



Lisa Meagher

I currently serve as the Development Director for the American Heart Association, a role that has become the most rewarding position of my career.



My professional journey began in college, building residential homes. At just 19 years old, I often faced skepticism because I looked 15 and was not always taken seriously, both because of my age and because I was a woman working in the construction industry in the 1980s. Those early experiences strengthened my resilience and determination to succeed in male-dominated fields.

In my twenties, as I began raising a family, I shifted directions and opened a childcare center. What started as a single location grew into a nationwide success story, expanding from three centers to more than 100 across the country.

Later, I moved to Springfield to run a limousine manufacturing company. Once again entering a male-dominated industry, I became the only female president in that manufacturing sector. The challenges were significant, but so were the accomplishments.

As I grew older and perhaps wiser, I began to reflect on how I could give back more meaningfully to my community. That reflection led me to the American Heart Association. This most fulfilling chapter of my professional life allows me to support a mission that saves lives and improves health of people in my community and beyond.

