



## **MARI OFFENBECHER**

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Over 30 years of leadership experience in the non-profit sector, leading an organization providing the highest quality educational opportunities and support to children and youth;
- Exceptional strategic thinking and strong analytical skills;
- Excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills and ability to communicate with diverse audiences;
- Experience as spokesperson in promoting organization's mission, vision and goals to local media, funders and the general public;
- Experience working collaboratively with community leaders, to build organization's board of directors and develop board to enhance impact and leverage expertise and energy of each board member;
- Experience communicating effectively and regularly with board of directors to ensure alignment, engagement and support on key organizational, fiscal and strategic issues affecting organization;
- Track record of success working and building collaborative partnerships with government leaders, the private sector, and other funding sources;
- Proven ability to lead and be part of a successful entrepreneurial team;
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity and racial equity;
- Experience setting goals and objectives, prioritizing and structuring action plans, managing budgets and work activities;
- Proficiency managing the administration, operations and finances of an organization, including evaluation and monitoring of fiscal and program performance to ensure operational effectiveness.

### **EXPERIENCE:**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**School's Out Washington**

**1990-2017**

School's Out Washington (SOWA) is a statewide non-profit organization established to ensure that high quality afterschool and summer programs are available so that all of Washington's youth — particularly low-income youth and youth of color — have opportunities to succeed in school and in life. As the Founding CEO, I provided direction and strategic guidance to enable SOWA to develop, grow and fulfill its mission, vision, and goals. I managed 45 staff and coaches and a budget of over 6 million dollars. I worked in collaboration with the board of directors and leadership team to ensure high quality programming and support for the network of partnerships and programs across Washington. Under my leadership, SOWA served a critical role as the expert and backbone organization, working

closely with public and private programs offered outside the traditional school day throughout the state. Accomplishments in 2016 include: 2,292 afterschool and summer learning program staff trained; 1075 coaching hours delivered; \$700,000 in grants distributed to programs. Over 946 programs were supported with 80,000 youth impacted.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTOR  
Y.W.C.A. of Seattle-King County-Snohomish County  
1984-1990**

I managed four childcare and afterschool programs in Downtown Seattle serving children ages 2 months to 12 years. I facilitated the NAEYC accreditation process that led to three childcare programs receiving accreditation.

**SELECTED OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**OPEN ARMS PERINATAL SERVICES**

Member, Board of Directors, 2017 - present

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVES OF KING COUNTY (YDEKC)**

Coalition Founder, 2009

Advisory Board Member 2010 - 2017

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL-AGE CARE ALLIANCE**

Founding President 1991-1995

Member, Board of Directors, 1991-1999

**NATIONAL AFTERSCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

Co-Chair Affiliate Member Relations Committee

Member, Board of Directors, 1994 - 1998

**SOAR COMMUNITY COALITION**

Partnership Council Member 2003 - 2017

Co-Chair Partnership Council 2007 - 2009

**WASHINGTON STATE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR QUALITY CARE AND EDUCATION**

Co-Chair Systems Subcommittee, 1999 - 2004

Co-Chair Promotions Workgroup 2004 - 2006

**EDUCATION:**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SACRAMENTO**

Bachelor of Arts in Child Development

Degree awarded With Honors

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY**

Advanced Child Development Studies

Jones Child Study Center

**EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY, SCOTLAND**

Comparative Child Development Systems