

EMILY WESTERGAARD HAMILTON



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EXPERIENCE

Des Moines "I Have a Dream" Foundation

Executive Director (2010 - Present)

- Develop and manage annual fund and major gift campaigns to support programming
- Oversee marketing, communications, public relations, finance and educational activities
- Manage staff to ensure student academic targets are met
- Establish community awareness about organization's mission, vision and programs
- Create training and board development plan to ensure a high performing board of directors

Drake University

Major Gift Officer (2008 - 2010)

- Managed relationships with individual alums and solicit their annual, restricted or campaign gifts
- Worked with college administration to develop funding priorities

World Food Prize

Director of Development (2006 - 2008)

Development Associate (2004 - 2006)

- Oversaw fundraising efforts, including private, corporate and foundation solicitations, including managing federal grants
- Served as project manager for the restoration of the former Des Moines Public Library Building

Desert Research Foundation of Namibia

Research and IT Associate (2002-2003)

- Managed multiple projects relating to research priorities, community development, information dissemination and education
- Assisted in the operation of an international research station

Education is incredibly important to me personally, as well as professionally. I was born and raised in Des Moines and graduated from North High School. I graduated from Grinnell College with where I studied biology and economics.

After college, I was awarded a post-graduate fellowship at a research center in southern Africa, and I spent 18 months there assisting biologists and policy experts while also running an international research station in the heart of the Namib Desert.

When I returned to Des Moines in 2003, I translated my experience in Africa working with development organizations into fundraising and nonprofit management skills.

In my life outside the office, I spend a lot of time volunteering for North High School and Grinnell College. I live in Beaverdale with my husband, Mike, and dog, Franklin.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & AWARDS

Member of 100 Chicks for Charity • Lead Like a Lady • Ferscipe
Young Innovators in Social Justice Prize selection committee
Grinnell Corps Fellowship selection committee
2012 Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute
North High Alumni Association volunteer
2012 Young Professional of the Year Finalist, Juice Magazine

EDUCATION

Masters in Public Administration
Drake University, 2009

B.A., International Development
Grinnell College, 2002