



Mayor of Providence

David N. Cicilline

July 7, 2008

The Honorable Members  
The City Council of the  
City of Providence  
City Hall  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302(b) of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended, and Section 2 of Chapter 332 of the Public Laws, 1981, I am this day reappointing Mr. Carl J. Abelson, III, of 314 Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906, a member of the Capital Center Commission for a term to expire in June 30, 2012.

Sincerely,

David N. Cicilline  
Mayor, City of Providence

DNC:lp

IN CITY COUNCIL  
SEP 4 2008

READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.  
 CLERK

## Carl J. Abelson III (Guy)

314 Benefit Street

Providence, RI 02903

Home Phone 401-331-1844

Email: guyabelson@aol.com

### SUMMARY

My experience is combining the highest professional and personal standards with the ability to work individually, as a team builder, a manager, collaborator, leader and follower. For over thirty five years, I have built successful businesses and a network of contacts state-wide, surrounded myself with learning opportunities, stimulating and informed individuals and challenging situations. I am committed to contributing to my community with the ultimate goal of being part of creating an economically sound, vital, stimulating and just community that will benefit all of Rhode Island's citizens.

### WORK HISTORY

- 2008-present Senior Special Events Manager Lifespan Corporate Services*  
Manage existing large special events for the Lifespan affiliate group of hospitals. Creating new signature events where needed. Responsibilities include event design, sponsorship solicitation, volunteer management, marketing, promotional materials, budget creation and management, interaction and close working role with CDO's and AGO's at all Lifespan affiliates to maximize income, donor / corporate relations. Responsible for 6-8 events per year
- 2004-present Special Events Consultant to Family Service of RI*  
Main responsibility was creating a signature event, "Brighter Futures Luncheon." Among responsibilities are committee management, budget management, contract bids, media relations, design of printed materials, video creation and event design.
- 2004-2008 Special Events Manager, (part time) The Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Providence*  
Creation of new special events and management of existing events including, sponsorship package design and solicitation, marketing, promotional materials, budget management and design. Responsible for 6-8 events per year.
- 2004-present Owner / Manager, Guy Abelson Events & Catering, Providence*  
Full service event management company, with over thirty years experience providing design services, catering, planning, presentation and execution. Two full time employees and 10-40 part time employees
- 1998-2004 Owner / Manager, Guy Abelson Catering, Providence*  
Full service catering and event management company, with over thirty years experience in catering, planning, presentation, execution with successful results. Twenty full time employees and over 150 part time employees
- 1993-1998 Owner / Manager, Catering Collaborative, Inc., Providence*  
Full service catering company and takeout cafe with 35 full time employees and over 100 part time employees
- 1992-1995 Owner / Manager, Angels Restaurant, Providence*  
35 seat award winning restaurant featuring American / Mediterranean cuisine with 12 full time employees
- 1987-1994 Owner / Manager, In-Prov Restaurant, Providence*  
100 seat award winning restaurant and takeout shop featuring Tapas and Northern Italian cuisine with 40 full time employees
- 1973-1991 Owner / Manager, Cafe in the Barn, Seekonk, Massachusetts*  
150 seat award winning restaurant and full service catering company featuring American cuisine with 40 full time employees and 75 part time employees
- 1971-1973 Cooking With Bernard, Seekonk, Massachusetts*  
TV Show, cooking school and restaurants in charge of set designs, restaurant designs, restaurant management and product development

1969-1971 *Thacker's Interiors, East Providence*  
Head designer and project manager

1968-1969 *Peace Corps, Dominican Republic*  
In charge of planning and implementing community developments projects ( water, schools and sanitation)

**EDUCATION**

1966-1968 Associate Bachelor of Arts, Chamberlayne Junior College, Boston  
Interior Design Major, Business Minor

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**THE RI COMMUNITY FOOD BANK**

