

Jessica R. Dreistadt

(484) 225-4929

jrdreistadt@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Ph.D. In Organizational Leadership Eastern University, St. Davids, PA Dissertation: <i>Portraits of Solidarity: 'World-Traveling' in Philadelphia</i>	Candidate
Master of Arts in Sociology Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA	May 2007
Master of Science in Nonprofit Management Eastern University, St. Davids, PA	August 2000
Bachelor of Arts in Management and Marketing DeSales University, Center Valley, PA	May 1998

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Nonprofit Management and Organizational Development

- Twenty years of experience in the nonprofit sector including more than six years as an executive director; served in the director role at a shelter for families experiencing homelessness, a community development corporation, and a family center network
- Created strategic plans for a regional foundation, children's hospice, networking association, community land trust, and regional food bank
- Conducted a strategic analysis of an international B Corporation
- Developed a variety of policies, procedures, and plans to promote organizational resilience, sustainability, and optimal performance
- Designed and monitored complex cost accounting systems to align budgeting and spending with organizational mission and funding commitments

Leadership Development

- Organizer and facilitator of an international women's leadership network
- Supervised, supported, coached, and led staff and volunteers in various settings
- Organized board development, orientation, and training processes

Education

- Ten years of experience as an adjunct university lecturer; have designed and taught traditional, hybrid, and online classes; assisted with organizing and grading for doctoral level classes
- Proficient in Blackboard, Brightspace, and Kajabi course design and management
- Designed, promoted, and facilitated professional development and community-based workshops related to nonprofit management, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, research, and data analysis independently and in partnership with organizations including the U.S. Small Business Administration, ArtsQuest, and Nonprofit Technology Resources

- Created an online school for leaders and activists
- Launched a Success by 6[®] transition to kindergarten pilot site and partnered to develop a community-wide transition to kindergarten plan
- Designed and evaluated early childhood, afterschool, and summer educational programs

Writing, Editing, and Publication Design

- Author of 11 books about leadership, social change, and wellness
- Created a technical assistance manual for minority- and woman-owned business certification
- Developed a customer service handbook that was replicated by a medium-sized city
- Created policy and procedure manuals for a multi-site housing and social service organization
- Created a school-based family support training manual and replication guide

Research

- Worked with research teams to assess public perception of a development project at a historic industrial site, the relationship between spirituality and social action, and barriers facing women of color in higher education
- Interviewed working mothers in their homes about challenges related to childcare
- Ability to gather, analyze, and interpret multiple sources of secondary data to identify needs and make decisions
- Experienced with qualitative and quantitative approaches, survey design, data collection, transcription, data analysis, and formatting in APA and Chicago styles

Community Organizing, Advocacy, and Planning

- Created community revitalization plans for two urban neighborhoods and one suburban/rural region
- Co-facilitated creation of the first multi-municipal Neighborhood Partnership Program in Pennsylvania
- Organized a regional coalition resulting in state-level policy change
- Developed campaigns to promote awareness and engagement in advocacy initiatives
- Started an advocacy academy to increase civic engagement among low-income people
- Piloted a Food Stamp (now SNAP) application assistance program that was subsequently funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Public Relations, Event Planning, and Communications

- Executive producer of an award-winning documentary about hunger
- Organized fundraising events and annual meetings for various organizations
- Organized an event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Community Action
- Organized community events including a senior expo, job fair, and networking events
- Created newsletters, annual reports, brochures, flyers, and websites to tell organizations' stories and engage partners

Fundraising

- Secured more than \$8 million in public and private support for various projects from nationally competitive funding competitions, public agencies, foundations, businesses, and individuals

- Developed comprehensive contract compliance systems for grants and formalized partnerships; conducted internal audits and prepared programs for monitoring visits resulting in commendations from federal auditors
- Created development plans and case statements to strengthen fundraising strategies

Project and Information Management

- Co-managed an \$800,000 new construction project that created five apartments for families experiencing homelessness
- Collaborated with a health network and a local foundation to provide dental care to uninsured children
- Computer skills include SPSS, Microsoft Office, QuickBooks, PolicyMap, Dedoose, WordPress, Salesforce, DonorPerfect, MailChimp, Constant Contact, social media

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DeSales University, Center Valley, PA

Adjunct Lecturer 2008 – Present

The Fruition Coalition, Easton, PA

Founding Director 2001 – Present

The Literacy Center, Allentown, PA

Grant Manager 2017 – 2018

Development Director 2018 – Present

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem, PA

Senior Planner 2015 – 2017

Director, Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem 2014 – 2015

Director, Sixth Street Shelter 2013 – 2014

Coordinator of Advocacy and Outreach, Second Harvest Food Bank 2004 – 2006

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA

Research and Teaching Assistant 2016 – 2017/2012 – 2013

Research Assistant 1999 – 2000

Family Connection of Easton, Inc., Easton, PA

Executive Director 2006 – 2012

The PEAK Center, Lansdale, PA

Director of Development and Accounting 2002 – 2003

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Social Researcher 2002

YWCA of Bucks County, Trevese, PA

Program and Administrative Assistant 2003 – 2004

ESL and Computer Instructor 2000 – 2002
Public Relations Assistant 2000 – 2002

Project H.O.M.E., Philadelphia, PA 2000
Intern

Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
Office Manager, Mercy Hospice 1998 – 1999

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Kaufman, E., Priest, K., Dreistadt, J., Morrow, T., Wyatt, J., & Wheeler, C. (2012). Appreciative inquiry: A leader's most powerful tool for visioning and planning. Panel discussion at the 14th annual conference of the International Leadership Association, Leadership Across the Great Divides: Bridging Cultures, Contexts, and Complexities, Denver, CO, USA.

