

# CLAY DOHERTY

## STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS EXECUTIVE

*Driving Growth, Innovation, and Cross-Functional Initiatives Aligned with Long-Term Strategic Vision*

Results-driven executive with extensive experience in corporate responsibility, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement. Proven expertise in developing and leading social impact initiatives, forging strategic partnerships, and aligning business objectives with sustainable, socially responsible practices. Track record of driving organizational growth and innovation while delivering transformative solutions across diverse sectors. Skilled in leading diverse teams, optimizing operations, and leveraging data-driven insights to balance profitability with purpose.

- **Corporate Responsibility Strategies**
- **Business Development & Strategic Partnerships**
- **Cross-Functional Leadership**
- **Public Engagement & Business Diplomacy**
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Communications**
- **Strategic Planning & Program Amplification**
- **Financial Planning & Budget Management**
- **Cross-Functional Team Leadership**

## NOTABLE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS & IMPACT

- **Created Partnership** between Revelations Entertainment, CBS, and National Museum of American Diplomacy resulting in donation sets and props from TV show *"Madam Secretary"* to be used as a featured museum exhibit.
- **Conceived and Authored National Public Diplomacy Campaign** *Whistle Stop Tour for Ukraine* which secured \$2M+ in funding from the Howard G. Buffet Foundation and is raising American awareness and support for Ukraine.
- **Established USAID Partners Memorial** that for the first time in the Agency's 50+ year history memorializes and formally honors those killed in line of duty while working alongside USAID employees worldwide.
- **Served as U.S. Government Representative and Special Advisor to the President of Republic of Kosovo;** Represented U.S. in presidential-level discussions that led to creation of the *Kosovo Women's Chamber of Commerce*.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### High Touch Engagement | Washington DC

2016-Present

*Consultancy specializing in design of customized stakeholder engagement and organizational relationship management strategies.*

**Managing Director** Lead strategic outreach and engagement initiatives for clients across national and international platforms, enhancing public involvement and awareness while achieving business objectives and policy outcomes. Develop client relationships that establish new business opportunities and cross-sector partnerships.

- Served as stakeholder engagement advisor to the *National Museum of American Diplomacy, Department of State*. Created partnership that led to the donation of sets & props from TV show *"Madam Secretary"* to be featured exhibit.
- Conceived outreach campaign that secured invitation for the *369th Experience Band* to march in Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Comprised of musicians from HBCUs, the band is a living memorial to the Harlem Hellfighters from WWI.
- Led public engagement initiatives for non-profit organization *Roots of Peace*, contributing to CEO Heidi Kuhn's selection as the 2023 World Food Prize Laureate for her work in landmine eradication and agricultural land restoration.
- Produced events and led diplomatic engagement for the U.S. WWI Centennial Commission that raised \$44M to build the National WWI Memorial in Washington, DC. Events included the *First Colors Ceremony* with President Biden.
- Served on the transition team for Dr. Raj Shah after selection as President of the Rockefeller Foundation. Led strategic engagement initiatives during his first year that helped secure global stakeholder buy-in for his new vision.

### The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) | Washington, DC

2023

*Non-partisan American public policy think tank, promoting cooperation between North America and European Union.*

**Managing Director, Strategic Convening** Brought in-house to reimagine and develop a new convening strategy for GMF. Supervised staff in Washington, DC, and Brussels. Coordinated global convening activities including the flagship annual event, the Brussels Forum. Supported fundraising activities and external relations, strengthening relationships with existing GMF partners, pursuing new partnerships, and liaising with global stakeholders.

- Authored multimillion-dollar national public diplomacy initiative that was fully funded by Howard G. Buffett Foundation. Campaign is working to increase American awareness and support for Ukraine's victory, recovery, and reconstruction.
- Secured single largest (six-figure) corporate donation to Brussels Forum, GMF's annual summit in Brussels.
- Produced virtual portion of NATO Summit Public Forum for DC policymakers to participate in live debates in Lithuania.
- Created initiative that secured \$250K for in-house production studio buildout, achieving a 5-year goal in 6 months.

**United States Agency for International Development (USAID) | Washington, DC****2010-2016**

*The federal agency of the United States Government that oversees and implements all non-military foreign aid.*

**Director of Protocol & Special Events (2013-2016)** Appointed by President Obama to serve as inaugural Senior Advisor to USAID leadership for diplomatic engagement and international protocol. Produced 60+ stakeholder events and facilitated 200+ visits of high-ranking government officials annually. Managed team of 20+ and \$3M+ budget.

- Produced White House Summit on Global Development for 800 public and private stakeholders, showcasing the Obama Administration's 8-year achievements in international development and foreign assistance; received Letter of Commendation from White House Communications Agency for support of President Obama.
- Directed engagement for Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, producing USAID/Unilever events that established public-private partnership to implement initiative; designed enduring brand identity still being used by Tropical Forest Alliance Secretariat at World Economic Forum, Geneva.
- Managed diplomatic engagement for India, Ethiopia, and United States at "Call to Action Global Health Summit" in New Delhi, India; efforts recognized as instrumental in securing the *Delhi Declaration* by 22 Nations.
- Launched USAID partnership with National Basketball Association (NBA) in Dakar, Senegal, increasing stakeholder engagement and achieving extensive media coverage for initiatives across the U.S. and Africa.

**Deputy Director (Acting Director) - Office of Public Engagement (2010-2013)** Selected as Presidential Appointee charged with managing USAID's public engagement, led strategic outreach initiatives, and designed events for domestic and international stakeholders. Supervised staff of 10 and oversaw strategic planning and \$2.5M+ budget.

- Produced \$1.2M USAID Frontiers in Development International Development Forum, a Davos-style event for 800 U.S. and foreign government officials, NGO, academic, and corporate global leaders; re-established USAID as thought leader in international development and led to creation of U.S. Global Development Lab.
- Appointed Senior U.S. Government Representative and Special Advisor to President of Republic of Kosovo to lead production of Kosovo International Women's Summit that established Women's Chamber of Commerce.

**Hollenbeck Associates | San Francisco, CA****2005-2009**

*Award-winning boutique public relations firm in San Francisco and Palm Springs.*

**Senior Vice President (2007-2009); Vice President, Communications & Public Affairs (2005-2007)** Led staff of 8 while designing and implementing client communications and engagement strategies. Oversaw daily agency operations including client acquisition, public affairs execution, and event coordination.

- Led public affairs for Focus Features' world premiere of the movie "MILK" starring Sean Penn. Established new studio relationships and increased attendance by government officials including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.
- Established philanthropic partnerships between clients and nonprofits, generating \$500K+ new funding.
- Secured largest agency client, Avery Dennison; launched new product lines incl. first Apple-compatible software.

**Additional experience includes - Executive Director, LGBT Leadership Council, Democratic National Committee (DNC); Finance Director, Democratic Party of Wisconsin; Arms Control Policy Analyst, Office of the Secretary of Defense, (SAIC contractor).**

**EDUCATION****Corporate International Master's Program (CIM)**

*A partnership of three leading global business schools with each conferring a separate, unique graduate degree.*

**Executive Masters, International Business** - Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business

**Corporate MBA** - ESADE Business School, Spain

**Executive Masters, Business Management** - FGV/EBAPE, Brazilian School of Public/Business Administration

**Master of Arts (MA), Political Science** – American University, School of Public Affairs

**Bachelor of Arts (BA), Political Science** – Hampden-Sydney College

**Coursework for Bachelor of Science (BSc), Political Science** – U.S. Naval Academy (Honorable Discharge)

**Parliamentary Fellow, Joint Standing Committee - Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade** – Parliament of Australia