



VALERIE B. TRAORE

Visionary leader with extensive experience and success in transforming organization from good to great. Highly skilled in creating and executing strategically competitive growth plans, developing high performance senior and executive leadership teams, leading strategic fundraising campaigns, and building prosperous relationships with various segments of the community at large.

Val's background in the nonprofit sector is extensive. She has more than 20 years nonprofit leadership experience working at hunger-relief organizations in Baltimore, Chicago and New York. In her current role as CEO of the Food Bank of South Jersey, she has overall responsibility for the strategic, programmatic,

financial, and management operations of the \$13M nonprofit organization based in New Jersey. She leads the communication of the vision and program objectives to internal and external constituencies and works collaboratively with the Board of Trustees in formulating policies, developing strategies, raising funds, and achieving performance. Since her arrival in 2006, Val has increased the organization's fundraising base by 500%, tripled its offering of programs and other services, raised its efficiency rating to the highest level of 4 stars (Charity Navigator) and has uniquely positioned the organization for its next stage of growth.

Her other work has been with City Harvest based in New York City in which she oversaw a network of 850 emergency feeding programs and developed the phenomenal Mobile Market. Mobile Market now in its 10th year of operation was designed to bring fresh and affordable produce to economically disadvantaged communities in NYC. She also worked for Feeding America: The Nation's Food Bank Network based in Chicago, IL. In her role there, Val traveled extensively throughout the country advising food banks and food rescue organizations in areas of strategic development, organizational management, board development, financial management and facilities management.

Val's work in the anti-hunger movement has been profiled in leading print, television and radio broadcast such as Black Enterprise, Philadelphia Business Journal, Courier Post, Philadelphia Inquirer, ABC and NBC TV to name a few. She has received several awards for her work that include: Minority Business Leader of the Year 2011, Heroine of the Year 2011, Brava Woman of the Year 2012, 2012 South Jersey Super Women: 40 Women Making a Difference, 2012 Camden County Woman of the Month, 2014 SJ Business Journal: Person of the Month, 2014 Mutual of America Hometown Hero, 2016 Outstanding Fundraising Professional by the Southern New Jersey Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and the 2017 Lifetime Legacy Award at SJ Magazine's Women of Excellence Awards.

She holds an executive certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from Stanford University and a B.S. in Management from Coppin State University. Val is a trustee of Coppin State University Foundation board, member of Rotary International and a volunteer for several causes that includes adult literacy, women self-sufficiency and empowerment, youth mentoring, social enterprising and anti-hunger.

Val is a persuasive public speaker with the ability to use passion and mission as the driver for higher brand awareness, increased contributions and higher volunteer engagement. Technically savvy coupled with an insatiable thirst for innovation and "out of the box" thinking.