

STERLING CONSULTING

Advisor in Residence: Foundations

"Emily Sterling is the one you call when you see too much opportunity and you're overwhelmed by it. She is our go-to when we have a very complex situation or uncharted territory that we're heading into and we need somebody who can zoom all the way out to help us figure it out, and then also get into weeds, guide us or actually lead us, to the place that we need to go."

- Executive at \$500m Foundation

High-Impact Support for Public, Private, Corporate, and Family Foundations

Philanthropists and Foundation leaders face a continuous and unpredictable stream of questions, opportunities, challenges, and complexities. Usually these do not fall into neat packages or projects that lend themselves to a typical consulting scope of work.

The Advisor in Residence option is designed to provide a consistent and flexible presence throughout one full annual cycle. We approach these engagements as a partnership, placing your needs at the center of how best to use the time.

AIR engagements support the evolving needs of philanthropists, their families, their foundations, and their grantees. Emily is also available for full-time, fractional, or interim/temporary Foundation leadership roles.

Advisor in Residence Example

Eight hours of consultancy each month - 96 dedicated hours over 12 months - completely focused on your specific, current needs.

One discounted annual payment of \$50,000 upon commencement of the contract, OR two payments of \$27,600 - the first as contract begins, the second at six months.

Option to contract for more or fewer hours as needed; 1099 or employee structures possible.

Can be customized to serve cohorts of grantees; please ask about our Cohorts option.



Contact

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Flexible Spectrum of Services

- Serving as fractional, full-time, or interim Foundation leadership
- Clarifying vision and desired impact
- Defining strategy and implementation plans
- Supporting collaborations, collective impact, shared funds and giving circles
- Launching new philanthropic initiatives
- Exploring options for philanthropic vehicles
- Engaging multiple generations
- Navigating major inflection points and change management
- Enhancing governance knowledge and performance
- Navigating founder/long-term CEO transitions
- Increasing organizational capacity
- Improving leadership skills and personal resilience
- Program officer training and learning sessions
- Serving as Grantee Advisor-On-Call
- Designing effective retreats, convenings, and critical team sessions
- Designing and implementing custom-designed grantee cohort experiences (ask about our Cohort AIR option)