

ASHLEY GREMEL

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I am a sailor, maker, and doer with ten years of process and program experience in renewable energy and community building.

SKILLS

International people, project and budget management / strategic planning / process design / operations and installation / troubleshooting / documentation / change and conflict management / writing / routine and escalated customer communication / persuasive public speaking / procurement / backlog reporting and reduction / software ticket creation / new feature testing / inventory management / conversational Spanish / 360 reviews / fundraising / grant reports / analysis / contract negotiation / electrical system design / off-grid living and ocean sailing / relentless optimism with a soft spot for solving the “impossible.”

TOOLS

Microsoft Office, GSuite, Notion, Asana, Trello, Salesforce, call center systems, Quickbooks, Gusto, Box, Confluence, Lucid. Impact driver, sewing machine, knitting needles, machete, multi-meter, band saw, conduit bender, winch handle, paddle.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

OurEnergy

August 2023- May 2024

Program Manager

Managed scope, schedule, and budget of feasibility + preliminary designs for private landowners, developers, and municipalities.

WattTime.org — Remote

April 2020-November 2021

Director of Operations

Led grant reporting, sub-granting to 15 coalition partners, and a \$12M budget for ClimateTRACE – the first timely, open global emissions tracking tool. Co-led accounting, payroll, and employee onboarding of 15 new employees. Built new back office to support spin-out from RMI. Designed and facilitated three virtual team retreats. Designed and documented new roles and SOPs.

GRID Alternatives — Oakland, California

January 2015 – April 2021

Installation Team Lead

200+ hours on the roof leading volunteers to install solar. Three-time Solarthon and Women’s Build captain. Raised \$20K through a campaign to social network and colleagues. Delivered installation best practices and impact for low-income families firsthand.

Vivint Solar—Northern California

February 2019 – April 2020

Regional Performance Manager

Ensured system performance and customer satisfaction across 12,000+ residential solar systems through the management of 20 technicians, tools, vehicles, and inventory across two warehouses. Onboarded 25 customer service agents in Bogota, Colombia to support scheduling and technician dispatching. Rapidly designed and deployed in-home process changes due to COVID-19.

Dandelion Energy—New York, New York

October 2017 – January 2019

Operations Process Engineer

Relocated to help Google X concept go to market. Sourced and contracted ten geothermal HVAC installers. Opened the first warehouse. Main contact for first 100 customers, including rebates, permits, and invoices to ensure compliance and cash flow.

Sungevity—Oakland, California

January 2015 – June 2017

Operations Process Manager

Supported process changes across a 100-person department to increase sale-to-install velocity by 50% during constrained cash flow, equipment stock-outs, and recalls. Cleared bottlenecks and provided install predictions to the VP of Operations. Prioritized software requests and trained installers. Created reports and led production calls for field managers to prioritize their days.

Technical Services Specialist

Coordinated 1200 customers and 40 contractors for electrical panel upgrades, with a 30% velocity gain and 10% cost reduction.

SFUN (Solar for Universal Need) Corps Founder

Led 25 employees to fundraise \$66K and used PTO to travel to Nicaragua and Nepal for cultural exchange and solar installations.

UNC Center for Sustainable Enterprise—Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

August 2013 – May 2014

Undergraduate Researcher

Researched solar supply chain and scoped a marketing project for follow-on MBA volunteers to engage in telecom partnerships.

Burro Brand—Koforidua, Ghana & Guangzhou, China

January 2012 – November 2013

Business Development Lead

Initiated three local partners to drive solar sales. Selected products from Canton Export Fair and led field user testing in Ghana.

SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

Bay Area Maker Farm—Alameda, California

November 2019 - April 2021

Yard Manager

Transformed a junkyard into a maker space complete with twenty tenants, forty farm animals, workshops, and balanced budget.

Kenan Institute Asia & Microsoft—Bangkok, Thailand

Summer 2012

Corporate Social Responsibility Intern

Supported implementation of computer literacy programs, including coordinating monitoring and evaluation and admin training.

Chikumbuso Widow & Orphans Project—Lusaka, Zambia

Summer 2011

Library Project Lead

Turned a dusty room of book donations into the first fully functioning library including reading groups, a librarian, and WiFi.

Cast Off the Cold—Grand Rapids, MI

2007-2015

Founder

Rallied local knitters to knit 2500+ warm garments for the unhoused community. Partnered with key storefronts for promotion.

SABBATICAL

Sailing from San Francisco to Chesapeake Bay

April 2021 - June 2023

Co-captain

After living on a sailboat for five years in the Bay Area and the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, my husband and I decided to relocate to Virginia via a voyage through the Panama Canal. Along the way, I have navigated country immigration procedures, sourced unique parts in remote places, held fast through storms, improved my Spanish skills, analyzed weather data, stood watch, and had a dolphin's-eye view of the wild nature of our planet.

Clouds Form Over Land—Substack newsletter

August 2022 - Present

Writer

Weekly writing about life at sea and going ashore. Essays on imperfection, resilience, and relationship with earth, plus how-tos on fermentation, sewing, and more. 59% open rate, read in 20 countries and 35 states. www.cloudsformoverland.substack.com

ECOS Spanish School—Cartagena, Colombia

January 2023

Intensive Spanish class, alongside 1.5 years of immersion in Latin America, university courses, and Babbel certificate.

Cocovivo—Bocas del Toro, Panama

April - October 2022

Handywoman

Maintained electrical, water, and waste systems at off-grid eco-retreat. Fixed whatever broke. Gained conversational Spanish.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill

August 2010 - May 2014

BA in Economics and Business, Morehead-Cain Scholar, Chancellor's Innovation Team, and MVP of Women's Water Polo team.

Solar Energy International—Paonia, Colorado

January 2015 – May 2016

240 hours of advanced Grid Direct and Battery-Based courses, including online curriculum and hands-on lab work in Colorado.
