

Susan Nelson
Principal, Technical Development Corporation

Susan Nelson is a principal at TDC, one of the nation's oldest providers of management consulting services to the nonprofit sector. In her many years with the firm, she has led a wide range of projects that include mergers, strategic and business planning, facilities planning, new project development plans, organizational and financial assessments, and financial restructuring. She has worked with clients across the country in such areas as arts and culture, community development, education, and youth development.

Susan has led several ground breaking initiatives on the capitalization issues that face the arts and cultural sectors that have been sponsored by major funders including the Pew Charitable Trusts, the William Penn Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, Grantmakers in the Arts, the Boston Foundation, the Barr Foundation, and the Fidelity Foundation. In addition, she has authored studies on the impact of debt on nonprofits as well as two major reports tracking the health of Boston's arts and cultural sector.

Susan has made recent appearances at the Grantmakers in the Arts' national meeting, Opera America's conference and as the plenary speaker at the League of American Orchestras' annual conference. Susan has also served as a Chief Coach for Achieving Excellence, a joint program for nonprofit leaders created by Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Susan began her career working with Sarah Caldwell at the Opera Company of Boston.