



## Mark. S Peterson



Mark S. Peterson has an outstanding background in economic development, financial administration, and high-value fund raising. Prior to accepting the role of Secretary of Economic Development, Intersect Illinois, Mark was recruited to join the Greater Rochester Enterprise (GRE) as Managing Director in 2005, and was appointed President & CEO in August 2008. Charged with the continued creation and execution of GRE's strategic plan, Mark proved himself to be a strong advocate for the Greater Rochester region, built a reputation amongst his colleagues as an exceptional leader and proactive change agent. He is strongly committed to promoting Illinois, attracting quality businesses, and changing lives through job creation. A natural problem solver, Mark has true talent for connecting people with appropriate resources to generate results.

Believing firmly in staff empowerment, Mark's ability to establish high-functioning teams has been consistent throughout his well-rounded career. His motivational management style leads to fierce loyalty, constant collaboration, and accountability for the attainment of desired results. Previous roles have included President at Bishop Kearney High School, Chief Operating Officer at Telecomp, Inc., Director of Major Gifts at Hiram College, and Vice President at Philanthropy Management, Inc.

A certified fund-raising executive (CFRE) since 1992, Mark has an impressive history of garnering substantial monies at several world-class nonprofit organizations, totaling more than \$120 million. In 2009 Mark was honored as the Robert A. Clinger Outstanding Professional Fundraiser by the Genesee Valley Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. An engaging public speaker and conference presenter, Mark delivers up to 60 speeches annually.

A proud alumnus of St. John Fisher College, Mark received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1983. He went on to earn his Master of Business Administration in Kent State University's Executive MBA Program in 1994. In 2014 Mark was recognized as St. John Fisher College's Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter Honoree in recognition of professional achievement and for demonstration of excellence and outstanding commitment to the values of Beta Gamma Sigma, which are: honor and integrity, pursuit of wisdom, and earnestness. Dedicated to giving back to his community, Mark serves on many community boards including as Chairman of the Board for CDS Life Transitions, one of the region's largest non-profit organizations. Mark enjoys playing golf and spending quality time with his wife of 33 years, Kathleen, and their four daughters, Shannon, Megan, Erinn, and Liann.