

# Neill Coleman

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*A leader in deploying philanthropy, partnerships, and persuasion to drive social change. Track-record of creating strategies, building organizations, and inspiring people towards meaningful impact.*

## **PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

### **TRINITY CHURCH WALL STREET, New York, NY**

#### **Executive Director, Trinity Church Wall Street Philanthropies (2021- 2023)**

#### **Chief Philanthropy Officer (2018 - 2021)**

*Led Trinity's philanthropic work, focusing on housing & homelessness, racial justice and building church leadership and financial capacity in New York City and globally.*

- Built a strategy and structure for reimagining Trinity's philanthropic giving, growing grants from \$8 million per year to \$57 million per year in four years, and building a new team of 25.
- Developed principles and guidelines for a new \$100 million impact investing fund from Trinity's endowment, focused on affordable housing and racial justice. Supported the development of 5,500 units of affordable housing.
- Fundraised over \$3.5 million from other foundations to add to Trinity's grants budget.
- Established an \$8 million loan fund to help nonprofit grantees respond to COVID-19 with two-thirds of the 15 organizations funded led by people of color.
- Worked closely with Chair of the Vestry Grants Committee to make significant governance changes to reduce bureaucracy and better support grantees, including a new structure for multi-year grants and appropriate delegation of authority.
- Imagined and implemented a new "walking alongside" offering for grantees, including capacity building, financial technical assistance for thirty grantees, marketing support, and leveraging Trinity's influence and voice.

### **MISSION MAGNIFIED, New York, NY**

#### **Principal (2017- )**

*Independent philanthropy consultant: conducting strategic assessments of grant-making, evaluating proposals for funding, convening foundation leaders, and advising on strategic communications plans.*

- Clients include: The Rockefeller Foundation, The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, The Oak Foundation, The Network of European Foundation, SDI (Slum Dwellers International), Edelman, GoVoteNYC, Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, Goodnation, Henry Luce Foundation, CUNY and Trinity Church Wall Street.

### **THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION, New York, NY**

#### **Vice President, Global Communications, (2012 - 2017)**

*Member of the six person Executive Team, setting strategy for \$4 billion foundation with 200 staff. Led a 16-person global communications, engagement and knowledge team in New York, Bangkok and Nairobi.*

## **THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION, cont./**

- Created and managed a \$10 million per year grants portfolio focused on journalism, film, storytelling and campaigns to shift narratives and influence decision-makers. Grantees included The Guardian, New York Times, The Atlantic and Sundance Institute.
- Positioned The Rockefeller Foundation as a globally-recognized leader in the new fields of impact investing and resilience. Built a powerful thought leadership platform on resilience including *The Resilience Dividend* (a book by Foundation president Judith Rodin).
- Designed and launched 100 Resilient Cities— a \$160 million effort to support 100 cities worldwide in developing a resilience strategy and then accessing private and public sector funding for implementation.
- Leveraged a \$3 million Rockefeller grant to a post-Superstorm Sandy recovery competition to unlock \$1 billion in US government disaster funds.

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, Washington, DC Chief External Affairs Officer, (2009 - 2012)**

*Led and managed the Office of Public Affairs (operating budget of \$6 million) including press, stakeholder relations, speechwriting, event planning, and internal communications. Served as senior communications advisor to cabinet Secretary Shaun Donovan.*

- Coordinated with the White House, Treasury and Justice departments to communicate the Obama administration's response to the housing crisis, including consumer mortgage relief and a \$26 billion settlement with banks.
- Led a high-performing team of 33 people with a management style as a listener, collaborator and coach, resulting in the HUD Office of Public Affairs being the highest rated office in HUD under the government-wide 2011 Employee Viewpoint Survey Best Places to Work.

## **NYC DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, New York, NY Assistant Commissioner, Communications (2006 - 2008) Director of Communications (2005 - 2006)**

*Led the Office of Communications including organizing press events for Mayor Bloomberg and Commissioner Donovan, and responding to media queries on housing maintenance issues. Served as Acting Chief of Staff during colleague's parental leave.*

- Developed and managed an external affairs strategy for Mayor Bloomberg's 165,000 unit affordable housing plan, establishing it as the largest US municipal affordable housing plan.

