

The FERRY
FOUNDATIONS



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OUR LADY OF THE SOUND

August 28, 2023

CATHOLIC RECRUITER ASSOCIATES

EXECUTIVE SEARCH • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING



PROJECT SUMMARY

Our Lady of the Sound is a new initiative of the **Richard and Maude Ferry Foundation**, in partnership with a broad range of stakeholders of the Archdiocese of Seattle, to develop a public site of gathering and prayer dedicated to Mary. As an independent 501(c)(3), this initiative will bolster the broader mission and evangelization of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Position: Executive Director

Reports To: Executive Director, The Ferry Foundations

Project Description:

Our Lady of the Sound is an innovative project proposal seeking to create a sacred place that invites the Catholic community and the larger public in Western Washington to connect with God - with a special focus on engaging young people. This public site will feature a grand portrayal of Mary, incorporating regional culture and natural beauty, to attract, gather, and inspire. Through intentional programming and design, the project aims to create a space where people genuinely feel they belong and can encounter God in a new way. The leader of this project will be an entrepreneurial, organized and committed manager whose Faith provides the energy, vision, and dedication to complete the Shrine's vision to a beautiful reality.

Background:

...“Mary is not only the bridge joining us to God; she is more. She is the road that God traveled to reach us, and the road that we must travel in order to reach him.”

– Pope Francis

“One of the great tragedies of our time [is] that the human family is forgetting God. Ultimately, this is what lies at the heart of today’s many social ills. I believe there are two great antidotes to this cultural tragedy: reception and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and devotion to our Blessed Mother.”

– Archbishop Etienne

No force in our Church is more adept at building bridges to God than Mary. Whenever Mary appears, she does so in a way that uniquely resonates with the hopes and anxieties of a community. And from this place of encounter, she gently draws people to God. We humbly seek her support and intercession in a project to create a site of community and communion with God for the people of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

We are thrilled to introduce "Our Lady of the Sound," an innovative proposal to create a sacred place that will attract, engage, and inspire the Catholic community of Western Washington. This public site of gathering, pilgrimage, and prayer will feature a grand portrayal of Mary that incorporates our regional culture and natural beauty. The core ambition of Our Lady of the Sound is to invite Catholics and the larger community into connection with God.

Our region has a rich legacy of devotion to Mary stretching back to Chief Seattle and his daughter, Princess Angeline, who was famous for walking the streets of Seattle with a rosary. This project would celebrate the next chapter in Mary’s relationship with the Sound.

Central to our mission is attracting and engaging the younger generations of our Archdiocese. During the feasibility stage, we aim to create a dialogue centering the youth of the Seattle Church. We will intentionally reflect their experiences in the site's programming, art, and architectural design. Thus, Our Lady of the Sound will be a space where young people genuinely feel they belong.

The Richard and Maude Ferry Foundation is committed to taking on the financial and managerial responsibilities of this project. They will appoint a skilled project manager to gather a diverse team of Catholic leaders who will stimulate the wider community, contract a proficient artistic team, secure the site, devise a robust business plan, and raise the necessary funds.

We aspire for Our Lady of the Sound site to become a touchstone that fosters a deep, enduring connection between Catholics in Western Washington and the God who loves them. Mary has shown, again and again, to be a bridge between communities and her Son. We pray that she brings that same invitation to encounter into our Archdiocese.

Responsibilities:

- Hands on entrepreneurial leader who can lead the growth of the Shrine into a world class pilgrimage site.
- Provides leadership in fundraising activities and cultivation and solicitation of major donors throughout Washington, the United States, and internationally.
- Recruit and manage staff and volunteers. Hire additional staff in accordance with strategic growth.
- Plan, organize, communicate, and facilitate the engagement of communities across the Archdiocese to have a voice in the process of forming our Lady of the Sound. This team will need to engage a broad range of parishes and receive surveys from at least 400 Catholics in the Archdiocese.
- Center the voice of young people in the design and development of the site and prioritize engagement with the various cultural communities of the Archdiocese.
- Obtain proposals from artists incorporating the voice of Archdiocesan community members, recruit an artistic team, and ensure the development and distribution of artistic concepts to all critical stakeholders. A final deliverable is a contract, concept, and schedule for the art/architecture of the site.
- Identify and secure a location for Our Lady of the Sound.
- Build a master budget for the project and lead or participate in fundraising efforts. The initial goal of the fundraising committee is \$3,000,000 in pledges; a larger capital campaign will follow.
- Provide regular communication to the Archdiocese, including regular updates, opportunities for feedback, and engagement of Archdiocesan leadership.
- Collaborate with and report to the Executive Director of the Ferry Foundations.

Requirements:

The ideal candidate will have:

- Demonstrated executive or leadership experience, especially in facilitating teams and groups.
- Evidence of capacity to manage complex projects.
- Experience in effective communication across a range of stakeholders.
- Experience working with diverse communities.
- A founder's mindset, highlighted by flexibility and creativity with dynamic projects.
- The capacity to inspire volunteer committee members and the Archdiocese as a whole.
- It will be helpful but not required for candidates to have:
 - Experience in managing budgets of six figures or more.
 - Experience in fundraising.
 - Theological fluency with a focus on Mary and her role in the Church.

Education & Experience:

- Bachelor or preferably Masters in Business or related field.
- Five to seven years of experience in an executive management position.
- Previous general management experience starting and growing a donor sustained organization.

Travel: Travel to different locales across the Archdiocese (Western Washington). Some travel to donors and contractors throughout the country.

Salary: Commensurate with background and experience (\$130,000-\$150,000). Comprehensive benefit program provided by the Foundation (details will be furnished to finalist candidates).

Application Deadline: October 15, 2023

(We reserve the right to shorten the deadline for applications if we have sufficient interest. Please apply early to ensure your background will be considered.)

For consideration, please email resume to:

Brent Morton
Senior Vice President
Catholic Recruiter Associates
[**Brent@CatholicRecruiter.com**](mailto:Brent@CatholicRecruiter.com)

Note: Only those selected for an interview with the search committee will be contacted.

Search managed by:

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