

Resume-December, 2018

Brandon M. Dennison

Education:

Master of Public Affairs in Nonprofit Management; Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship (2011)

-Indiana University, School of Public and Environmental Affairs and Kelley School of Business

*The School of Public and Environmental Affairs ranks first nationally for nonprofit programs

*The Kelley School of Business ranks first nationally for entrepreneurship studies

Certified in Community Housing Development Organization Management and Planning (2013)

-United States Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

Certified Economic Development Finance Professional (2012)

-National Development Council

Bachelor of Arts in History and Bachelor of Science in Political Science (2008)

-Shepherd University

Professional Experience:

- ✓ Founder-CEO, Coalfield Development Corporation (2011-present)
- ✓ Associate Director, Wayne County Economic Development Authority (2012-2016)
- ✓ Board of Directors Member: Enterprise Community Partners National Advisory Council (2017-current), West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund (2017-current), Huntington WV Chamber of Commerce (2016-current), CommunityWorks in West Virginia Inc. (2012-2014), West Virginia Wilderness Coalition (2007-2016)
- ✓ Service Corps Fellow, Bloomington, IN Housing Authority (2009-2011)
- ✓ Youth Director, Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church (2005-2009)

Professional Accomplishments:

- ✓ Founder of Coalfield Development, a family of social enterprises creating new sustainable business markets that pioneer viable economic diversification strategies in the coalfields of southern West Virginia.
- ✓ Ashoka Fellow - 2018
- ✓ Named West Virginian of the Year, *WV Living Magazine*-2017
- ✓ Since its founding in 2010, Coalfield has created over 190 new jobs and more than 800 job training opportunities in southern West Virginia; Dennison has raised over \$15 million towards the accomplishment of these goals.
- ✓ Winner of the 2015 JMK Social Innovation Prize

- ✓ Winner of the 2014 Diehl Family Social Enterprise Competition
- ✓ Named "40 under 40 leaders nationwide who are making their mark on the nonprofit world" by the Chronicle on Philanthropy.
- ✓ One of 10 "Young Guns" named by WV Executive Magazine in 2018
- ✓ Keynote speaker for more than 20 national gatherings
- ✓ Marshall University Convocation keynote speaker
- ✓ Participated as a panelist at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival, advocating for a just transition for coal communities struggling to adapt in the wake of the coal industry's decline.
- ✓ Featured in many national media outlets for work to diversify coal-community economies including a National Geographic documentary, Bill Moyers' "Making Change" series, the Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press, Starbucks Upstanders, Here and Now, CNN, The Guardian, Public Broadcasting Station, and Charleston Gazette.
- ✓ Acted as a core member of a team of six from the Huntington, WV area competing in and winning the nation-wide America's Best Communities competition.
- ✓ Serving on and advising a regional Task-Force for the creation of Appalachia's largest ever impact investment program alongside national foundations and finance leaders.
- ✓ One of 20 leaders from across the country serving on Enterprise Community Partners Community Leadership Council.
- ✓ Played a leadership role in strategy and advocacy for the federal POWER program (Partnerships and Opportunity for Workforce and Economic Revitalization)
- ✓ Authored West Virginia's first ever ArtPlace America grant, a nationally competitive and prestigious philanthropic funding program for creative placemaking projects
- ✓ Completed the Community Progress Leadership Institute at Harvard University Law School.
- ✓ Advised for the \$30 million development of Heartland Intermodal Gateway, a \$30 million public-private partnership to make the transportation and logistics industry more environmentally sustainable and to create new businesses for southern West Virginia.
- ✓ Helped lead a statewide effort to reform affordable housing policy, with some reforms winning enactment by the West Virginia Legislature and Governor.
- ✓ Author of comprehensive, empirical community economic analyses comparing conditions and capacity in Huntington and Morgantown, WV; author of similar study for Pendleton, Grant, and Pocahontas Counties, West Virginia.
- ✓ Named a "Wilderness Hero" by the Campaign for American Wilderness for efforts to organize the faith community in support of the Wild Monongahela Act, which successfully expanded wilderness protection for the Monongahela National Forest for the first time since the 1970s.