Dreistadt, J. (2012). Critical conversations: Social transformation through language. Roundtable discussion at the 14th annual conference of the International Leadership Association, Leadership Across the Great Divides: Bridging Cultures, Contexts, and Complexities, Denver, CO, USA.

Dreistadt, J. (2012). A postcritical existential phenomenological study about experiences of empowerment and liberation in social justice organizations. Poster presentation at the 14th annual conference of the International Leadership Association, Leadership Across the Great Divides: Bridging Cultures, Contexts, and Complexities, Denver, CO, USA.

Dreistadt, J., & Hunt, A. (2011). *Transitions: Facilitating a successful school start for students, parents, and teachers*. Workshop presented at the Early Childhood Education Summit, State College, PA.

Dreistadt, J. (2011). *Building bridges in progressive social change organizations*. Lecture presented at the Peace, Justice and Conflict Resolution Conference, Bethlehem, PA.

Gray, C., Sheptak, M., Ryan, M., Dreistadt, J., & Bastidas, V. (2011). *Teaching social justice through service learning*. Panel discussion at the Peace, Justice and Conflict Resolution Conference, Bethlehem, PA.

Dreistadt, J., & Bedoya, L. (2007). *Family support handbook and replication guide*. Presentation at the Family Support Conference, Lake Harmony, PA.

Lasker, J., Dreistadt, J., Gardocki, J., Miernicki-Nojunas, J., Niebler, S., Seng, A., Tavares, C., & Wolski, E. (2005). BethWorks Now Development Proposal: A Sociological Perspective. Presentation at Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

PUBLICATIONS

Dreistadt, J. (2017). *Whole happy and healthy: A revolutionary approach to understanding and thriving with mental illness*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). A generous expression of volunteerism: The Sixth Street Shelter expansion project. *Lehigh Valley Women's Journal*. <http://lehighvalleywomansjournal.com>.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *Limitless loving leadership: 28 essays to inspire sustainable change*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *Contemplative activism: A guide to navigate the contradictions and complexities of social change*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *Affirmations for mindful leaders*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *The Fruition Coalition grant proposal workbook*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *The Fruition Coalition board development workbook*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). *The Fruition Coalition marketing plan workbook*. Lehigh Valley, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Dreistadt, J. (2013). A generous expression of volunteerism: The Sixth Street Shelter expansion project. *Lehigh Valley Women's Journal*. <http://lehighvalleywomansjournal.com>.

Dreistadt, J. (2012). Review of the book: On the commerce of thinking: Of books & bookstores by Jean-Luc Nancy. *Theory in Action*, 5(1), 127.

Dreistadt, J. (2012). Interfaith social justice coalitions and the faith at work movement. *COMM-ORG Papers Collection*. <https://comm-org.wisc.edu/papers.htm>.

Dreistadt, J. (2012). Transforming organizations and communities through appreciative inquiry. *COMM-ORG Papers Collection*. <https://comm-org.wisc.edu/papers.htm>.

Dreistadt, J. (2006). Voting rights: The struggle for democracy. *Lehigh Review*, 14, 133-150.

Dreistadt, J. (2003). *The People Pages: Resources for Social Change*. Philadelphia, PA: The Fruition Coalition.

Additional articles published: *Huffington Post, College Central, PsychCentral, and Elephant Journal.*
Blogs: *Jesstopia.com and ActivistsMuse.com*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, International Leadership Association

Member, Social Pedagogy Association

COURSES TAUGHT

MG303 Leadership in the Modern Organization
MG203 Leadership Skills Development
SO109 Introduction to Sociology
MG310 New Ventures, Inc.

MK300 Introduction to Fundraising
MG307 Public Relations for Nonprofits
MG311 Evaluating Nonprofits

Served as a teaching assistant for LEAD740 Foundations of Research Methodology and LEAD871 Research Methodologies II: Quantitative Methods

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Peer reviewer, Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations Standards for Excellence
- Member, board of associates, Lehigh Valley Health Network
- Member, advisory board, Easton Urban Farm
- Former member, advisory board, and former treasurer, Northampton County Cooperative Extension
- Former peer reviewer, MERLOT
- Former volunteer instructor, entrepreneurship class, Pan African Studies Community Education Program at Temple University
- Former member, board of directors, and former Voters Guide editor, League of Women Voters of Northampton County
- Former member, Northeast Regional Homeless Advisory Board
- Former member, Justice and Advocacy Committee, Lehigh County Conference of Churches
- Former co-board recording secretary/documentarian, Creating the Future
- Former member, board of directors, Forum for Ethics in the Workplace, DeSales University
- Former member, advisory council, Northampton and Lehigh County Community Engagement Group and LEARN Committee, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley
- Former member, parenting education committee, Project Child/Valley Youth House
- Former AID Team member and former chair of Education and Youth Development Committees, Easton Weed and Seed
- Former volunteer, Learning for Life, Minsi Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America

AWARDS

- Williams Prize for outstanding student paper in the social sciences at Lehigh University
- Second place winner in the Prudential Young Entrepreneur business plan competition
- MarCom Award for excellence in marketing and communication

RESEARCH AND PROGRAMMATIC INTERESTS

- Women's leadership
- Activism and social movements
- Personal and collective identity
- Inclusion and social cohesion
- Social psychology
- Education
- Food justice
- Affordable housing