# **George Eklund**

### **CAREER SUMMARY**

I have spent my career as an advocate and organizer. These roles focused on building relationships between diverse communities, government agencies, private businesses, and nonprofits to work toward a common goal. For the past ten years, I have maintained this role within many organizations while working on housing, youth leadership development, and advocacy work. I believe in intentionally building relationships across issue areas, organizational structures, and motivations to achieve lasting results for our community.

### SKILLS AND STRENGTHS

- **Experience working in integrated teams** Working with fundraising, advocacy, communications, and legal teams to promote cohesion and achieve common goals.
- **Campaign management and development** Record of developing, planning, and managing advocacy campaigns to enact policy and social change.
- **Coalition management** Experience working across issue areas and between nonprofits, for-profits, and government entities.
- **Facilitation** Experience facilitating meetings and trainings with community partners.
- **People skills** A proven track record of building relationships and finding common ground with a diverse set of constituents.
- **Multi-tasking** Extensive history of managing multiple projects across issue areas and overlapping timelines.

## PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Worked on an integrated advocacy team that passed legislation regarding pregnant workers and expungement, expanded support for the abolition of the death penalty.
- Developed, supervised, and managed ACLU Internship Program
- Developed and implemented the ACLU of KY Summer Organizing Institute, a program for high schoolers to learn advocacy and community organizing tools.
- Completed a Masters in Public Administration with course work in housing, nonprofit management and finance, cultural competency, and policy analysis.
- Recruited and managed a diverse group of citizen lobbyists in Frankfort during six legislative sessions
- Developed and delivered presentations on a diverse advocacy platform and created ways for supporters to get involved in the campaign.
- Coordinated the Foreclosure Conciliation Project, a county-wide foreclosure intervention program, with the court system, city government, nonprofits, and concerned citizens.
- Organized a coalition of organizations and partners to help homeowners facing housing issues, including tax lien sales and vacant properties.
- Managed a cross-country bike tour of thirty young adults to raise money for affordable housing.

# WORK HISTORY

American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky Louisville, KY Field Organizer 09.16-Present Kentuckians for the Commonwealth Kentucky Campus Electoral Organizer 08.14-02.15 Louisville Affordable Housing Trust Fund Louisville, KY Contracted Organizer 01.14-04.14 Bike & Build Philadelphia, PA Trip Leader, Southern US Route 12.12-09.13 Network Center for Community Change Louisville, KY Housing Organizer 08.09-08.12

# **EDUCATION**

Masters in Public Administration (2019) University of Louisville Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & German (2009) Western Kentucky University