Tonya Bronleewe

Areas of Professional Focus ­

* Project development and grant writing
* Envir­­onmental education and outreach, training and workshop development and evaluation
* Water workforce development and promotion
* ­Water utility board training

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Environmental Finance Center

Wichita State University, Hugo Wall School

Director August 2020 – present

Senior Program Manager August 2019 – July 2020

Program Manager May 2015 – July 2019

EFC Development, Administration and Management

* Organizational vision and oversight
* Written and received nearly $24M in grant and contract funding for EFC and its mission
* Organizational oversight, project management, evaluation, reporting, and financial management of 20+ local, state and federal grants and contracts to support the EFC WSU
* Established the Heartland Environmental Justice Center, an Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center at the EFC
* Leadership and management of up to 18 staff

Program Development and Implementation

* Co-developed and implementing a water utility board member educational program (KanCap) including training manual, interactive training, and videos (2016 and ongoing)
* Developed and implementing an Asset Management Users Group for Kansas
* Received and implemented three grants to develop and conduct Work in Water, a high school program to educate and inspire the next generation of water and wastewater utility professionals through classroom sessions and internships
* Developed and conducting water workforce development trainings across the country, including tools to recruit, retain, and replace water professionals
* Developed and delivering trainings to enhance the management skills of utility managers, trainings included: generations in the workplace, leadership and communication, management styles, communicating with boards, employee retention, open meetings and open records, etc.
* Developed and delivering Communication and Storytelling Trainings and resources designed to enhance water utility and public service professionals storytelling skills to boost impact

Tool and Resource Development

* Developed a cost-benefit analysis and report for 8 cities and 3 counties in Missouri’s Lower Meramec Watershed, the analysis indicated that the co-benefits achieved by flood-prone property acquisition, floodplain restoration and open space development outweighed the costs over a 20-year period
* Developed an online funding search tool to help communities identify potential funding options that fit their stormwater management plans and projects
* Developed a cost-benefit analysis and report for green and reduced maintenance options for vacant lots in Kansas City, also included the development and launch of an online calculator for vacant lot projects targeted for neighborhood groups and nonprofits
* Collaborated with the project team to develop the Community-enabled Life-cycle Analysis of Stormwater Infrastructure Costs (CLASIC) Tool – a decision-making tool utilizing a lifecycle cost framework to support stormwater infrastructure decisions on extent and combinations of green, hybrid and gray infrastructure projects

City of Wichita, Air Quality

Air Quality Specialist April 2013 – May 2015

* Collaborated with state agencies, municipalities, municipal planning organizations, businesses and nonprofits to develop, coordinate and implement the South-Central Kansas Ozone Advance Program

K-State Research & Extension, Sedgwick County

EARTH Program Coordinator January 2002 – December 2008

Natural Resources Extension Agent January 2009 – December 2012

* Developed and conducted training workshops and presentations for homeowners and neighborhood associations on the topics of stormwater pond maintenance and lagoon maintenance
* Developed and implemented a statewide environmental education program that included teacher training, recruitment, volunteer management, event planning and coordination, etc.

EDUCATION

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY – Wichita, KS

Master of Science, Environmental Studies, 2008

Masters Project: Outside the Traditional Classroom: Educational Training for Professional Scientists

TABOR COLLEGE – Hillsboro, KS

Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Biology & International Studies, 1999

Summa Cum Laude

AFFILIATIONS and ADDITIONAL ROLES

* Environmental Finance Center Network
* Arkansas River Clean-up Planning Team
* Friends of the Great Plains Nature Center Board

TRAININGS and CERTIFIATIONS

* WSU Leaders Training - 2023
* Fundamental of Supervision and Management Certificate – June 2020
* Microsoft Power User – 2019
* Gender Diversity Training – 2019
* Diversity in Action Training - 2019
* Engaging a Multi-generational Workforce - 2019
* Human Resource Management Badge: Effective Employee Recruitment – Dec 2018
* Your Leadership Edge – July 2018
* Quality Matters Training – June 2014
* 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training - 2014
* Environmental Conflict Resolution Workshop - 2011