

Jill Simmons

Qualifications Summary

For more than 15 years, Jill has been a senior leader in nonprofit and governmental sectors successfully guiding organizations through growth and change to achieve greater mission impact. She is a skilled executive experienced in all aspects of senior leadership, including organizational development and strategic planning; budgeting, financial management, and revenue development; program design and delivery; and team building and change management. As a strategic and collaborative leader, Jill excels at solving complex problems and finding lasting solutions that create high-impact organizations.

Professional History

Valtas Group	Consultant	2023 – Present
Stellar J Consulting	Principal	2022 – Present
		2015 - 2017
Washington Trails Association	CEO	2017 - 2022
City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability	Director	2010 - 2015
& Environment	Climate Change Program Mgr	2007 - 2010
City of Seattle, Finance Department	Fiscal & Policy Analyst	2005 - 2007

Accomplishments

- Spearheaded the organizational evolution from a small to mid-sized nonprofit—doubling its size and capacity to 50+ staff and an \$8M operating budget.
- Led comprehensive strategic planning that set a multi-year vision around cross-programmatic initiatives that increased organizational reach, mission impact, and donor investment.
- Built a strong leadership team to support organizational development, enhance strategic planning, strengthen cross-programmatic coordination, and foster a collaborative culture.
- Steered nonprofit through pandemic disruption by adjusting operations, adapting programs, and pursuing new opportunities, which resulted in no layoffs, year-over-year growth, and a \$2M increase in financial reserves.
- Prioritized equity across operations and programs—developed a DEI strategy and multi-year plans, updated policies and procedures to advance equity, engaged POC communities in program development, and provided regular training and learning opportunities for staff and board.
- Built trusted relationships with the board of directors, staff, funders, and community partners that ensured strong alignment around organizational direction and priorities, which was essential in successfully navigating pandemic challenges.
- Managed budgets supported by a wide range of funding sources, including individual donations, corporate sponsorships, foundation grants, earned revenue, and government grants.
- Developed a strong succession plan that maintained organizational momentum and ensured a smooth transition to new leadership.

Education

- Master of Public Administration, Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington
- Juris Doctorate with High Honors, School of Law, University of Washington
- Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities