

Legal & Development Services for Nonprofit Organizations Pennsylvania & Florida Est. 2012

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Staff

Action & Advisory

Interns

Board of Directors

Donors

Core Values

**Low-Bono Legal Aid** 

**Nonprofit Incubator** 

Research & Development

**Project Management** 

**Training & Education** 

**OUTCOMES & IMPACT** 

3,000+ hours of pro and low bono legal help

3,500+ hours of applied research and development

30 volunteers on the Action & Advisory Committee

3,500+ volunteer hours

36 socially minded organizations in the Nonprofit Incubator and Social Change Accelerator

\$13,000+ donated to high-impact charities

5 public workshops and training opportunities

100 one-on-one technical assistance sessions

2 published articles

#### A NOTE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Side Project Inc. Stakeholders,

Thank you for investing your time, talent and treasure in our organization and our mission of supporting grassroots social change in 2015. Over the past three years you have helped grow Side Project Inc. into a sustainable social enterprise. The collective impact of each of our individual charitable side projects has made a large impact in the communities that we live and work in.

In 2015, we provided resources, training and technical assistance to nonprofit leaders and social change agents in Florida and Pennsylvania. We support, incubate and accelerate the work of these people by following an Asset Based Community Development strategy (See http://www.abcdinstitute.org/). Using this strategy, we seek to build on and support community assets and work to mobilize individuals, associations and institutions to come together to build on to their existing assets. This approach focuses on the potential of a community, not its deficits. Many communities address social and economic problems with only a small portion of the community's total capacity. This is the challenge and opportunity of community engagement. Our strategy starts with the assumption that EVERYONE IN A COMMUNITY HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER.

Our work supports individuals, organizations and institutions focused on social change as they try to begin to identify, utilize and add to the existing assets of a community. Our resources, training and technical assistance focuses on:

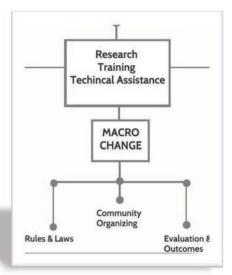
- The Rules, Regulations and Laws Impacting Social Change Efforts
- 2. Community Organizing & Development Strategies
- 3. Inclusion Of ALL People In The Community
- 4. Evaluation & Outcome Measurement

We continue to build social capital as an organization. In 2015, we were active in a variety of community groups including The Florida Bar Public

Interest Law Section, the Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project (PUMP), The Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations, the Greater Erie Chamber of Commerce, and The Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management.

Thank you for your support and please enjoy our story,

Jeff Fromknecht Chairman of the Board



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Side Project Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. Our mission is to promote social justice and social change by linking micro-assets to the macro-environment. We combine the philosophy of social work with the tools of the law to incubate and develop grassroots projects focused on social change.

Side Project is led by co-founder and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Fromknecht, who received his M.S.W. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. A social worker turned attorney, Jeff received his J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law in 2012. He is licensed to practice law in Florida, Pennsylvania, and the United States Tax Court. Jeff has worked at nonprofits his whole career and has more than 12 years of experience working at health and human service nonprofits.

#### Major Accomplishments

#### **Legal Counsel for 36 Nonprofit Organizations and Grassroots Projects**

- Obtained 501(c)(3) status for 9 nonprofit organizations
- Fundraising Legal Issues
- State Charitable Organization Registration & Compliance Issues
- Executive Compensation Issues
- Social Enterprise Issues
- Corporate Governance Issues
- Contract Review
- General Counsel

#### **Applied Research & Evaluation**

- Community Based Exploratory Research focused on identifying emerging organization best practices for building inclusive communities
- Program Evaluation of CLASS Kids Vocational Ventures Project
- Logic Model Development for more than 12 projects

#### **Development of Educational Materials & Presentations on:**

- The Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Community
- Understanding State and Federal Legal and Tax Issues Impacting 501(c)(3)
   Nonprofit Organizations
- How to Start a Nonprofit Organization and Apply for Tax-Exempt Status
- Using Logic Models and Documenting Social Impact
- Ethical Implications of Pro Bono Legal Work
- Legal Responsibilities of the Nonprofit Board of Directors

#### CLIENTS & PROJECTS

During the past year, Side Project has provided more than 6,500 hours of resources, training and technical assistance to nonprofit leaders and social change agents in Florida and Pennsylvania. We worked with more than 36 socially minded projects and organizations in Western Pennsylvania and South Florida.

**PENNSYLVANIA** 

**CLIENTS** 

The Arts for Autism Foundation of Pittsburgh

Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America

**Community Living and Support** Services (CLASS)

**Collective Legacy Project** 

The Entertainment Consortium

Evolve Coaching, Inc.

