

Professional Bio



Rooted
Philanthropic



Patrick J. Troska
Executive Director

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Patrick Troska joins Rooted Philanthropic with an extensive career in the nonprofit sector, including nearly 25 years in philanthropy. He was with The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota from 2000 to 2021, serving as Executive Director and President from 2011-2021. In 2015, he spearheaded the Foundation's refocus on North Minneapolis that led to an emphasis on community-led grantmaking and strategy development. During his tenure with the Foundation, he first served as a Program Officer, before being promoted to Senior Program Officer with responsibilities to oversee all aspects of the Foundation's annual grantmaking program.

In the late 1990's, he was a Fund Distribution and Community Initiatives Manager for the United Way of the Saint Paul Area. Patrick began his career in youth services where he held several positions with the Catholic Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and Minnesota Children's Museum.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Social Work from St. John's University in Collegeville MN, and holds a Master of Arts in Leadership from Augsburg University in Minneapolis. In June 2009 he completed a fellowship in public policy at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. He chaired the board of directors of the Minnesota AIDS Project from 2010-12, and chaired the Heading Home Minnesota Funders Collaborative from 2015-2017. From 2017-19 he was on the founding board of directors of the Association for Black Economic Power, which is charged with opening Arise Community Credit Union, the only Black-led credit union in Minnesota. He currently sits on the Capital Campaign Committee for Northside Economic Opportunity Network (NEON), which is working to secure over \$22M to build a Food Incubator and Commercial Kitchen, purchase and renovate its building, and grow its operational capacity to deliver needed entrepreneurial services in North Minneapolis.

Patrick is an avid life-long professional tennis fan, fearing the day Rafael Nadal will retire. He's also a longtime fan and season ticket holder for the University of Minnesota women's volleyball team, a movie aficionado, a world traveler, and a skilled sweets and dessert maker.

Patrick currently resides in Minneapolis, MN, with his faithful canine companion, Zander.