

# TERESA DICKERSON

Senior Executive | Corporate Affairs | Strategy | Social Impact | Communications

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Senior social impact and corporate affairs executive with 20+ years of experience leading community investment, ESG-aligned initiatives, and cross-sector partnerships across Fortune 25 enterprise, professional sports, and mission-driven organizations. Proven track record designing and executing community-first strategies that address social determinants of health, expand access to services, strengthen community-based systems, and deliver measurable outcomes. Trusted advisor to executive leadership with deep expertise in grant making, stakeholder engagement, government relations, crisis management, and impact measurement. Founder-level operator experienced in catalytic funding, convening partners, and translating community input into scalable, sustainable solutions.

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## CORE COMPETENCIES

Community Impact & ESG • Strategic Social Investment • Grant making & Portfolio Management • Community Health & Social Determinants of Health • Stakeholder & CBO Partnerships • Government & Public Affairs • Impact Measurement & Reporting • Crisis & Issues Management • Cross-Functional Alignment • Executive Communications

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## MISSION-DRIVEN MEDIA COMPANY

**Chief Executive Officer** | June 2023 – Present

- Lead strategic planning, operations, and stakeholder engagement for a mission-driven media organization focused on impact storytelling.
- Oversee budgeting, partnerships, and team leadership while guiding the organization from concept to market execution.
- Manage external relationships and brand positioning to support long-term growth and audience engagement.

## THE KROGER COMPANY – DELTA & HOUSTON DIVISIONS

### **Corporate Affairs Manager & Company Spokesperson** | August 2014 – June 2023

- Served as chief spokesperson, reputation manager, and government relations lead across seven states, advising executive leadership and safeguarding brand trust for one of the nation's largest retailers.
  - Led an integrated Corporate Affairs function overseeing Kroger Television, internal communications, external media relations, philanthropy, and community engagement.
  - Directed millions of dollars annually in philanthropic investments, aligning corporate values with community priorities and driving measurable social impact.
  - Managed enterprise-wide internal fundraising campaigns supporting Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste initiative.
  - Coordinated and supported community-based COVID-19 vaccination pop-ups in partnership with local health departments, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders, expanding vaccine access in underserved neighborhoods and building public trust during the pandemic.
  - Led crisis communications during mass shootings, labor strikes, and food recalls, protecting the company's license to operate.
  - Designed and executed multi-state social impact strategies integrating CSR, community relations, and government affairs.
  - Member of Kroger's High Performing and Executive Leadership Team.
  - Built and launched the Corporate Affairs Department in the Delta Division, generating more than \$1.5M in earned media in its inaugural year.
  - Revitalized the Houston Division Corporate Affairs function through strategic recruitment and stakeholder engagement.
  - Successfully lobbied for legislative change including wine sales in grocery stores in Arkansas and Tennessee; advocated for retail crime units in Texas.
  - Championed designation of retail workers as "essential" during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Oversaw executive communications including speeches, statements, press conferences, and major announcements.
  - Brokered cross-sector partnerships that resulted in a new grocery store in an underserved community.
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## MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES (NBA)

**Director, Community Investment** | September 2001 – April 2013

*(Progressive roles: Manager → Coordinator → Intern)*

- Led the Community Investment Department, developing outreach and cause marketing strategies that increased ticket sales, sponsorships, and non-traditional revenue.
  - Created the “Dream Big” platform to unify and promote all community outreach initiatives.
  - Launched the Jr. Grizzlies / Jr. NBA program, generating nearly \$1M in revenue in its inaugural year.
  - Served as Player Personnel Liaison, managing NBA CBA-mandated player community appearances.
  - Founded the Memphis Grizzlies Lady Bears, mobilizing philanthropic support for women’s shelters.
  - Led NBA Cares initiatives and ranked #1 in the NBA for community and marketing player appearances for two consecutive years.
  - Managed fundraising initiatives benefiting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.
  - Produced the Community Investment Annual Report and directed creative content for the quarterly newsletter, *Beartracks*.
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## SELECTED HONORS & RECOGNITION

- Bronze Excalibur Award – Crisis Management, PRSA Houston
  - Super Women in Business, Memphis Business Journal
  - Top Women in Grocery, Progressive Grocer Magazine
  - CSR Professional of the Year (Honorable Mention), PR News
  - Beyond Sport International Award – Sport Team of the Year (Memphis Grizzlies)
  - Top 40 Under 40, Memphis Business Journal
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## EDUCATION

**Master of Sport Leadership** – Virginia Commonwealth University

**Bachelor of Arts in Journalism (Minor: Public Relations)** – University of Memphis

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