



Community Ventures

“Supplying the tools to transform promise into reality”

Shannon M. Cohen, M.P.A, C.P.S Community Ventures

Shannon Cohen has been an active member of philanthropic and community development efforts in metro Detroit and West Michigan for the past fifteen years. Throughout her professional career, Shannon has created and managed several multigenerational, multicultural initiatives and a host of incubator efforts designed to foster community renewal and stem public health ills with a special focus on youth.

Seeking to expand on an extensive background in strategic planning, facilitation, community mobilization, and service delivery to vulnerable populations, Shannon launched her own business, Community Ventures (CV) in 2009. Community Ventures was birthed out of a vision and passion to empower West Michigan youth and families to thrive and excel despite circumstances of birth and situational challenges. The CV logo is the blooming peace lily symbolizing a belief in the inherent promise and potential that dwells on the inside of every human being. As an industry leader, Shannon seeks to empower clients and community by reducing and removing barriers to personal success and organizational goals.

Through Community Ventures, Shannon yields her expertise as a contractor of services for several not-for-profit entities including: Network180, The Grand Valley State University School of Public, Nonprofit, and Health Administration, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, Wyoming Public Schools, The Genesis Corporation, Grand Valley State University TRIO Upward Bound, Project GREEN, Foursquare International, and ITT Technical Institute.

Shannon graduated magna cum laude with a Master’s Degree in Public Administration and Nonprofit Management from Grand Valley State University. Shannon is a 2014 recipient of the Grand Rapids Business Journal ‘40 Under Forty’ Award and was recently selected as a W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Leadership Network Fellow, a cadre of 120 prestigious leaders from around the nation working in tandem to improve the quality of life for vulnerable children and families.

Additional Accomplishments:

- *Appointee, National Executive Board*, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, Above the Influence
- *Local Champion and Hero Award*, Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking
- *Rising Star Award Winner*, Our Communities Children/Extended Learning Opportunities Network
- *Community Champion Award*, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
- *Pi Alpha Alpha Member* – Honorary Fraternal Order for Public Administrators