

Cheri Beda

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Professional Summary

I am a seasoned professional in fundraising, alumni relations, and project management, with a proven track record in creativity, data-informed decision-making, and donor engagement. I specialize in fund development, marketing, and event planning, and successfully launched the first alumni relations program at Central Community College. I bring visionary leadership, strategic thinking, and a passion for empowering individuals and teams through storytelling and analytics.

Skills

Project Management • Donor Engagement • Creativity and Innovation • Data Analytics • Database Maintenance
Strategic Planning • Storytelling • Data Visualization & Presentations • Public Speaking • External & Public Relations
Python (Jupyter Notebook) • Raiser's Edge • Tableau • Power BI

Experience

Alumni and Development Director

Central Community College Foundation, Hastings, NE | Sept 2014 – Present

- Developed and executed a comprehensive alumni relations program, improving the perception of community college graduates.
- Cultivated an engaged alumni network of over 35,000 individuals through giving days, campaigns, and planned giving.
- Led the production of an alumni magazine showcasing students, alumni, and college events.
- Orchestrated events across 25 counties, leveraging social media for outreach.
- Delivered public speeches and managed alumni awards.
- Managed budgets and presented quarterly board reports.
- Utilized Raiser's Edge and RENXT for database management and reporting.
- Applied data analysis to enhance fundraising strategy and planned giving.

Case Manager

HELP Grant, Central Community College | May 2013 – Aug 2014

- Empowered health science students through mentoring and career guidance.
- Conducted resume-building workshops and coordinated student support services.

Case Manager

The Bridge, Hastings, NE | Oct 2012 – May 2013

- Supported women in addiction recovery through life skills training, budgeting, and wellness coaching.

Education

- M.S., Data Science – Bellevue University (Expected May 2025)
- Ed.D., Educational Leadership – Doane University, Crete, NE (May 2020)
Dissertation: “Stress, Motivation, and Drive: A Narrative Inquiry of Graduate Student Mothers”
Explored the lived experiences of graduate student mothers balancing full-time work, parenting, and academics. Key themes included resilience, motivation, time optimization, and the motherhood penalty.
Read Full Dissertation:
<https://www.proquest.com/openview/1c5ea4cceaac07fbc1649407d8f379aa/1.pdf?cbl=18750&diss=y&pq-origsite=gscholar>
- M.S., Prevention Science – University of Oklahoma (Jan 2014)
- B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science – University of Oklahoma (Jan 2012)
- A.A., Psychology – Oklahoma City Community College (Jan 2010)

Honors & Leadership

- Breakthrough Type 1 Advocate and Volunteer
- Leadership Tomorrow Class 38 – Grand Island
- Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska Volunteer of Excellence Award, Appreciation Pin, and 5-Year Award
- YWCA Young Professional Woman Award