

## Madeline Hirschland

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Goal: To apply nonprofit leadership expertise to mitigate climate change.

### Executive Summary

*Multi-faceted experience with leadership of nonprofit organizations; strengths include:*

- Strategist
- Visionary
- Organizational Leader
- Communicator
- Fundraiser

### CLIMATE CHANGE

- **Solarize Indiana**, founder, 2017. In five months between signing and implementation of anti-solar law, organized all-volunteer effort in 11 regions resulting in a 20% increase in number of IN solar homeowners.
- **Time to Choose Coalition**, founder, 2016-17. Convened nine local groups to organize a climate education event that attracted 520 and to become a climate action coalition with a monthly e-newsletter.
- **Bloomington Neighborhood Solar Initiative**, 2017. Brought together two groups to implement project that resulted in 29 new solar arrays in .5 sq mi. Replication with the city led to 100's of new solar arrays.
- **Interfaith Community of Environmentalist Youth (ICEY)**, cofounder and mentor, 2014-16. Supported dynamic interfaith group of teen climate activists to advocate, organize, and help people conserve.
- **Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light (H-IPL)**, cofounder, board vice chair, 2010–15. With eight regional affiliates, H-IPL drove policy successes and climate awareness. Recruited board and volunteers, raised \$570K including first large grants, brought national news coverage, organized clergy advocacy letters.

H-IPL's **Seventh Day Initiative**, founder, director, 2012-16. Unprecedented in its diversity and depth and breadth of conservation. Recruited twenty-two congregations from eighteen faith traditions - Anabaptist, Catholic, mainline and evangelical Protestant, Jewish, Muslim and more - to deeply reduce their energy use. On average, the first thirteen cut by 33% and over a third of their households acted to deeply reduce at home. Developed monitoring and conservation tools and delivered workshops across Indiana for members of hundreds of congregations. Partnered with Indianapolis Center for Congregations, SIREN, IN Disciples of Christ and many others. Circulation from print media coverage topped several million.

- **Earth Care Bloomington (EC)**, founding convener and member, 2007-10. Group of 21 congregations - Catholic, evangelical and mainline Protestant, Jewish, Muslim and more. EC led climate education and action for hundreds of Bloomingtonians. Two of its programs have been widely replicated.
- **Monroe County Religious Leaders**, cofounder, 2005-08. Engaged clergy in climate advocacy.

### MICROFINANCE

- Recognized leader in savings mobilization and rural and poor outreach. Worked in twenty-four countries.
- Consultant to dozens of organizations, 1989-91, 1996–2009. Select examples (full list on request):
  - **Strategic direction:** Delineated strategy for **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's** new focus on deposit mobilization. Advised **US Agency for International Development** on how to expand savings services to youth. Recommended strategy for **Oxfam America** for working in the US.

- **Strategic management:** From 2006 to 2009, strengthened full scope of operations – products, HR, marketing, financial management, etc. - of local farmers financial cooperative, **WaKenya PaMoja**, to enable it to grow. By 2014, it had the largest membership of any financial cooperative in Kenya.
- **Guidance to donors:** For **CGAP**, the global consortium of microfinance donors, developed guidelines for supporting deposit services. To ground these in practice, envisioned and facilitated path-breaking global virtual conference. Advised **Citi Foundation** on awarding \$.5M in grants.
- **Speaking:** Known as an insightful, engaging and motivating speaker. **Asian Development Bank**, Papua New Guinea, keynote for regional forum. **Ford Foundation**, Mexico, one of three invited speakers to global senior management meeting. **World Council of Credit Unions**. Moderator.
- **Writing:** Excel at making complex ideas accessible and compelling. Authored books and dozens of articles, grants, speeches, strategic plans, manuals, and curricula. E.g., **United Nations Development Programme**, wrote monitoring manual for \$41M program in twenty-five countries.
- **Facilitation:** Skilled at bringing people together to develop a shared vision or generate learning. **The SEEP Network**. Led seminal weeklong forum of global leaders culminating in book, [New Directions in Poverty Finance](#). For **USAID**, facilitated critical meeting with US General Accounting Office.
- **Training:** Trained and skilled in adult education techniques. **Boulder Microfinance Training Program** (Italy). For a decade, served as faculty member of premier global best practices institute for practitioners, policy makers and donors in microfinance.
- **Savings Services for the Poor: An Operational Guide**, editor, author, 2005. Heralded as a must-read by leaders in the field. With forty instructive mini-cases and simple tools, the book brought together leading thinkers and practitioners to illuminate savings mobilization, widely-known as “the forgotten half” of microfinance. To support this work, granted a Fulbright regional research award and raised \$80K.
- **Save the Children, Director, Economic Opportunities (EO) Office, 1991-96.** Provided all aspects of support to EO programs in forty countries. Increased people served by a magnitude of ten, shifted focus to low-income women and instituted model for cost recovery. Managed \$5M grant. Under my direction, Save the Children microfinance programs in the Middle East became industry leaders. Raised \$2M.

## EDUCATION / RELATED ACTIVISM

**Harvard Kennedy School of Government.** MPA, 1989. **Honors:** Kennedy Fellow - highest distinction. Teaching assistant to Robert Reich. Taught project appraisal to officials from 34 countries.

**Harvard College.** BA in Social Studies, interdisciplinary honors major, 1983. Magna cum laude thesis. **Honors:** Harvard Scholarship for academic achievement.

Community economic development and empowerment, 1983-89

- **The Community Art Center.** Facilitated turn-around of low-income multi-service center.
- **ACORN.** Community organizer. **Shelter, Inc.** House manager.
- **US Dep't. of Housing and Urban Development.** Special Assistant to Director of Policy Development.
- **Working Capital.** Developed business plan for what became largest microfinance program in the US.

## AWARDS / RECOGNITION

Fulbright Regional Research Award. First place, national Cool Congregations award to project I led. City of Bloomington Be More Sustainable Award. Times of Israel, one of twelve Jews “leading the green movement”. Hoosier Environmental Council 2010 Organization of the Year and 2017 Sustainable Champion of the Year awards to groups I founded and co-led / led. Featured, weather.com’s United States of Climate Change IN story.

## BOARD SERVICE (partial list)

President twice, Congregation Beth Shalom (IN). Vice chair, Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light. CGAP Savings Experts Cluster, six-member advisory group to international donor consortium (DC). Secretary, The SEEP Network, for international microenterprise development professionals (DC). Somerville Homeless Shelter (MA).