

Neill Coleman

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A leader in deploying strategic grant-making, cross-sector partnerships and influence tools to drive social change and achieve impact.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Strategic philanthropy:** Lead Trinity Church Wall Street's philanthropic initiatives, deploying \$35 million per annum on COVID-19 response, housing & homelessness, racial justice and building leadership and financial capacity. As a Vice President at The Rockefeller Foundation created - and directly managed - a \$10 million per annum portfolio of grant-making that deployed the funding of journalism, film, storytelling and campaigns to shift narratives and influence decision-makers. As President of the Board of Stonewall Community Foundation doubled grant-making in 2020 in response to COVID-19 and racial injustice.
- **Building organizations.** Developed a strategy and structure for reimagining Trinity Church Wall Street's philanthropic work: increasing grant-making from \$10m p.a. to \$35m p.a. 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. Managed the process to develop the vision and the governance and management structure for a brand new organization that became a 75-person non-profit.
- **Fundraising & cross-sector collaboration.** Deployed professional experience across private, non-profit, government and philanthropy to form coalitions and access funding. Leveraged the Rockefeller Foundation brand and reputation to engage the private sector in resilience building. Used a \$3 million Rockefeller grant to a post-Superstorm Sandy recovery competition to leverage \$1 billion in US government disaster funds being deployed in a smarter and more resilient way. Brought in funding from other philanthropies to increase Trinity's grant-making budget. Established an \$8 million loan fund to help non-profits respond to COVID-19.
- **Management and team leadership.** Built and led high-performing teams of up to 33 people with a management style as a listener, collaborator and coach. The HUD Office of Public Affairs was the highest rated office in HUD under the government-wide 2011 Employee Viewpoint Survey Best Places to Work. At The Rockefeller Foundation, the communications team awarded 90% for manager effectiveness in the 2014 Employee Engagement Survey.
- **Board and trustee relations.** Served as President of the Board of Stonewall Community Foundation focused on board recruitment and diversity - leading to a majority BIPOC board. Serve on the board of Philanthropy New York, including the search committee for new CEO. Managed positioning of Rockefeller Board Chair transition from David Rockefeller Jr. to Dick Parsons; and President transition from Judith Rodin to Raj Shah.

PROFESSIONAL & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Trinity Church Wall Street

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

Chief Philanthropy Officer (2018 - 2021)

- Lead Trinity's philanthropic work, focusing on housing & homelessness, racial justice and building leadership and financial capacity.
- Developed a strategy and structure for reimagining Trinity's philanthropic work, growing giving from \$10 million p.a. to \$35 million p.a. in two years.
- Built a team of 24 that awards grants and makes impact investments in NYC and globally.

Mission Magnified (2017 -)

Principal

Independent consultant in philanthropy and communications. Clients and projects include:

- The Rockefeller Foundation: developed recommendations for establishing an alumni network
- The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation: advised on a 75th anniversary strategy.
- The Oak Foundation: conducted a strategic assessment of communications grants within the foundation's human rights and immigration program.
- The Network of European Foundations: evaluated proposals for funding
- SDI (Slum Dwellers International): developed a strategic communications plan.
- Edelman: convened Bay Area foundation leaders for a conversation on trust in philanthropy.

The Rockefeller Foundation (2012 - 2017)

Vice President, Global Communications

- Member of the Executive Team, setting strategy for \$4 billion foundation with 200 staff.
- Directly managed a \$10 million p.a grant-making portfolio focused on journalism, film, storytelling and campaigns. Set strategy, reviewed proposals, engaged with grantees and evaluated impact.
- 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).
- Led a 16-person global communications, engagement and knowledge team in New York, Bangkok and Nairobi.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (2009 - 2012)

Chief External Affairs Officer

- Led and managed a team of 33 people covering press, stakeholder relations, speechwriting, event planning, and internal comms. Operating budget of \$6 million.
- Served as senior communications advisor to cabinet Secretary Shaun Donovan.
- Coordinated with the White House, Treasury and Justice departments on strategy.

City of New York, Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Assistant Commissioner, Communications (2006 - 08); Director of Communications (2005 - 06)

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

EARLIER 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 -)

President of the Board (2016 - 2020)

- Chaired the board of this LGBTQ focused foundation with an annual budget of nearly \$3 million. Doubled grant-making in 2020.
- As President worked closely with the full-time Executive Director and staff of five to build strategy, fundraising, communications, board recruitment and governance.
- Developed a strategy to reform management and promotion of donor advised funds
- Co-Chair of annual fundraising event honoring Ronan Farrow and Levi Strauss & Co.
- Leveraged philanthropic network to raise \$250,000 in funding for Stonewall grantees.

Philanthropy New York

Board Member (2019 -)

- An organization of more than 280 funders to advance effective, strategic philanthropy.
- Served on public policy committee, finance committee and search committee for new CEO
- Active participant in roundtable for large foundation CEOs

Chair, St. Hugh's College, Oxford North America Alumni Association (2016 - 2020)

WRITING & LECTURING

- Published in Stanford Social Innovation Review, Gotham Gazette and Washington Monthly
- Guest Lecturer on social innovation at School of Visual Arts; guest lecturer on CSR at New York University; moderator at Stanford Non-Profit Management Conference; speaker at the Frank conference; speaker at La Fundacion Barrie Fiftieth Anniversary conference; delegate to World Economic Forum in Davos.

EDUCATION

Oxford University, UK. (1993 - 1996)

MA with Honors in Modern History

AWARDS

2021 Crain's New York Notable in Nonprofits and Philanthropy list

2021 City & State Pride Power 100 List