

Zac Swank

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Summary

Long ago I decided that it doesn't matter why we are here, but since we are here, the important question is what are we going to do with our lives. It seemed to me that leading an enjoyable life and making the world a better place in the process were the two essential answers. I accomplish both through my work in the field of sustainability, climate action, and resilience.

Experience



Deputy Director, Office of Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience

Boulder County

Oct 2022 - Present (1 year 6 months)

- Manage the residential and commercial Built Environment Decarbonization team towards a goal of 100% building electrification
- Implement high-impact and equity-centered climate action
- Launched RebuildingBetter.org and associated services to support the homeowners of the 1,100 homes destroyed by the Marshall Fire resulting in 60% of new homes exceeding base building codes and 11% going all electric



Built Environment Coordinator

Boulder County

Jan 2022 - Oct 2022 (10 months)

- Oversaw the commercial (Partners for a Clean Environment) and residential (EnergySmart) electrification and efficiency programs across Boulder County
- Launched a greenhouse gas goal setting program for small businesses
- Won National Association of Counties award for launching Restore Colorado, a public/private/nonprofit partnership to fund sustainable agriculture



Business Sustainability Coordinator

Partners for a Clean Environment

Oct 2018 - Dec 2021 (3 years 3 months)

- Oversaw implementation of a wide range of program strategies, including business advising, communications, policy, and systems change
- Developed and manage complex program budgets over \$1.7 million



President of the Board of Directors

Colorado CarShare

Jan 2015 - Jan 2021 (6 years 1 month)

- Fiduciarily responsible for an annual budget of \$600,000 and the leadership of a nine-member board of directors
- Initiated and managed a new five-year strategic planning process
- Unanimously elected president by board members in 2015, 2017 and 2019



Team Lead for Partners for a Clean Environment

Partners for a Clean Environment

Jan 2016 - Sep 2018 (2 years 9 months)

- Represented PACE and the county to internal and external partners
- Oversaw three Business Sustainability Advisors



Business Sustainability Adviser

Partners for a Clean Environment

Aug 2014 - Dec 2015 (1 year 5 months)

- Provided advising and outreach services to local businesses on energy efficiency, waste diversion, water quality and conservation practices, and sustainable transportation
- Advised businesses on the highest ROI energy efficiency projects and ensured they received the maximum rebates
- Supported businesses in completing necessary projects to achieve PACE certification



Fellow

Natural Capitalism Solutions

Apr 2012 - Apr 2013 (1 year 1 month)

- Developed strategy recommendations for integrating sustainability into major corporate clients' operations
- Assisted in client proposal development with a 50% win rate on contracts
- Chief author of an in-depth report on the market performance of green buildings in Denver



Environmental Education and Small Enterprise Development Volunteer

Peace Corps

Jun 2008 - Jul 2011 (3 years 2 months)

- Led local partners in the design, construction, and operational management of a sustainable tourism lodge
- Trained lodge owners to operate the business in an environmentally and financially sustainable manner
- Hosted a community educational event on climate change and radio shows on sustainability



Agent of Change

SustainUS

Apr 2007 - Dec 2007 (9 months)

- Selected in a national search to represent the voice of American youth at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP13) in Bali, Indonesia
- Prepared a submission for the UN: Views on the Implications of Possible Changes to the Limit for Small-scale Afforestation and Reforestation



Senior Administrative Assistant

World Wildlife Fund

Jan 2007 - Aug 2007 (8 months)

- Researched and prepared briefs on current legislative actions and hearings

- Hired as an intern, then asked to stay on to fill a roll with graduate degree requirements

Education



Clarkson University

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), MBA - Business Sustainability

2015 - 2016

- GPA: 4.0 (4.0 scale)



Clarkson University

Bachelor of Science, Political Science, Environmental Politics Concentration

2004 - 2008

- GPA: 3.94 (4.0 scale), Presidential Scholar, Magna cum Laude