## **ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

**New York League of Conservation Voters, Director of Communications. (2002 - 2005)**  
**CPR Worldwide, New York, NY. Account Executive. (2001 – 2002)**  
**Fenton Communications, Washington, DC. Jnr Account Exec, Account Coordinator. (1999 - 2001)**  
**Ralph Neas for Congress, Bethesda, MD. Scheduler. (1998)**  
**Oxford University Student Union, Oxford, UK. Vice- President. (1996 – 1997)**

## **VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP**

### **Stonewall Community Foundation (2014 -2022)**

#### **President of the Board (2016 - 2020)**

*Chaired the board of New York City's LGBTQ-focused community foundation.*

- Focused on board recruitment and diversity - leading to a majority BIPOC board.
- Worked with executive director to double grant-making in 2020 in response to COVID-19 and racial injustice.
- Developed a strategy to reform management and promotion of donor advised funds, reducing fees by half and doubling participation.
- Leveraged philanthropic network to raise \$500,000 in funding for Stonewall grantees.

### **Philanthropy New York**

#### **Board Member (2019 - )**

*Vice Chair of Board, Chair Public Policy Committee, member of search committee for new CEO.*

- As co-chair of Public Policy Committee brought together eight funders together to commit \$2 million for Philanthropy New York to influence the new mayoral administration on key priorities including prompt government payments for nonprofits.
- Active participant in quarterly roundtable for foundation CEOs.

### **City Limits**

#### **Board Member (2023 - )**

*Fundraiser and recruiter for nonprofit media company focused on housing and community development. Chair executive director search committee.*

### **Human Services Action**

#### **Board Member (2023 - )**

*Founder member of new 501c4 organization focused on equity for human services workers and organizations.*

### **GoVoteNYC**

#### **Executive Committee member and Co-Chair (2021 - 2023)**

*Helped establish donor collaborative to increase voter participation in New York City elections. Grantees doubled turnout rates in targeted groups.*

### **5BORO Institute**

#### **Board Member (2024 -)**

### **St. Hugh's College, Oxford North America Alumni Association**

#### **Chair (2016 - 2020)**

## **EDUCATION**

### **Oxford University, UK. (1993 - 1996)**

MA with Honors in Modern History

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *Center for Effective Philanthropy*, By First Walking Alongside, We Can Run Together, by Neill Coleman, October 2022
- *Gotham Gazette*, The Three Vs for Voter Engagement: Validators, Volunteers and Visibility, by Martha King, Patricia A. Swann & Neill Coleman, August 2022
- *The Imprint*, New York Owes Nonprofits More Than A Parade, by Neill Coleman & Norah McVeigh, October 2021
- *Next City*, Rescuing the American Rescue Plan, by Beatriz De La Torre, Neill Coleman and Susan Thomas, July 2021
- *Gotham Gazette*, Ending the Hierarchy of Homelessness, by Neill Coleman. March 2021
- *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Greater Influence: More Impact, by Judith Rodin & Neill Coleman, March 2015
- *Washington Monthly*, Building Resilient Cities, by Neill Coleman, 2014

## **PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES**

- Guest Lecturer, The Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at the City College of New York (2022)
- Speaker, Philanthropy New York panel on nonprofit payments (2022)
- Panelist, Human Rights Funder Network conference (2018)
- Guest lecturer on Corporate Social Responsibility at New York University (2018)
- Guest lecturer on social innovation at School of Visual Arts (2017)
- Speaker at the Frank social change conference (2016)
- Speaker at La Fundacion Barrie Fiftieth Anniversary conference (2016)
- Moderator of panel on resilient cities at Stanford Non-Profit Management Conference (2015)

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

- Crain's New York Notable in Nonprofits and Philanthropy list (2021)
- City & State Pride Power 100 List (2021 and 2022)
- Member, Arthur Page Society (2013-2017)