Face2Face Healing

**Fallen Soldiers Picnic** 

**Gateway Horseworks** 

Global Sisterhood, Inc.

Hiram Grand Lodge AF&AM Inc.

The Interdependence Network

Innovation Collaboration

**Mothers Against Teen Violence** (MATV)

> Mars Area Youth Wrestling Club

**National Scenic Visitors Center** 

Pet Connection Inc.

**Project for Human** Development

Steel City Beard and Mustache Club

**Shared Hope for Orphans** 

**TailGREAT** 

The Que Abides

The Matt Arch Foundation

Wilkinsburg Christian Housing,

American Disabilities Foundation

A True Jewel. Inc.

**Lutheran Services of Florida** 

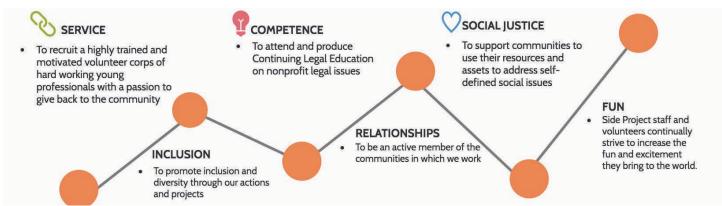
Friends & Stars, Inc.

The George Snow Scholarship Fund

Hope 4 Mobility

**HOPE Outreach Center Inc.** Perks & Moore South Florida Link Coalition **TailGREAT** Tigerlili Resources Unicorn Children's Foundation

#### SOCIAL IMPACT

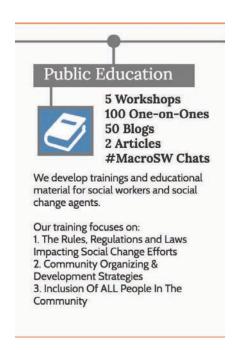


**Side Project Corporate Values** 

Our work is rooted in a set of core values. These core values (listed above) are the foundation of Side Project's unique purpose and perspective. The primary mission of Side Project Inc. is to enhance community well-being, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty. Fundamental to our work is attention to the environmental forces that create, contribute to and address societal issues. We support organizations that are attempting to impact systemic and macrolevel change.







#### THE ACTION & ADVISORY COMMITTEE



A major factor to Side Project's success this year has been the Action & Advisory Committee. The Action & Advisory Committee is Side Project's volunteer corps and harnesses the power and energy of over 30 young (and young-at-heart) professionals who want to give back to the community by taking on a charitable side project. The volunteer corps has an eclectic background, including social work, law, nonprofit administration, grant administration, business administration, computer science, accounting, marketing, fundraising and education. The Action & Advisory Committee logged more than 3,500 volunteer hours in 2015, helping out on projects in Pennsylvania and Florida.



Side Project sponsored a cornhole tournament at the St. James Church Annual Festival in Erie, PA.



Side Project Volunteer Meeting at Voodoo Brewing
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Side Project Volunteers at the Pittsburgh TailGREAT



The 2016 Erie TailGREAT Planning Committee with the team from LinkedbyPink

# **ACTION & ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

# **2015 MEMBERS**

ERIE	PITTSBURGH	PALM BEACH COUNTY
Nate Bish	Lauren Arnita	William Colangelo
Paul Causgrove	David Brown, MBA	Mike Colangelo
Jean Causgrove	Sara Brown	Michelle N. DeLong, Esquire
Sean Causgrove	Adam Causgrove	Anne Fromknecht
Steve Fetzner, Esquire	Chelsea Causgrove	Susan George
Dan Fromknecht	Christine Serra Cornell, Esquire	Dave George
Ken Fromknecht	Troy Crumrine, Esquire	Brad Gies
Mary Fromknecht	Joe Dopirak	Nolan King
Frank McGrath	Jerome Fitzgerald	Valerie Mock
Will Law	SallyJoe Guzik	Henry Norwood
Chris Thomas	Brandon Keller, Esquire	Leighton Regis
Corinne Thomas	Nick Koch, Esquire	Erick Solms
Brett Wiler	Bethy Mackin	Phil Staff
Steve Zoni	Andrew Miskowiec	Pam Tatti
	Angel Pappalardo, MPA	Loren Varvarigos
CLEVELAND	Garret Young	SCRANTON
Mark Kujawinski		Athena Aardweg
Pete Waldinger		Ted Casey, Esquire
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CHICAGO		VIRGINIA/DC
Phil Causgrove		Nicole DiMario

