

Sharon N. Black Consultants LLC

Special Projects in Health Care

The Firm

Sharon N. Black Consultants LLC provides realistic and compassionate consultation, team-building and management training for organizations of every size. The firm brings a fresh perspective and short-term assistance to special projects, freeing the client's full-time staff to maintain their regular responsibilities. They approach organizational issues—whether related to communications, planning, or leadership—with sincerity and persistence.

Sharon N. Black Consultants LLC specializes in:

- Meeting coordination and facilitation
- Team-building and planning
- Internal and external communications
- Training and mentoring
- Leadership development
- Public Health and Community Health Center clinic management
- The COPE® quality methodology
- Family Planning program management

The Principal

Sharon Black, BSN (who goes by “Shari”) formed Sharon N. Black Consultants in 1996. A registered nurse since 1969, she was an administrator for Multnomah County Health Department (Portland, Oregon) in family planning and primary care program management from 1973 until 1991. She then served as associate director and finally director of the Primary Care Division in 1993. Her background in ambulatory public health and primary care, as well as more than 30 years' experience in clinic management, has taken her to health care facilities from Iowa to Alaska to the former Soviet Union. Shari currently sits as Chair of two boards focused on Reproductive Health and Public Health. Her past includes participation on a National Family Planning board.

The Team

Shari understands how people work, both individually and within systems. She draws upon her nursing background to assess the issues of struggling groups, then helps those involved acknowledge and embrace the process of forging solutions. She enjoys analyzing a complex issue, breaking it down into surmountable bits and helping to build a high quality organization or process.

To augment her own skills, Shari draws from a dynamic network of freelance professionals in the fields of training, writing/editing and graphic design/printing. In this way, she can mobilize a “virtual” team to exactly fit the needs of a project. Shari believes that a person is only as strong as her relationships—her success as a leader, facilitator and trainer stems from this ability to nurture connections and rapport.

Successes

- **Oregon Primary Care Association** Shari works with OPCA and a network of health centers to improve processes, communication and health outcomes for diverse communities. She assists in the implementation of an Effectiveness Institute which helps clinics call forth wisdom from their staff and involve them in implementing needed change.
- **Community Health Partnership** Shari created an internal and public identity for this fledgling Oregon nonprofit by gathering diverse opinions and helping develop a program design, holding fundraising events, creating a newsletter, designing a press kit and presentation to a national conference, developing giving programs and generating board support. She now sits as Chair of the board of directors.
- **Native American Rehabilitation Association** Shari mentors the clinic leadership team as they work to provide culturally effective care to the urban Native American population in the Portland area.
- **The COPE® Quality Methodology** Shari was trained to provide COPE® services by Engender Health. She has done extensive COPE® program implementation and training in Oregon. COPE® is a quality method that relies deeply on the shared wisdom of 100% of the team.

Accolades

“Thank you for everything! It was a great experience for all of us and I feel like we walked away with some very valuable tools for effective communication. You are truly gifted at what you do! I wish we could have you here every few months!!”

—Joelene Peasley, RN, BSN
Union County Public Health
Center for Human Development

“Just wanted to say thanks again for facilitating our team meeting last week and supporting our OPHNLI scholars. You truly have a gift for making people feel comfortable and safe, which helped to move us along in our efforts to become the best team we can be.”

—Connie Guist
Manager, Willamette North Team, Early Childhood Services
Multnomah County Health Department

“...you organized the whole process so well in the ‘beginning’ that it will continue to flow well with all those you have trained and left to continue this very important work.

“Thanks so much for all your energy, commitment, caring, ideas and LOVE! You have made a tremendous difference in so many people's lives! Thanks for letting me be part of it with you.”

—Mary Lou Hennrich, Executive Director
Community Health Partnership

"What a fabulous place Black Dog Farm is! Bella, Bella! Thank you for a most excellent OPCA retreat. Your facilitating skills were a perfect blend of enthusiasm and energy... and all the black dogs... Wonderful!"

—Jennie Hamilton
Oregon Primary Care Association

“... a quick note of thanks for your insights and open sharing of your wisdom and experience at the Leadership Training in Grants Pass. I always walk away from our time together with a lighter step and renewed spirit; something that you bring and share so generously. Thank you!”

—Brenda Johnson
La Clinical del Valle, Medford, OR

“Had a wonderful day at the retreat last week. Thank you for your wonderful hospitality and encouragement to our group. I hope our paths will cross again.”

—Pam Pressly
Northwest Perinatal Center, Portland, OR

“Shari was a tremendous help at the time in my life that I needed all the resources I could receive. Her Leadership Course provided me a 'can-do' attitude with the challenges I was facing, and I was about to face many more in the ensuing year. If there is something to be said about giving thanks, for me that would be that I am 'thankful' for Shari Black being a part of my life. She was an anchor in a stormy sea.”

—Sandy Spiegel

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<http://www.snbconsultants.com/>