

BEVYN HOWARD

GRANT WRITING | RHETORIC | NON-PROFITS | ADVOCACY

Experienced grant writer and fundraising strategist with a proven track record of securing six-figure foundation grants. Strong focus on gender equity, reproductive justice, and social change. Skilled in prospect research, storytelling, and “crunching the numbers” to win funding. Adept at using Salesforce for CRM and grant management. Skillful in nonprofit advocacy, communications, and leadership with a background in 501(c)(3) and advocacy organizations.

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- Compelling Grant Writing
- Persuasive Communications
- Strategic Prospect Research
- Data-Driven Storytelling
- Project Management
- Salesforce CRM Expertise
- Grant Budgeting & Reporting
- Funder Relations Management
- Social Justice Advocacy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Freelance Grant Writer/ Consultant**, B&R Fundraising (*Self-owned business*) **Jan 2020-Present**
- Develop prospect lists and **reusable grant templates** that build internal capacity for nonprofits.
 - Expert at compiling raw data into compelling narratives highlighting the impact of programming.
 - Collaborate with leadership and staff at movement-based and social justice organizations to build tailored collateral.
- Grants Manager**, Freedom of the Press Foundation (*Safeguarding journalists and whistleblowers*) **Mar 2023-Mar 2024**
- Grant Writer**, Freedom of the Press Foundation (*Safeguarding journalists and whistleblowers*) **Mar 2022-Mar 2023**
- Managed a **\$6M** organization by successfully winning roughly **\$3M+ per year in foundation funding** through multiple **six-figure grants**, including many totaling **\$500,000+**.
 - Collaborated with program staff and leadership to align fundraising strategies with program outcomes and goals.
 - Produced comprehensive annual impact reports (*'22, '23*), grant reports, grant budgets, and monthly donor updates.
 - Built and streamlined Salesforce for foundation and major donor gifts, including upkeep of communications, acknowledgment materials, grant calendars, and deliverable deadlines.
 - Led prospect research to identify new funding opportunities in the free expression and democracy space.
- Development & Communications Manager**, BridgeYear (*Career pathways for low-income youth*) **Jul 2021-Mar 2022**
- Won over **\$1.5M** in grant funding with a **64% “win” rate** (2021), including 48% from first-time funders, through data-driven storytelling.
 - Carried out prospect research to identify foundations and corporations aligned with values and mission.
 - Devised **Salesforce** stewardship processes for **100+ foundations/corporations** and **150+ individual donors** including reporting schedules and requirements in accordance with grant contracts.
 - Charted donor stewardship strategy and led implementation to cultivate strong relationships with supporters.
 - Spearheaded an all-team Wellness Proposal to build a policy that prevents burnout and supports mental health.
- Next Gen Abortion Advocate**, Avow (*Unrestricted abortion care through political advocacy*) **Oct 2021-Nov 2021**
- Deepened understanding of storytelling and grassroots advocacy, preparing to support reproductive justice NPOs.
 - Engaged with a **statewide cohort of advocates** through virtual sessions on advocacy, public testimony, and reproductive justice, learning key issues affecting abortion access and the predatory nature of crisis pregnancy centers.
- Communications Coordinator**, BridgeYear (*Career pathways for low-income youth*) **Jan 2020-Jul 2021**
- Designed and executed an omnichannel (email, social media, direct mail, website) comms strategy to promote the annual end-of-year fundraising campaign, **increasing total giving amount by 275%** compared to the previous year.
 - Produced and promoted a **virtual Q&A event**, building program awareness and securing a grant from General Motors.
 - Overhauled all copy for marketing and outreach materials (one-pagers, annual reports, web copy, grant proposals, etc.), ensuring content accuracy and alignment with program values and agenda.
 - Generated program updates, talking points, and fundraising collateral for individual donors to maintain engagement.
- Communications Volunteer**, Center for the Healing of Racism (*Dialogue for racial healing*) **Jun 2019-Sep 2019**
- Updated all digital marketing channels for consistent branding and designed event promotions.
- Thesis Student**, Rhetoric and Writing Honors Program (*Poster summary here*) **Aug 2018-Jun 2019**
- Authored an honors thesis analyzing racism within the modern feminist movement, specifically how White Feminism perpetuates **systemic exclusion and undermines intersectionality**.
 - Presented research to university and public audiences, sparking dialogue on the **importance of inclusive feminist practices** and challenging mainstream perceptions of the movement.

EDUCATION & RECOGNITION

Bachelor of Arts in Rhetoric and Writing, Honors University of Texas at Austin

Student Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Race and Democracy

Nonprofit Marketer of the Year Nomination, American Marketing Association (AMA) Foundation