

# Meet the Leadership Austin Team

## Impact and Operations



### **Amy Blahnik - Office Manager**

Amy is a certified coach and experienced professional in product, project, and process improvement, with past roles at ADP, Fidelity, and G&K Services. Before Leadership Austin, she ran her own coaching business. Amy holds an M.A. in Kinesiology from the University of Minnesota and a B.S. in Accounting and International Business from Marquette University. She lives in Austin with her husband and their smoked-meat-loving cat, Biscuit, and enjoys travel, tennis, and all things sports.



### **Jill Goodman - Chief Executive Officer**

Jill has worked with dozens of organizations to build transformative cultures and new strategic futures. Jill envisions a growing community of leaders who create exponential impact across Central Texas (and the world). She most recently served as Deputy Chief of Strategy & Innovation for Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS). She also serves on the steering committee for the National Community Leadership Collaborative. Jill is an alumnus of Leadership Austin's 2015 Essential Class and loves new coffee spots.



### **Lindsay Smith - Marketing & Communications Manager**

Lindsay is a dynamic marketing and events professional with over a decade of experience supporting 25+ Austin-area nonprofits. She has led 150+ events—from major galas to grassroots outreach—and built campaigns that boost donations, volunteers, and community engagement. Known for strategic thinking and creative storytelling, Lindsay crafts compelling messages that drive impact. Outside of work, you'll find her eating her way through Mexico City or cheering on her alma mater, the Baylor Bears. Sic 'em!

# Meet the Leadership Austin Team

## Development & Alumni Relations



### **Josh Aguilar - Alumni & Donor Relations Manager**

Joshua Aguilar is the Donor and Alumni Relations Manager at Leadership Austin, where he's revitalizing alumni engagement through data-driven strategy and inclusive community-building. With a background in database management and donor relations at Austin Habitat and San Marcos Academy, Josh blends technical skill with a people-first approach. A Texas State graduate, he also owns a guitar studio and serves on the San Marcos Lions Club board. Josh lives in Central Texas with his wife and dog.



### **Julia Campbell - Development Director**

Julia is a seasoned public sector leader with nearly 20 years of experience in Central Texas, specializing in economic development, strategic partnerships, and inclusive community engagement. She most recently led communications for Austin's \$7B Light Rail initiative and has held leadership roles with the City of Austin, UT Austin, and the Austin Chamber. A proud mom of two, Julia brings a data-driven, people-centered approach to leadership, grounded in creativity, strategy, and a passion for public impact.



### **Kris Cano - Chief Advancement Officer**

Kris Cano is a mission-driven public service leader with 29 years of experience in government and nonprofit leadership. She retired from the City of Scottsdale as the Division Head of Forensic and Community Services and most recently served as CEO of YWCA Greater Austin. A champion of servant leadership, Kris has held numerous leadership roles, including chairing a nonprofit board and serving on the boards of Scottsdale Leadership and Out Youth. She is also a proud member of Leadership Austin's Essential Class 46.

# Meet the Leadership Austin Team

## Programs



### **PJ Diamond - Senior Program Manager**

PJ is the Senior Program Experience Manager for Leadership Austin. PJ lives by the Rotary International motto: Service Above Self. PJ has extensive experience facilitating dynamic conversations, designing curriculum, and cultivating strategic, people-centered approaches to learning. She has honed cross-cultural communication skills while working with people all over the world. She practices yoga daily and enjoys spending time with her sisters, hiking with her niece-dog, Princessa, and playing golf.



### **Chris Nieto - Chief Program Officer**

Chris is a native Austinite with a 20+ year background cultivating leadership skills in individuals and organizations. Chris previously served as the Senior Vice President for the National Hispanic Institute, where he expanded leadership programming throughout the United States. Chris enjoys spending time with his wife and children, hiking around Austin, and playing basketball.