



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ByalaSearch LLC is pleased to announce that our firm has been retained by The Bee Foundation to identify candidates for the position of Executive Director.

ABOUT THE BEE FOUNDATION

The Bee Foundation (TBF) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing brain aneurysms and saving lives through innovative research, public awareness, advocacy, and survivor and family support. Founded in memory of Jennifer Sedney, TBF has evolved into a leading voice for prevention—funding cutting-edge research, uplifting survivors and families, educating communities, and driving advocacy efforts.

In just over a decade, TBF has awarded 23 Preventative Research Grants to early-stage, high-impact projects, launched national awareness campaigns, created meaningful partnerships with top neurosurgeons and medical institutions, and built a community of Ambassadors, advocates, and families committed to transforming outcomes for brain aneurysm detection and prevention.

As the organization enters an exciting new phase of growth, The Bee Foundation is seeking a seasoned, mission-driven Executive Director to succeed Co-Founder and Executive Director Erin Kreszl and lead TBF into its next decade of impact.

PRIMARY FUNCTION

Reporting to the Board, the Executive Director (ED) serves as the chief executive and strategic leader of The Bee Foundation. This role is responsible for strengthening fundraising and development, stewarding the TBF community, driving organizational strategy, managing operations, overseeing mission-driven



programs, and elevating the conversation around brain aneurysm prevention and early detection. TBF currently raises \$800,000 and is seeking to double that in three to five years' time.

The ED leads a passionate, tight-knit organization undergoing momentum and growth, and will partner closely with the Board of Directors, Scientific Advisory Board, donors, medical partners, survivors, and families. Candidates must bring both professional expertise and authentic care—whether through prior experience in health-related fields or a strong, genuine desire to deeply learn the brain aneurysm landscape.

This is a high-impact opportunity for a seasoned nonprofit leader who wants to make a significant difference in an emerging area of public health.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Responsibilities

Executive Leadership & Organizational Management:

- Lead and expand a portfolio of annual and multiyear funders from new and existing individual philanthropic donors at the five and six-figure level.
- Provide visionary leadership that elevates TBF's national profile and advances its mission, values, and long-term strategic goals.
- Oversee daily operations, including finance, HR, risk management, and organizational systems.
- Develop and mentor a high-performing team of staff, contractors, volunteers, and Ambassadors.
- Maintain organizational culture rooted in hope, community, innovation, integrity, and impact.
- Strengthen internal infrastructure to support sustainable growth.



Development & Fundraising:

- Leverage experience raising major gifts and principal gifts to foster a culture of excellence, accountability, innovation, providing coaching and support for organizational growth.
- Strategically expand and facilitate growth of diverse revenue streams, including major gifts, corporate partnerships, peer-to-peer fundraising, grants, annual giving campaigns, and signature events (HoneyBash Gala, TBF Race Series, TBF Summer Classic).
- Cultivate and steward donors segmented at all levels through meaningful, customized engagement.
- Partner with Board Development Committee to deepen donor pipeline and retention as well as expand the Board.
- Drive creative fundraising innovation aligned with TBF's mission and brand.

Program Management — Research, Awareness, Advocacy, Support:

Oversee TBF's four mission pillars:

- Preventative Research
 - Manage and expand TBF's leading-edge research funding initiatives.
 - Collaborate with neurosurgeons, researchers, and institutions.
 - Track research outcomes and ensure high scientific and ethical standards.
- Awareness & Education
 - Guide the development and rollout of awareness campaigns.
 - Promote accurate, accessible messaging around aneurysm symptoms, risk factors, early detection, and prevention.
- Support
 - Strengthen survivor, caregiver, and family support initiatives.
 - Support the Ambassador program, memory grants, and retreat experiences.
- Advocacy
 - Advance policy initiatives at state and federal levels.
 - Engage partners to drive equitable access to screening and research funding.



Marketing, Communications & Brand Management:

- Oversee TBF’s communications strategy, ensuring strong, consistent, mission-driven messaging.
- Expand national and digital visibility for awareness and fundraising.
- Serve as a key spokesperson and thought leader in the brain aneurysm prevention community.
- Guide storytelling that honors survivors and families with compassion and sensitivity

Board Governance & Strategic Partnership:

- Serve as the primary liaison to the Board of Directors.
- Provide accurate, timely reporting on finances, operations, programs, and strategic progress.
- Support Board recruitment, development, and governance best practices.
- Build and maintain partnerships with medical institutions, corporations, nonprofits, and advocacy coalitions.

Ideal Skills and Experience:

- 7-10 years of nonprofit leadership experience, preferably including executive-level roles.
- Proven success in fundraising, major donor cultivation, and revenue growth.
- Experience managing teams, budgets, and organizational systems.
- Strong strategic planning and operational management skills.
- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and public speaking abilities.
- Demonstrated commitment to TBF’s mission—or a strong willingness to learn and engage with the brain aneurysm community.



- Experience in health, medical research, neuroscience, advocacy, public health, or related fields preferred.
- Familiarity with marketing, digital communications, and brand management.
- Experience working with Boards, scientific advisors, and/or clinical partners.
- Ability to lead with empathy, clarity, warmth, and mission-centered decision-making.

Critical Competencies for Success:

- Track record of raising a profile of an organization by way of communications, both mass market and customized engagement, as well as a mature presence with external leaders and constituents.
- History of raising money from high net-worth individuals in a scientific, medical or cultural setting that lends itself to success, increasing giving from existing donors and identifying new donors and institutional funders.
- Comfortable managing and modeling best practices for a small team in a start-up environment.

Other Characteristics:

The successful candidate believes deeply in The Bee Foundation’s mission and is ready to help drive forward the movement to prevent brain aneurysms. The ideal candidate will be a mission-driven, emotionally intelligent leader who thrives in a growing, entrepreneurial nonprofit environment. The candidate is passionate about impact and prevention, comfortable navigating medical and scientific landscapes, and energized by community—survivors, families, researchers, donors, and volunteers alike.



The Executive Director will bring both heart and discipline, pairing strong strategic vision with a hands-on leadership style. The Director will communicate with empathy, inspire trust, and build lasting partnerships. The candidate must possess the maturity, poise, and sophistication to represent TBF with passion and authority, communicating the organization’s mission and activities, while modeling best practices for a team and managing complex relationships with a broad pool of current donors with high capacity. Relationship management abilities, communications skills, project management experience and a collaborative work style are essential to the Executive Director at The Bee Foundation.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

This role is ideally in-office three days per week, with a hybrid model to be discussed.

KINDLY SEND NOMINATIONS OR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO:

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