Gabriela Steier, Esquire

#### **COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS**

Our staff and volunteers have a strong passion for civic engagement. We are active and contributing members of the following community groups and associations:



Director of Community Outreach, Adam donation to Canine Companions for





**Board Members Dave Brown & Jeff Fromknecht** present a donation check to Shannon McCarty and Al Condeluci from CLASS.



**Board Member Dan Fromknecht** presents a donation to Sister Peg from the Neighborhood Art House.



Jeff Fromknecht with Sharon Alexander and Lori Cabrera, Unicorn Children's Foundation, and Al Condeluci and Jamie Curran from the Interdependence Network at a workshop on social capital co-hosted by Side Project Inc.

#### **FLORIDA**

FLORIDA BAR – PUBLIC INTEREST LAW SECTION

DELRAY BEACH ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL

GEORGE SNOW SCHOLARSHIP FUND - SCHOLARS COUNCIL

BOYNTON BEACH PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

FORBES FUND CONSULTANT DIRECTORY

GREATER ERIE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

PITTSBURGH URBAN MAGNET PROJECT

St. James Church Festival

#### **NATIONAL**

ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZING & SOCIAL ADMINISTRATORS

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP DIRECTORY

NATIONAL LEGAL AID AND DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS

NCS SERVICES INC.



#### **TAILGREAT**

#### COMMUNITY, CHARITY, BEER, BBQ

Here at Side Project, we take fun and games very seriously. In 2015, we hosted four community TailGREAT parties. The TailGREAT is a tailgate themed fundraiser and friendraiser. These events are not only fundraisers, raising dollars for great nonprofits, but they also bring together millennials and baby-boomers who share a common interest and passion for doing great things for their community. The events are planned around a sporting event or concert with all of the proceeds of the event supporting local charities in each TailGREAT community. Since 2008, thousands of people have attended and more than \$20,000 has been raised and donated to charity.

This year our events included the Erie TailGREAT, the Mercyhurst TailGREAT, the Pittsburgh TailGREAT, and the West Palm Beach TailGREAT.

Volunteers for the events included Dan Fromknecht, Adam Causgrove, Chelsea Causgrove, Sean Causgrove, Mary Fromknecht, Ken Fromknecht, Anne Fromknecht, Jeff Fromknecht, Jean Causgrove, Paul Causgrove, Patty Nguyen, Steve Fetzner, Dave Brown, Sara Brown, Nick Koch, Kelly Boland, Brett Wiler, Mark Kujawinski, Andrew Miskowiec, Tim Grow, Chris Thomas, Corinne Thomas, Nolan King, Robert Urso, Mike Colangelo, William Colangelo, Loren Varvarigos, Nicole DiMario Joe Dopirak, Garret Young, Steve Zoni, Will Scheider, Shawn Adamczyk, Frank McGrath and Bethy Mackin





# SUNDAY FUNDAYS: BOYNTON BEACH BARRIER FREE PARK

#### Park Clean Up Project

In 2015, Side Project partnered with the City of Boynton Beach's Parks and Recreation Department to adopt Barrier Free Park. The park is designed to accommodate people of all ages and abilities on an equal level. Every other month a group of 5-10 volunteers get together to clean up trash at the park. We provide grabbers, garbage bags, Side Project T-shirts and the first round of beers following the clean-up.



Dave and Susan George help keep Boynton Beach beautiful.

Volunteers for the events included Jeff Fromknecht, Anne Fromknecht, Nolan King, William Colangelo, Mike Colangelo, Susan George, Dave George, Loren Varvarigos, Valerie Mock, Pam Tatti and Rob Urso.



Side Project volunteers Valerie Mock, Anne Fromknecht and Loren Varvarigos help "red up" Barrier Free Park.



Volunteers Robert Urso, Anne Fromknecht and William Colangelo help keep the park clean for the kids.

#### THE ST. JAMES FESTIVAL BEAN BAG TOSS TOURNAMENT



This annual event, which Side Project sponsors, takes place in August at the St. James Church Festival. It raises money for the church's programs and St. James Elementary School. Board Member **Dan Fromknecht** chairs the event and has secured several sponsors including:

Hertel and Brown Physical Therapy Doleski Orthondics Brandel Painting Hess Landscaping Kris Hess Causgrove Family

Volunteers included **Dave Brown**, **Sara Brown**, **Jeff Fromknecht**, **Dan Fromknecht**, **Dick Bargielski**, **Sean Causgrove**, **Kiley Mier** and **Amanda Wiertel**.



