



Powers Creative Group Summary of Qualifications

Powers Creative Group (PCG) is led and managed by Sarah Powers, MPH, MUP. PCG supports community development organizations led by and for marginalized communities that are **ready for growth** and in need of **capacity support, strategic thinking, resources, and partnerships** to advance their mission. PCG will help your organization **meet grant deadlines** and **attract new partnerships and funding**, thereby saving your precious time and maximizing your chances for grant and organizational success.

As a client of PCG, **your mission becomes my mission**: I am personally invested in your organization's success and impact because **I believe in it**. I have worked for over 15 years in public service at some of the top institutions in the world, including the World Bank, and, in tackling some of the biggest problems out there, worked to strengthen and embolden communities to be self-determined. From my experience, **organizations in marginalized communities do hard and good work but miss out on opportunities** because they're **excluded from traditional resource and partnership networks**.

Because I've worked all over the world and the US, I have a broad **network of resources and strategic expertise** I will utilize for the **benefit of your organization and community**. In working with me, you will develop a greater sense of **strategy and power to grow your organization** and **increase social impact**. I will be your **strongest partner** in this work.

PCG Values

PCG values reflect who I am, what I care about, and the basis for how I engage with you. I run PCG according to the following values:

- *Integrity* - PCG operates using a strong moral code based on universal human rights, social justice, and an ethic of hard work and diligence. The client's best interest is at the heart of all the work I do.
- *Transparency* - I am an open book: every process under my control can be inquired about. I also advocate for transparent decision making processes in grant making and political offices and other places where power is held by only a small few.
- *Equity* - Achieving equity and redistributing resources and power to those who are systematically excluded is a primary reason I formed PCG.
- *Impact* - I believe that nonprofits do great work and achieve great results. I work to achieve the best possible outcome for clients to maximize social impact.

- *Collaboration* - I do my best work in tandem with my clients, listening carefully and building on their strengths. I also believe in the power of partnerships and leverage my networks for the benefit of my clients.
- *Accountability* - I hold myself and my clients accountable with respect, encourage open dialogue, and “calling [each other] in” when necessary during difficult conversations.

Services Available

PCG provides the following services at cost-effective and affordable rates:

- **Grant Writing:**
 - Grant readiness assessments
 - Budget development
 - Program development
 - Best practices research
 - Program evaluation & metrics planning
- **Grant Prospecting**
- **Strategic Planning**
- **Nonprofit Startup & Growth Support**
- **Partnership Development/Collective Impact Design**
- **Executive Coaching**
- **Board Development**
- **Fundraising Strategy**
- **Social Impact Research & Reporting**

Single Service Packages

- **Your Guiding Light: Mission, Vision, Values (MVV) Consultation**
Deliverable: Revised MVV to use as guiding light for organization’s work and for marketing and grant applications, developed in collaboration with staff
- **Let’s Do This: Start-up Nonprofit Growth Plan**
Deliverable: Comprehensive recommendations including free ways to build your capacity and raise capital without grants
- **Find the Money Trees: Grant Prospect Research**
Deliverable: Comprehensive list of grants appropriate for your organization including government and private sources

Insightful Tools & Expertise

When I started PCG, I knew I had to develop services and tools that were not only relevant to nonprofit organizations, but saved them time and money. I’ve created tools like the 15-minute Mini-SWOT Analysis to save you time and avoid lengthy facilitated workshops. I use technology to your advantage and to encourage efficiency, collaboration, and shared ownership of documents we prepare.



Project Management

PCG manages every project so that the client gets the best value for their money and highest return on investment. PCG uses the Google Suite of products to manage projects and stay organized. Asana, Trello, and other project management software are also available as tools.

You can expect progress reports at regular intervals to set a basis for clear communication and organized project management. Any potential barriers to progress will be communicated and addressed quickly so that time is spent on progressing towards achieving the milestones.

Current & Former Clients (2003-Present)

Southeast Chicago Chamber of Commerce

- Elevated mural-based place-making work of small 1.5 staff organization, developing partnerships with Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events and leading to an invitation to submit for coveted Our Town grant from National Endowment for the Arts.
- Conducted 15-minute Mini-SWOT Analysis virtually using Google Forms, resulting in a comprehensive action plan to build capacity, partnerships, and resources of SCCC.

Garfield Park Community Council

- Developed programming, budget, and application for two COVID-19 relief grant proposals and one Stimulus Check outreach grant, securing \$35,000 in total.

Women Unite!

- Developed program narratives for grant applications.
- Wrote case study demonstrating partnership with sponsoring company Goose Island.

Chicago Department of Transportation

- Wrote grant proposals to state, federal, and nonprofit funders- securing \$780,000 in 2019.
- Led restructuring of Vision Zero, a multi- agency and organization effort resulting in improved operations, new partnerships, and clear roles and responsibilities.
- Wrote and edited requests for proposals, Mayor's office briefings, and plans.
- Wrote talking points for agency leadership, elected officials, and Mayor's office staff.

Richmond City Health District

- Established foundation for addressing social determinants of health for chronic disease prevention department, developing partnerships with health equity partners at the community, city, and state levels.

- Wrote technical reports to address social determinants of health with policy, program, and built environment design recommendations.
- Drafted grant proposals to foundation and government sources.
- Wrote talking points for Mayor of Richmond and the state Director of Health Equity.

Virginia Commonwealth University

- Served as contributing report author and editor for comprehensive economic impact report studying VCU as “anchor institution” and “regional steward” for culture and health.

The World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Risk and Recovery

- Composed grant proposals: secured two-thirds of \$4 million dollar program budget.
- Edited content for Global Disaster Recovery Framework and best practices compilations.

US Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Led disaster recovery teams in Alabama and New York to achieve FEMA recovery mission within 3-6 months.
- Wrote disaster recovery plans to prepare impacted communities for grant applications.
- Wrote national policy and guidance to implement the FEMA National Disaster Recovery Framework, collaborating with national, state and local government clients and partners.

Hagerty Consulting

- Wrote and prepared business development proposals; prepared reports for clients.

United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta/Americorps VISTA

- Built a 60-member statewide coalition and legislative campaign for poverty alleviation.
- Developed marketing materials and policy statements; represented UWMA at conferences.

