
MBA social enterprise professional experienced in nonprofit leadership, business for social impact, funds and partnerships development, strategic planning, external relations, program management, research, social entrepreneurship, impact investing, philanthropy, international development, immigrant & diaspora communities

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016 – 2017 Building Markets – Consultant New York, NY**
International nonprofit that creates jobs and economic growth by supporting SMEs in crisis-affected countries
- Lead Author/Researcher of the June 2017 report "[*Another Side to the Story: A Market Assessment of Syrian SMEs in Turkey*](#)," including survey development and implementation, project management with local partner in Turkey, stakeholder interviews, desk research, writing, post-launch presentations/communications
 - Advisor on research, planning, and local outreach for the organization's new program in Turkey to support civil society organizations and SMEs as a part of the Syrian humanitarian and development response
- 2006 – 2014 The American Turkish Society – Executive Director New York, NY**
Preeminent nonprofit dedicated to enhancing economic and cultural relations between Turkey and the United States
- Exceeded annual fundraising targets; significantly grew assets and annual budget
 - Executed a high-profile annual gala dinner with prominent U.S. and Turkish companies and philanthropists
 - Managed all major donor and external relations, including Fortune 500 companies, CEOs, government officials
 - Led business development efforts; expanded individual/corporate membership and sponsorship programs
 - Developed and executed strategy, including programs, partnerships, marketing and communications/PR
 - Conceptualized, funded, and executed programs and events in business, policy, education and arts & culture
 - Executed "merger" of grassroots arts & culture organization as a new program of The Society
 - Convened and managed a dynamic community of prominent young leaders from both countries
 - Worked with Board of Directors on governance, including revised by-laws and board member recruitment
 - Managed operations (budgeting/financial performance, audit, human resources, data/IT) along with staff members, volunteers, interns, freelance contributors, and vendors
- 2005 – 2006 Turkish Philanthropy Funds – Consultant New York, NY**
Diaspora philanthropy organization serving the Turkish-American community and Turkey
- Conducted a feasibility study to determine need, viability and support among key stakeholders
 - Identified, cultivated and acquired donors and founding board members
 - Developed business plan and growth strategy; advised launch and development process
 - Currently serving as a member of the organization's *Advisory Board*
- Summer 2005 Research Initiative on Social Entrepreneurship (RISE) – Research Associate New York, NY**
Applied research project at *Columbia Business School* on social ventures and social venture capital
- Analyzed quantitative and qualitative data from over 200 entrepreneurs/CEOs of for-profit social ventures
 - Co-authored "[*RISE For-Profit Social Entrepreneurs Report: Balancing Markets and Values*](#)" with Professor Catherine H. Clark, in collaboration with Investors' Circle, for entrepreneurs, impact investors, policy makers
- 2003 – 2005 Tiger Foundation – Program Officer New York, NY**
Private foundation that supports nonprofit organizations working to break the cycle of poverty in NYC
- Managed existing grant portfolio and recommended new grants in education, job training, and social services
 - Conducted rigorous due diligence, including financial and social outcomes analysis and site visits, working closely with foundation trustees/donors, grantees, and other grant makers
 - Recommended new strategies to achieve mission; researched program areas; managed special projects (e.g. technical assistance, impact measurement, and social ventures portfolio)
- Summer 2002 Endeavor Global – Business Development Intern New York, NY**
Nonprofit venture catalyst organization promoting entrepreneurship in emerging markets
- Defined and executed marketing strategy, including new initiatives for corporate partnerships, fundraising, and public relations; designed and implemented donor satisfaction/ market research survey
 - Developed and assessed self-sustainable product and program ideas

- 1998 – 2001** **Jerome Levy Forecasting Center – Assistant Director/ Forecasting Fellow** **Mt. Kisco, NY**
Macroeconomic research and consulting firm advising corporations and financial institutions
- Advised on strategy and product development for repositioning as a for-profit consulting venture
 - Organized activities of 6 senior economists and fellows; recruited, selected and trained 4 fellows and interns
 - Designed and implemented publication production schedules; data-sharing systems; and IT strategy
 - Analyzed several areas of the economy with a team of Ph.D. economists and wrote monthly articles

EDUCATION

- 2001 – 2003** **Columbia Business School** **New York, NY**
MBA, Management/ Social Enterprise, May 2003 GMAT: 770 (99th percentile)
Tashman Turkish Fellow; President, Social Enterprise Club; Organizer, Global Social Venture Competition;
Teaching Assistant, Social Entrepreneurship; CORPS Nonprofit Fellow; Beta Gamma Sigma
- 1994 – 1998** **Colorado College** **Colorado Springs, CO**
BA, Major: Economics (*with International Affairs emphasis*), Minor: German Studies (*semester in Germany*)
Summa Cum Laude, GPA: 3.98 (4.0 in major), Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List, Senior Thesis Award (*on labor market discrimination against immigrant workers*)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- **Languages:** French and German (intermediate); Wolof (beginner); Turkish (native)
- **Public speaking/teaching experience** in social entrepreneurship, diaspora communities, U.S.-Turkey relations
- **International travel**, including meetings with social entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, government officials
- **Advisor**, *Sen de Gel*, a Turkish development and cooperation initiative in The Gambia and Senegal
- **Advisor**, *Global Youth Innovation Network*, a platform to empower African youth entrepreneurs
- **Member**, *NJ Impact Investment Working Group*, by Support Center/Partnership in Philanthropy (2015)
- **Advisor/Presenter**, “*Start-up Environment in Turkey*” course at Columbia Business School (Spring 2014), identified speakers, arranged site visits in Turkey, advised Professor and students throughout semester
- **Semifinal Judge at Global Social Venture Competition**, Columbia Business School (2009 – 2013)
- **President's International Advisory Board Member**, Colorado College (2008 – 2011)