

Bios

Scott Shirai – United Church of Christ

Scott Shirai, APR, Fellow is a Major Gifts Officer for the eastern part of our country for the national office of UCC. Prior to joining UCC a little over a year ago, he was a consultant to 20 nonprofits from coast to coast on various aspects of fundraising and stewardship to marketing/communications as well as board training. He left his business because he embraced the mission and values of UCC. In addition to raising funds, he has been speaking at and assisting conferences and local churches on all of these areas.

Scott is accredited in public relations and a former chair of the Public Relations Society's College of Fellows. His deep and diverse background in both the for-profit and nonprofit fields includes managing a foundation for a Fortune 1000 company, chairing the boards of public television stations in Hawaii and Colorado, and being invited to the White House three years in succession for outstanding fundraising for the Combined Federal Campaign.

He also served in senior roles with Mile High United Way and Nurse-Family Partnership, a national nonprofit based in Denver. Scott is the recipient of two national awards for volunteerism and community service.

Howard Hawkins – United Church Funds

Howard joined UCF in 2015 bringing with him an extensive background in sales and business development. His professional experience includes: Vice President of Defined Contribution Plans at Putnam Investments, Managing Director of Institutional Sales – Retirement Services at MassMutual Financial Group, Vice President of Business Development & Marketing at Christian Brothers Investment Services, and Managing Director of Securities at Commonfund.

He has a successful record of selling investment management products and services to both Fortune 1000 companies and non-profit institutions, and holds an MBA in Finance from Columbia University. Howard lives in White Plains with his wife where he also sits on the Board of Trustees for the White Plains Public Library. Additionally, he is an Honorary Trustee for Francis W. Parker School in Chicago.