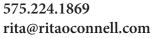
Rita D. O'Connell •





M.A., Public Advocacy and Activism, first-class honours

National University of Ireland, Galway Huston School of Film and Digital Media

B.A., Writing, Literature, & Publishing, cum laude

Emerson College, Boston, MA

Concentrations: nonfiction writing, copyediting, political communication

AFL-CIO Organizing Institute

Classroom training followed by placement on public sector organizing campaign with AFSCME Iowa Council 61

Development & Strategy Consultant, 2007-present

Independent, freelance, worldwide

- Development support, strategic planning, and commucations services, primarily for nonprofits, community organizations, and small businesses.
- Experienced in issue work around health, rural policy, early childhood, women's rights, peace, independent media, climate change, & more.
- Services include program development and management; research and evaluation; development and submission of grants, reports, white papers; coalition coordination; production & hosting of events and meetings; copywriting, editing, and proofing; and management of websites, newsletters, and social media.

Director of Development & Festival Manager, The Paseo Project, 2018 - present Arts nonprofit focused on transformational community/arts engagement, Taos, NM

- Assess, develop, and evaluate community outreach and engagement.
- Coordinate & manage PASEO Festival, bringing free outdoor art (and more than 6,000 people) to the historic district of Taos, NM each September.
- Assist with strategic planning, management, administration, overall systems organization, internal communications, staff development, artist contracts, local partnerships, and more.

National Organizer, CODEPINK, 2018

Grassroots peace and social justice movement organization, DC/LA/National

• Oversaw communications, outreach, engagement, volunteer and staff development, and campaign strategy for CODEPINK's flagship Divest from the War Machine campaign, leading and supporting activists nationwide.

Communications & Community Manager, Wisdom 2.0, 2011-2015 Technology-meets-mindfulness event series, San Francisco, CA

· Oversaw external and internal communications, and acted as customer service lead, live-in editor, & front-of-house and registration manager. Helped expand from a single annual 300-person event to an international series, with events drawing over 3,000 people from San Francisco to Singapore.

Development Associate, Taos Health Systems, 2009-2011 Regional nonprofit health system, Taos, NM

- Secured and/or managed over \$20 million in federal, state, and private grants; helped create and manage signature hospital events and programs; assisted with successful redesign of corporate identity.
- Focused on rural policy, particularly community development, access to care, food security, and youth empowerment.

ritaoconnell.com • linkedin.com/in/ritaoconnell



Highly organized self-starter

Excellent interpersonal & digital communicator

> Comfortable public speaker & meeting facilitator

Flexible team player with a sense of humor and a positive attitude

Writer, both technical and creative

Trained editor, Chicago and AP fluent

> Curious & eager analytical thinker

Research experience, qualitative & quantitative

Some Spanish – basic conversation, good reading comprehension

DIGITAL SKILLS

Both PC and Mac literate

Proficient in MS office suite, Adobe InDesign and Photoshop

Extensive cross-platform social media experience

Experienced user of NVivo, Little Green Light, Raiser's Edge, Wordpress, NationBuilder, the VAN, Slack, Dropbox, Hootsuite, Asana, Basecamp, Monday.com, Trello, Eventbrite, & more

Basic HTML and SEO

Quick to learn new software/programs