



**Barbara O'Brien Brown, Principal and Co-owner**

barbb@brownflynn.com

Born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, Barb came to Cleveland by way of her college education at John Carroll University and meeting her husband, Chuck, of 24 years. An internship with the Greater Cleveland Growth Association (Cleveland's Chamber of Commerce and, a.k.a. the Greater Cleveland Partnership) led to her passion for Northeast Ohio and belief in "doing well by doing good" as principal and co-owner of BrownFlynn. Barb believes in bottom-line impact and has been instrumental in designing stakeholder engagement strategies, establishing triple-bottom line goals and creating communications strategies to accomplish objectives for the firm's clients. She is skilled in uncovering opportunities while finding efficient and effective ways to establish, improve and solidify relationships with key stakeholders.

Barb's strong commitment to ethical business practices and eye on global impact also make her a trusted advisor for clients who seek to improve their business practices while catalyzing positive change. She is a strategic thinker who drives solutions that align with core business objectives with a keen eye on stakeholder interests and impact. Barb is known for her creative and collaborative approach, understanding that buy-in and innovation lead to success.

Before founding BrownFlynn in 1996, Barb spent six years with National City Corporation where she served as co-vice president and manager of the financial service company's corporate communications department with Margie Flynn. Prior to that, she was a marketing manager for a multi-million dollar real estate developer and an account executive for an advertising firm outside Chicago.

Barb and her husband, Chuck, have three children: Tom, a senior at the University of Dayton; Dan, a sophomore at DePaul University in Chicago; and, Katie, a sophomore at Beaumont School for Girls. Barb and her family reside in South Euclid, Ohio, and are members of St. Gregory the Great Parish where their children attended grade school.

***Community Engagement***

- Leadership Cleveland, Vice President, Class of 2009
- JumpStart, Inc., Trustee, Executive Committee, Communications Chair
- ParkWorks, Trustee, Executive Committee, Committee on Trustees Chair
- Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation Board of Directors
- John Carroll University Business Advisory Board
- John Carroll University Entrepreneur's Association, Past Vice Chair
- United Nations Global Compact
- Global Reporting Initiative, Organizational Stakeholder
- International Association of Business Communicators, "The 500 Club"
- Case's Weatherhead School's Center for Business as an Agent of World Benefit Global Forum, Ambassador
- Business for Social Responsibility



- Corporate Sustainability Network
- Komen for the Cure, Northeast Ohio Affiliate, Corporate Advisory Board

***Honors***

- John Carroll University Alumni Medal Recipient (2008)
- Smart Business News, World Class Customer Service Award Recipient, “Best Personalized Service” (2008)
- Medical Mutual Pillar Award for Community Service (2006)
- *Northern Ohio Live* magazine Rainmakers Award (2006)
- Smart Business Network and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield’s “Innovation in Business” Visionary Award (2005)
- COSE Top “Ten Under 10” Northeast Ohio Company (2005)
- Four-time Weatherhead 100 “Upstarts” Winner (2007, 2005, 2002 & 2001)
- National Association of Women Business Owners “Top Ten Women Business Owners of Northeast Ohio” (2002)
- *Inside Business* magazine “Cleveland Business Women of the Year” (2002)
- John Carroll University Alumnae “making a difference” in the Community (2002)