creek Community Foundation

Contact: amyjprice@hotmail.com

Amy Price currently resides in Marshall, Michigan, and is marketing associate at the Battle Creek Community Foundation. Originally planning to have a career as an artist, Amy found herself often taking on marketing/communications work at the nonprofits she was employed at “to pay the bills.” Eventually she found herself at Grand Rapids Community Foundation where she made a career shift into communications with a focus on nonprofits and philanthropy. Her undergraduate degree is from Kendall College of Art & Design in Grand Rapids and her master’s is in communications from Grand Valley State University.



Allyson Stewart

Communications Coordinator, Heartland Alliance

Contact: alstewart@heartlandalliance.org

Allyson Stewart manages communications outreach for the Heartland Alliance research and policy teams, including the Social IMPACT Research Center, Heartland Alliance Policy & Advocacy, and the National Transitional Jobs Network. Allyson has a diverse range of communications, research, and policy experience that serves to amplify our work and effectively communicate our information and ideas with key stakeholders around the state and country. Her previous work has focused on women’s entrepreneurship and renewable energy research and policy. Previously, she researched the impact of business training and asset building programs on the success of low-income women entrepreneurs as a research fellow at the Women’s Initiative for Self Employment in Oakland, California. Allyson also has experience working at the federal level as a research assistant intern on the U.S. Congressional Select Committee on Global Warming. She has also worked as a policy consultant to Joint Venture Silicon Valley, and analyzed city ballot initiatives for the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association. Allyson, who speaks Spanish and is conversant in Mandarin, has a BA in public policy from Stanford University.

Louise Stewart

President, Community Foundation of Macon County

Contact: wegi@endowdecatour.org

Louise Stewart was previously the senior development officer for the Decatur Memorial Foundation, as well as the external director for the Richland Community College Foundation. She received her B.A. in Government from Georgetown University. Learn more at @EndowDecatur and www.endowdecatour.org.



Norm Strasma

Consultant, Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley

Contact: nstrasma@comcast.net

Norm Strasma is currently serving as a consultant for the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley. He served as the executive director for 2004-2011, and is now retired. Norm also serves Wright In Kankakee as the director of membership development, which operates historic houses that are open to the public. He started and operated Keynet Online, an Internet service provider for Kankakee County, and worked there for five years. Norm earned his MBA from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, and earned his Bachelor's from DePauw University in Indiana.

Deborah Strauss

Consultant, Partnership for a Connected Illinois

Contact: ddstrauss@gmail.com

Deborah Strauss served for 22 years as executive director of Lumity, which provides technology and accounting assistance to other nonprofits. Lumity has a major program of digital opportunity/community technology center work. It is one major grant-making program, with most of Deborah's work being on the fund seeker side of the table. She also worked seven years as an independent consultant. Deborah received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Chicago.

Monica Trevino

Communications Director, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

Contact: mtrevino@icirr.org

Monica Trevino serves as communications director at Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. Prior to joining the Coalition, Monica served as long-term planning editor at CNN. There, she played an integral part when selecting and planning coverage. While at CNN she covered; Trail of Dream Walkers, SB 1070, Gulf oil spill, California statewide education protests, Arkansas flooding which killed 22 people, and Benazir Bhutto's assassination. Prior to joining CNN, Monica was the assignment manager at Univision's Chicago affiliate. At Univision, she oversaw a team of assignment editors and writers. Under her leadership, she successfully restructured the assignment desk and spearheaded major breaking news stories. Monica received an Emmy for Univision's coverage of the Immigration March in 2005 and a Peabody for CNN's coverage of the 2010 Gulf oil spill. Monica is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Kathy Waligora

Policy and Communications Coordinator, Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition

Contact: kwaligora@ilmaternal.org

Kathy Waligora is the policy and communications coordinator for the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition. In her current position, Kathy is primarily responsible for monitoring implementation of the Affordable Care Act and educating health care and social service providers on this groundbreaking law. Additionally, Kathy provides communications support, which includes managing our digital media, including social media. Kathy has worked in public health for seven years; most recently as a Project Coordinator for Building a Healthier Chicago, a project of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region V. Kathy earned an MA in social service administration from the University of Chicago, with a certificate from the Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy, in 2011. She earned bachelor's degrees in social work and women's studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Ayana Walker

Assistant Director of Web/Social Media Projects, Illinois Action for Children

Contact: ayana.walker@actforchildren.org

Ayana Walker's current responsibilities include: creating strategies and programs that contribute to the achievement of the Illinois Action for Children's social media and internal communications growth objectives; implementing non-traditional programs and breakthrough social network platforms to generate further brand engagement and attract and engage key targeted external audiences as well as internal stakeholders; providing strategic, technical, creative, and managerial oversight for all of IAFC's digital and social channels, including but not limited to the company website (www.actforchildren.com), Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ILaction4children>) and Twitter (http://www.twitter.com/IAFC_CARES) pages.

Past professional experience includes over six years of web development and social media management, which involved: performing the full spectrum of Web-related tasks, including rapid prototyping, design and layout, graphics creation and optimization. Bachelor of Science degree received from the University of Illinois - Urbana in applied mathematics with a minor in Spanish.



Jill Wohl

Director of Development and Communications, Health & Disability Advocates

Contact: jwohl@hdadvocates.org

Jill Wohl is a strategic marketing, communications and development executive with direct experience in public policy, social service and NGO environments focused on health, education, early childhood, disability, employment and multilingual advocacy. As director of development and communications at Health & Disability Advocates, she oversees all marketing, communications and resource development for the agency. Jill oversees the portfolio of web and social media properties at Health & Disability Advocates, including HDadvocates.org, and project sites at IllinoisHealthMatters.org, ourfamilysecurity.com, ILwarriortowarrior.org and ThinkBeyondTheLabel.com Prior to this she led projects at Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and was a member of the senior management team at Illinois Action for Children where she was director of external relations and successfully lobbied to pass historic Preschool for All legislation. Jill has been involved in education reform since 2002 and is a founding member of Raise Your Hand, a grassroots parent group to improve funding and quality of Illinois public schools. Jill has a bachelor's degree from the Media Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Becky Zantout

Grants & Community Initiatives Manager, DeKalb County Community Foundation

Contact: becky@dekabccf.org

Becky Zantout serves as the grants & community initiatives manager at the DeKalb County Community Foundation. She is a graduate of the University of Iowa with degrees in accounting and marketing and has been with the community foundation for eighteen months. Her roles range from program and grant administration, to website maintenance and public communications.