

SPOTLIGHT

KERRY SHAW

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS, CAPITAL AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

Age: 40

Vitals: B.S. in communications, Ohio University, 1998; M.S. in nonprofit management, Franklin University, 2005. Previously worked at The Conference Board and Council on Foreign Relations, both in New York, and at Local Matters in Columbus. Also was a program officer for the Osteopathic Heritage Foundations.

Why this business:

I have been in the nonprofit world for almost 20 years. I have to feel connected to the work that I am doing, I have to have a real passion for it.

Hometown: Queens, New York

Twitter handle:

@kirishaw

First job: Babysitter

Stress relievers:

Running, seeing my nephews, sister, husband, friends and spending time with animals. And eating pretzels.

Best part of job: Both the animals and the people. I feel inspired, challenged, humbled and rewarded every day.



Best compliment anyone could give you:

That I followed my heart and used my passion to find my place in life.

Like about Central Ohio:

My family and friends. I have a phenomenal support system of friends and I am so fortunate to have most of them here.

Person you'd most like to meet, living or dead:

Dame Daphne Sheldrick who runs the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, rehabilitating orphaned elephants and rhinos in Kenya.

Favorite TV show:

Stranger Things

Most interesting place you've traveled and why:

Jackson Hole, Wyoming. As a girl from

Queens, going to a place like Jackson Hole and seeing bison, elk, moose.

When's the last time you were unplugged?

Over the summer my husband and I went to The Wilds and stayed in a yurt. It was amazing and relaxing.

Personal heroes:

Michelle Moskowitz Brown, executive director at Local Matters, and Rachel Finney, executive director, Capital Area Humane Society. Leading a nonprofit is incredibly hard and being a working mom is incredibly hard. These two manage to do it with compassion, authenticity, strength, and humor. They are fearless leaders who instill in those who work for them a need to be the best you can be, to create a better place for all of us – communities with happy, healthy people and happy, healthy animals.

Personal: Live in Clintonville with my husband, Brent; a giant bulldog, Maddie; two cats; and we are adopting a baby.