

## JOHN COLBORN

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### SUMMARY

A dedicated and service-oriented senior executive with global and domestic experience in process improvement, higher education, workforce and community development, human development, philanthropy, and organizational development. Leads across several diverse enterprises, including the research nonprofit, human services, and education sectors. Champions solutions and oversees a wide array of endeavors to strengthen independence and expand life opportunities for disadvantaged people while emphasizing engagement and innovation to achieve goals. Proven success in connecting stakeholders in diverse communities with resources to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

- Business Development
- Impact Assessment
- Communications
- Thought Leadership
- Board Governance
- Resource Development

### EXPERIENCE

JEVS HUMAN SERVICES, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Chief Operating Officer**, 2016-2022

Provided strategic management as well as administrative and business oversight of all program services for \$100 million human services organization serving 27,000 people annually. Led strategic and tactical matters regarding operational oversight, systems, processes, compliance and risk management, and leadership development in diverse set of programs including services for people with disabilities, home care services, recovery services, workforce development, youth services, residential programs, and accredited technical college.

Launched new initiatives in apprenticeship, post-secondary education, and social impact assessment. Developed strategic partnerships and oversaw merger, affiliation, and divestment efforts for organization's program portfolio. Fostered and managed organization's response to COVID-19, including ensuring operational continuity, workplace safety, and programmatic responses.

- Implemented agency-wide key indicator tracking system across 30 discrete programs, yielding first agency-wide assessment of impact.
- Identified and implemented program investment and divestment strategies, including raising over \$4 million in investments in facilities and new program development and deriving \$2 million from program and asset sales.
- Brokered partnerships with national organizations in program evaluation, apprenticeship, workforce development, and higher education resulting in new funding and technical assistance partnerships.

ASPEN INSTITUTE, Washington, D.C.

**Director, Skills for America's Future**, 2014-2016

Guided national, private sector-led effort to foster employment and training partnerships between community colleges and employers. Developed and implemented research, capacity building, and policy advocacy agenda for program, including partnerships with workforce investment boards, community colleges, and employers and employer organizations. Presented widely to a range of audiences including corporate leaders, higher education and workforce development professions, and policy makers. Managed all fundraising, strategic communications, and stakeholder outreach.

- With White House staff, planned and staged a White House summit encouraging investment by employers in frontline workers. Formed and raised seed funding for a national coalition, UpSkill America, to continue work following summit.
- Developed a framework for investing in apprenticeship by national and regional philanthropy. Led national meeting to develop joint investment strategies by national foundations.

FORD FOUNDATION, New York, New York

**Vice President, Operations**, 2010-2013

Guided and managed operations of \$11 billion global philanthropy with annual operating budget of \$110 million and grant-making budget of greater than \$500 million. Supervised grants administration function, resulting in 1,300 grant approvals as well as collection of 6,000 grantee reports and approximately 4,000 grant payments each year. Managed institutional research and analysis function and supported processes for budget preparation, strategy reviews, and strategic planning. Supervised IT and tool development to support all aspects of foundation operations. Oversaw all aspects of facilities management for foundation's HQ in New York as well as ten international offices.

FORD FOUNDATION, New York, New York  
**Director, Program Operations, 2006-2010**

Oversaw and facilitated worldwide administration of foundation's program division. Designed, implemented, and assessed wide range of management initiatives at foundation. Acted as primary liaison between grant-making function of foundation and legal, financial, and technology functions. Led and managed planning process resulting in consolidation of foundation program areas into focused lines of work. Managed cost reduction effort for foundation's program division, reducing annual operating costs by 20%. Supervised and managed staff training and knowledge management functions for entire program division.

FORD FOUNDATION, New York, New York  
**Program Officer/Deputy Director, Economic Development, 1998-2007**

Developed program strategy and made grants; focused on workforce development practice and policy. Solicited and underwrote \$3 million to \$8 million in annual program-related investments. Managed \$30 million social investment portfolio. Supported director of economic development unit in wide range of activities and projects. Developed revised system for underwriting, disbursing, and tracking program-related investments for foundation.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

THE REINVESTMENT FUND, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, **Director, Philadelphia Jobs Initiative; Managing Director, Community Development Institute, Technical Assistance Officer**, 1992-1998. Oversaw community development consulting and technical assistance program for fund. Provided consulting services on affordable housing development, neighborhood strategic planning, and organizational strengthening to community development corporations' nonprofit housing developers. Launched funder collaborative, community data, and jobs initiative projects.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY MUTUAL HOUSING FEDERATION, Burlington, Vermont, **Founder/Executive Director**, 1989-1992. Started and founded nonprofit organization to support development of affordable cooperative housing in Greater Philadelphia, Pennsylvania region. Advised municipalities, Pennsylvania state, and banks on strategies for supporting cooperative housing. Engaged in community organizing and undertook tenant education efforts.

CAMPUS COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/NASCO PROPERTIES, Ann Arbor, Michigan, **Founder/Director**, 1987-1989.

NORTH AMERICAN STUDENTS OF COOPERATION, Ann Arbor, Michigan, **Executive Director**, 1986-1989. Managed programming, operations, and fundraising for binational trade association of student-run cooperatives. Founded nonprofit housing development and property-holding affiliates.

## **EDUCATION**

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, **M.B.A., Finance**  
OBERLIN COLLEGE, Oberlin, Ohio, **B.A., Government and B.A., Economics**

## **SELECTED TRAININGS, PRESENTATIONS TO INDUSTRY, AND PUBLICATIONS**

*Ed Talk – Is Education Just Another Luxury Good? Graduate Philadelphia (2020)*  
*Managing Program Portfolios for Social Impact, Social Innovations Journal (2019)*  
*Empowering Workers with Disabilities - A Philadelphia Story, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (2017)*  
*Re-Skilling the Mid-Career Workforce, NJTV/Rutgers University/Working Nation (2017)*  
*Apprenticeship: Training that Works, Aspen Institute (2016)*  
*Recasting Apprenticeship: A Summary of the Barriers to Apprenticeship Expansion, Aspen Institute (2015)*

## **BOARD EXPERIENCE**

*Board of Directors (Vice Chair), Network of Jewish Human Services Organizations, 2018-2022*  
*Board of Directors (Chair), The Graduate! Network, 2017-Present*