

**Joy Skjegstad** works with nonprofits and churches throughout the U.S. to help them achieve strategic focus, develop effective community ministry, and present themselves in clear and visionary language.

In addition to *Real Connections*, she is the author of *Seven Creative Models for Community Ministry* (Judson Press, 2013), and *Winning Grants to Strengthen Your Ministry* (Alban Institute 2007).

She has more than 30 years of experience starting and growing nonprofit organizations and church-based community ministry programs, including serving as the Executive Director of the Park Avenue Foundation at Park Avenue United Methodist Church and as the founder of the Institute for Ministry Leaders, a university-based training program that builds the management capacity of churches and other ministry organizations. She is an Episcopalian living in Minneapolis.