

SOPHIA CHITLIK (ABRAM)

919-618-1493 | sophia@sophiafornc.com | Durham, North Carolina

EXPERTISE

- Strategic Planning
- Team Formation & Culture
- Venture & Impact Investing
- Philanthropic Partnerships
- Board & Executive Facilitation
- Operational Planning
- Maternal Health Policy
- Network Theory
- Landscape Analysis

EXPERIENCE

rites ventures

Angel Investor, Board Member & Advisor

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

August 2020 – Present

- Invest in and incubate pre-seed companies run by and for women, prototyping a fund thesis around holistic women's health and rites of passage. Build relationships with hundreds of founders and VCs across the world.
- Conducted a years-long landscape analysis of pregnancy, birth, and postpartum startups in America.
- Co-founded and served as COO of Tend, a platform that supports users through the transformational inner journey of pregnancy and birth. Created the user journey, visual brand, and GTM strategy. (2021-2022)
- Currently incubating Aya Birth & Community Wellness, the nation's first Black-owned network of birth centers. Serve as pro-bono COO, creating new legal structure and business model. Raised \$500k to date.

believer

Founder & Principal Consultant

DURHAM, NC & JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

January 2017 – August 2020

- Coached boards and CEOs on how to stabilize and scale by facilitating collaborative, strategic planning processes, including: mission, values, and vision articulation; value proposition development; business plan creation; landscape analysis; workforce planning; R&D; and stakeholder engagement.
- Specialized in clients leveraging network theory, including: a B:B blockchain start-up, a venture philanthropy backed immigration tech startup, a global tech incubator, a \$100M foundation, and a \$4B foundation.

the future project

Chief Operating Officer

National Movement Director

NYC, DETROIT, SF

June 2015 – August 2016

September 2014 – May 2015

- Accountable for finance, growth, human resources, planning, and compliance for a national 80 person, \$11M education start-up during a period of 50-100%+ year over year growth and \$50M+ investment.
- Served as interim Chief Growth Officer, overseeing a \$20M capital campaign plan and strategy.
- Oversaw an end-to-end reorganization by restructuring the operations team and growing it by 300%, closing two audits in three months, revamping company policies, streamlining planning, and collaboratively building a \$9.5M operating plan in six weeks. Facilitated hundreds of executive strategy meetings.
- Developed and implemented national engagement strategy, managed corporate partnerships up to \$10M.

repair the world

Director of Community Engagement

Manager of Community Affairs

Campaign Associate

NYC, DETROIT, PITTSBURGH

February 2014 – September 2014

February 2013 – January 2014

October 2012 – January 2013

- Reported to the CEO in developing and implementing a new \$5M national initiative in just nine months, including managing city selection, partnership engagement, and \$1M in real estate investments.

SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS

External Affairs Scheduler

NYC

October 2011 – April 2012

- Managed high-priority scheduling and correspondence for CEO, Eva Moskowitz and collaborated with department directors on advocacy. Served as de-facto chief of staff during supervisor's parental leave.
- Managed hundreds of relationships with school leaders, district officials, and education advocates.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Confidential Special Assistant [Political Appointee]

WASHINGTON, DC

May 2011 – October 2011

- Edited and authored memorandum in partnership with Assistant Secretaries and policy makers. Scheduled and advanced internal meetings. Wrote speeches, talking points, and materials for Secretary Hilda Solis.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Priority Placement, Office of Presidential Personnel

WASHINGTON, DC

March 2011 – May 2011

- Vetted and recommended individuals for priority placement within the administration and drafted briefs on perspective candidates for senior staff. Contributed to creating the most diverse Administration in history.

OBAMA FOR AMERICA

Field Organizer

Deputy Field Organizer

LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA

June 2008 – November 2008

December 2007 – June 2008

- Established and operated the campaign's first office in Loudoun, a critical "swing" county in Northern Virginia, resulting in a first-ever Democratic win margin (+10% shift from 2004). Did four cycles of GOTV.

ENGAGEMENT

BETH EL SYNAGOGUE, Committee Leader

2023 – Present

- Chair synagogue's Strategic Planning Committee. Served on the Executive Director Search Committee.

AYA BIRTH & COMMUNITY WELLNESS, Founding Board Chair

November 2022 – Present

NC FUNDERS FOR MATERNAL HEALTH, Member

2022 – Present

JEWISH FOR GOOD, Young Leadership Award

2021

NARROW BRIDGE FUND, Co-Founder & Director

October 2018 – Present

- Direct small philanthropic fund that supports community-rooted organizations in Durham and beyond.

FRONT PORCH, Leadership Team

2018 – 2020

- Allocate capital to local BIPOC-led c4 organizations working to enfranchise voters in North Carolina.

AT THE WELL, Director & Founding Board Secretary

July 2017 – Present

- Supported the Executive Director in building a ten-person, \$1.7M organization from scratch.

SOHO LEADER'S SOCIETY, Co-Founder

March 2016 – Present

- Helped to found a multi-city society of young Jewish leaders and philanthropists.

STARTINGBLOC, FELLOW

2014 – Present

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

January 2011

Bachelor of Arts, Individualized Study (Magna Cum Laude), Concentration in Political Community Building