

Job Title: Development and Events Manager

Location: Des Moines, IA (Hybrid)

Salary: \$65,000 annually

Benefits package: Health, Vision & Dental Insurance, 401k, Unlimited PTO

Time Commitment/Classification: Full-Time/Exempt

Are you a strategic relationship-builder who thrives on bringing people together and turning connections into sustainable funding for progressive change?

We're looking for a motivated, results-driven Development and Events Manager to lead fundraising strategy and execute high-impact events that advance our mission in Iowa. This role is ideal for someone who excels at donor cultivation, loves planning memorable gatherings, and knows how to translate community passion into long-term financial support.

If you're energized by development work, skilled at managing multiple moving pieces, and passionate about building power through people-powered funding, we want to hear from you.

Organization Overview

Progress Iowa is a multi-issue progressive advocacy organization. Year-round, we promote progressive ideas and causes with creative earned media strategies and targeted ad campaigns powered by an ever-growing network of storytellers. We are Iowa's progressive communications hub. We operate as a nerve center for data-driven messaging and strategic alignment for progressive organizations. Through education, advocacy, and accountability, we drive the public narrative around good governance and work boldly toward an Iowa where working families can thrive.

Background on Position

This position will manage Progress Iowa's fundraising efforts and signature events like the Holiday Party. It centers around sustainable investment and community engagement. The successful candidate will strategically engage small-dollar donors, cultivate major gift relationships, and host events that both raise funds and deepen supporter commitment to our work.

Development and Events Manager

What You'll Do

This role will focus heavily on building a sustainable fundraising pipeline and executing events that generate revenue, expand our donor base, and highlight key issues. You'll:

- Develop and implement a comprehensive fundraising strategy including small-dollar donations, major gifts, and special events.
 - Recruit, manage, and maintain relationships with donors, host committee members, and grantors.
 - Plan and execute fundraising events including the annual Holiday Party, from logistics (securing venues, materials, and speakers) to attendee cultivation and follow-up.
 - Identify opportunities to share Progress Iowa's successes and impact with core audiences.
 - Track and manage donor data in a CRM system, ensuring accurate records and timely stewardship.
 - Write grant proposals, donor appeals, and fundraising communications in collaboration with the communications team.
 - Work independently while also collaborating closely with colleagues and stakeholders.
 - Perform other duties as assigned or requested.
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Ideal Candidates

- You're a problem solver who doesn't wait to be told what to do.
 - You're comfortable working independently, managing deadlines, and prioritizing tasks effectively, whether in person or remotely.
 - You enjoy meeting new people and confidently reaching out to build donor relationships.
 - You have experience planning and executing successful fundraising or community events.
 - You can work alone when needed and seamlessly collaborate with a team when it counts.
 - You have strong organizational skills and can manage multiple projects at once.
 - You're energized by advocacy and committed to advancing progressive values.
 - You're a clear communicator and comfortable with public speaking and donor-facing conversations.
 - You bring a positive, go-getter attitude and are adaptable in fast-paced environments.
 - Experience with CRM systems is a plus.
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To Apply

Email info@progressiowa.org with the subject line **Development and Events Manager** and include the following information:

- A brief letter describing your interest

- A resume detailing your qualifications and experience
- Three references, including two supervisors

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. However, applications received on or before **Friday, August 14, 2026** will receive first priority.