Board member 1985-2001 Lifetime board member 2002

Board President 1992-1998

Capital Campaign 1986-1988

Capital Campaign 1999-2001

**AIDS PROJECT RI**

Board member 1989-2008

**UNITED WAY ADVISORY BOARD**

Board member 1989-2004

**DOWNCITY DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Chairman 1996-2004

**CAPITAL CENTER COMMISSION**

Commissioner 2004 –present

**EQUITY ACTION**

Advisory Board Member 2003 –present

**CITY YEAR RI ADVISORY BOARD**

Board member 1996-present

**GIVING RHODE ISLAND STEERING COMMITTEE**

2000-2002 Co-chair 2002

**WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE**

Board of directors 1998-present

Vice Chair 2001

Chairman 2002-2005

**ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS**

Board of directors 2002-2005

**ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS**

National Philanthropy Day Co-Chair 2000-2004

**PERISHABLE THEATER**

Development Committee member 1996-present

Board member 2002-present

Board Chair 2006-present

**FESTIVAL BALET CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

2001-2002

**SHARE OUR STRENGTH TASTE OF THE NATION**

Event organizer and chair 1987-2004

**KEEP PROVIDENCE BEAUTIFUL**

Board member 1990-1997

**RI HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATION**

Board member 1992-1994

**GRACE PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Committee member 1994

**KID'S FIRST COMMITTEE CENTRAL FALLS**

Committee seat 1995-1999

**FUND FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS**

1997 / 1999 Campaign Chairman

**SHARE OUR STRENGTH OPERATION FRONTLINE**

Organizer and project oversight 1994-1999

PROVIDENCE / WARWICK CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU  
Member 1995-2003  
PROVIDENCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Member 1993-2004

**COMMUNITY AWARDS**

FUND FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS  
Anti-hunger Advocacy Award 1996  
FUND FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS  
Sister Carol McGovern Advocacy Award 1997  
AIDS PROJECT RI  
Red Ribbon Award 1997  
SHARE OUR STRENGTH HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR  
1997 (National Award)  
NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY (AFP)  
Philanthropic Citizen Award 1998  
THE RI COMMUNITY FOOD BANK  
20th Anniversary Award 2002  
CITY YEAR RI  
Starfish Award 2003  
RI DONATION EXCHANGE PROGRAM  
Guy Abelson Community Service Star 2004 (named annual award)  
THE PROVIDENCE CENTER  
Circle of Stars Community Service Award 2007

**A SAMPLING OF MY INKIND EVENT MANAGEMENT/PLANNING EXPERIENCE for the not for profit community**

THE RI COMMUNITY FOOD BANK  
"Taste of the Nation" 1987-2004 creation of event in conjunction with national organization Share Our Strength. Responsibilities included restaurant participant solicitation and management, sponsorship solicitation, full design look and feel, data base creation, media relations, budget creation and all aspects of making this the Food Bank's most successful special event raising over one million dollars over 10 years.  
FUND FOR COMMUNITY PROGRESS  
1997-2006 revitalized signature roast event, expanded sponsorship opportunities, supervised committee work and improved video presentation and event itinerary.  
CITY YEAR RI  
"Starry Starry Night Event" 1999-2007 site development, design, in-kind catering services, integration of event with hosts, database development, volunteer management and committee position  
AIDS PROJECT RI  
"Under the Big Top" First fundraiser for APRI held in 1989. Creation of event, committee chair, database creation, committee management, sponsorship solicitation, media relations and event execution  
"Red Ribbon Awards Dinner" 2005-2007 committee position, database improvements, expanding sponsorship, improve look and feel of event and program itinerary  
NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY (Association of Fundraising Professionals)  
2000-2007 Revitalized this annual event, creating sponsorship opportunities, sponsorship solicitation, database development, video creation, creating new venue design and format.  
TRINITY REPERTORY THEATER  
"Pell Awards" 1999-2005 Responsible for menu planning, design look and feel of event  
PERISHABLE THEATER  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event 2002, event design, site development, in-kind catering services, database development, program and entertainment.

**List of references (contact information upon request)**

Roz Rustigian  
Letitia and John Carter  
Carolyn and Tom Drew  
Diane Scola  
Stephanie and Lincoln Chafee  
Traci and Bernie Maceroni

Sara and Jack McConnell  
Jill and Bob Jaffe  
Linda and Michael Miller  
Liz and Kim Chace  
Bernie Beaudreau  
Mary and Michael Schwartz