# Congratulations to the 2016 Champions Ben Ladaika and Jake Van Slyke!











#### 2016 STRATEGIC VISION & GOALS

#### The Legal Services Fund

This is a Board of Directors restricted fund that is dedicated to providing funds for legal, development and related administrative supports to small nonprofits (organizations with revenue less than \$150,000.00). The goal of the legal services fund is to raise funds to allow Side Project to hire legal and administrative support. The fundraising strategy includes both online website fundraising, crowd funding and word of mouth. Internally, an amount equal to 5% of all revenue in 2016 will be invested in the Fund.

### Lawyers4Nonprofits

Lawyers4Nonprofits is a new division of Side Project with the goal of providing continuing legal education courses to lawyers who serve on the Board of Directors of a Nonprofit. Courses are designed for civically engaged lawyers and focus on Nonprofit Corporate and Tax Law Issues, Nonprofit Fundraising Legal Issues, Ethical Issues in Pro Bono Work, Social Enterprise Law and Board Duties and Responsibilities. In 2016, we will be working to offer accredited Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits for lawyers in both Pennsylvania and Florida. In 2016, our goal is to host at least six lunch-and-learn style CLE courses.

As always, we are looking to continue to develop connections within the communities we work in. In the upcoming year, Side Project staff and volunteers will stay focused on getting more involved in our local communities. The heart of what we do will always be to benefit our local communities, but our larger focus is to impact change on a macro level. Our first three years have been eye-opening, humbling, rewarding, and, ultimately, very successful, but it is just the framework upon which we hope to build a bigger and better network to serve the community. Please join us as we continue to do great things.

# **2015 MAJOR DONORS**

**QUANTUM FOUNDATION**WEST PALM BEACH, FL

ASMC Investment LLC PITTSBURGH, PA

WAHL NATIONAL

RUSSELL C. SCHMIDT & SON FUNERAL HOME, INC ERIE, PA

PHILIP STAFF, CRPC®
WEST PALM BEACH

**BRAD GIES, ESQUIRE**WEST PALM BEACH

# 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT

# **Profit and Loss**

January - December 2015

Revenue	
Contributions, gifts, grants and similar amounts	
Donations	\$39,505
Fundraising Events	\$21,522
Program Service Revenue	\$63,411
Other	\$138
Total Income	\$124,576
Expenses	
Charitable Contributions	\$13,657
Program Expenses	
Workshops	\$4,520
Staff & Subcontractors	\$38,834
General Program Expenses (Office, Phone, Supplies)	\$12,925
PR & Advertising	\$8,681
Fundraising Expenses	\$20,550
General and Admin Expenses	
Insurance	\$4,478
Bank Charges	\$356
Licenses, Dues, Subscriptions	\$1,321
Accounting Fees	\$2,050
Total Expenses	\$120,900
Revenue in Excess of Expenses	\$4,169

Side Project, Statement of Assets, Liabilities an (Cash Basis December 31,	d Net Assets (Un s)	audited)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$	36,914
Total Current Assets		36,914
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	36,914
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Credit Cards	<u> </u>	2,288
Total Current Liabilities		2,288
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	2,288
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		7,533
Permanently restricted		27,093
Total Net Assets		34,626
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		36,914

# 2015-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

## Jeffrey Fromknecht, MSW, Esquire

Chief Executive Officer & Chairman of the Board of Directors Attorney at Law, Side Project Inc.

#### David Brown, MBA

Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board of Directors Controller, Community Living and Support Services

#### Nathan Bish, MBA

Board of Directors
Compensation Analyst, Erie Insurance Exchange

#### Ted Casey, Esquire

Board of Directors Family Law Attorney CLRP

#### **Adam Causgrove**

Chief Community Officer

Corporate Relations Associate, Medical and Health Sciences Foundation

#### **Nicole DiMario**

**Board of Directors** 

Language Arts Teacher, Loudoun County Public Schools

#### Stephen Fetzner, Esquire

**Board of Directors** 

Associate, Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.

#### **Daniel Fromknecht**

**Board of Directors** 

Graduate Assistant, Shriners Hospital for Children

#### Nicholas Koch, Esquire

**Board of Directors** 

Managing Associate, Frost Brown Todd LLC

#### **Andrew Miskowiec**

Officer at Large

Bartender, Full Pint Brewery

#### Kelsey Ripper, Esquire

**Board of Directors** 

Director, Microenterprise Project at Volunteers of Legal Service

# For More Information on Side Project Inc., please contact:

Jeffrey Fromknecht, MSW Managing Attorney

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