

R. Tony Penn

Tony Penn is the founder and President of PENEX Consulting, LLC, a firm that has helped many organizations in the nonprofit sector to raise the required financial resources to positively impact the lives hundreds of thousands of children, families, and older adults across America. Tony has been involved in professional fundraising and leadership development for over twenty years. He is recognized for his success in executive leadership with two multi-national nonprofit organizations (United Way and YMCA). He is nationally recognized as a presenter/speaker, and member of the faculty of The Institute for Charitable Giving.

Tony currently serves United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona as its president and CEO. United Way positively impacts the lives of more than 230,000 children, families, and older adults throughout Southern Arizona each year. He is known to be a dynamic visionary leader with a strong equity lens towards guiding organizations in achieving mission focused goals, and objectives. As the chief advocate and spokesperson for United Way, Tony leads the charge to champion positive data-driven performance. He considers himself the fundraiser in chief of his organization.

Before joining United Way, Tony served as a Senior Executive for the YMCA of Greater San Antonio for 9 years. Tony has also held positions in the for-profit sector, as a Principal Systems Engineer with Teradyne Corporation, advancing to the position of Regional Manager. He is also an Air Force veteran.

Tony holds a B.S. Degree in Electronic Systems Technology, from Wayland Baptist University. He is also a graduate of the University of Texas in Non-Profit Leadership, and Harvard Business School with a certification in Governing for Non-Profit Excellence. He is also a graduate of the University of Arizona Eller College of Management's Southwest Leadership Program.

Tony has received recognition for his service to the community on the floor of the U.S. Congress in 2013, and 2015. He also served as Chair of the Board of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce in 2015. In 2018 he was honored as a Father of the Year by the Tucson Father's Day Council. Most recently, Tony was recognized by Greater Tucson Leadership with the 2021 Man of the Year Award for contributing significant time, energy, spirit, and leadership, making a positive impact on the quality of life in the community. In 2022, Tony received a Distinguished Alumni Award from Wayland Baptist University and was featured in the April 2022 publication by the African American Development Officers Network.

Tony now resides in Tucson, Arizona with his wife, Judge Linda Penn (Retired). Judge Linda Penn has served on the bench for 14 years in both the State of Arizona and Texas. They have two adult sons, who are both married, and live in San Antonio, TX, and Frisco, TX.

