

# SHUKOOR AHMED

6800 Willow Creek Rd Bowie, MD 20720

shukoor@v-empower.com

(301)219-0923

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## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, V-EMPOWER, INC.

*19 years of successful experience providing, strategic and operations leadership specializing in Information Security, Web and Mobile product development*

Dynamic, results-oriented leader with superior interpersonal skills, capable of resolving multiple and complex (sales, human resources, legal, financial, operational) issues and motivating staff to peak performance. Manages V-Empower, Inc. with 3 employees in the US and about 12 in India. Built the company with a modest investment of \$1,000 to over 110 employees in 6 countries with annual revenue of \$ 5.4 million in 2006; An Inc.500 honoree for 2007 (Ranked # 263); Deloitte's Fast 50 honoree (Ranked #1) for 2007 and (Ranked #7) in 2008 in Maryland. V-Empower, Inc. has cultivated the culture of innovation/entrepreneurship by developing 24 products in the last 15 years and facilitating 7 employees to start their businesses. Additional areas of expertise include:

- Leadership
- Management
- Public Relations
- Strategy
- Sales/Marketing
- Mentoring
- Entrepreneurship
- Event Management/Planning
- Product Development/Strategy
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Political Consulting/Strategy
- Grassroots/Field Organization
- Focus Group Facilitation
- Polling
- Lobbying
- Campaign Management/Communications
- Philanthropy
- Non-Profit Organization (Leadership/Management)
- Technology
- Public Service
- Networking

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**CEO/founder of ezCampaigns.com**, ([www.ezCampaigns.com](http://www.ezCampaigns.com)) January 2007 – December 2011

Provided cutting-edge solutions to candidates/businesses/organizations to use the Internet effectively. Built products and providing services in the following areas:

- Digital Strategy
- State-of-the-Art Campaign Web-Presence
- eCampaign
- Internet Strategy
- Voter Registration Application
- Absentee Ballot Application
- Polling Place Locator
- Campaign Intranet
- Google Maps Applications/Data Mining
- Online lobbying at State and County level
- Political Consulting
- Data/Voter Analysis & Analytics
- Web 2.0 & Web 3.0 Strategy for campaigns

**CEO/founder of Statedemocracy Foundation** (www.statedemocracy.com) July 2003 – December 2010

Conceptualized, designed, developed, and implemented a technology that helps citizens contact their elected officials at the Federal and State levels. V-Empower, Inc. has contributed over \$1.2 million in those 7 years. Developed the first-ever voter registration and absentee ballot in 2004, used by several businesses/unions/campaigns. Built the following products which enabled more civic participation:

- www.statedemocracy.com- first application which connected citizens with elected officials in 2000
- www.indiademocracy.org –first application which connected citizens of India with their members of Parliament in 2002
- First voter registration application for County Executive Candidate in 2002
- First voter registration and absentee ballot application in 2004
- www.crimeblotter.org-crime tracking tool in Prince George’s County in 2006
- www.lobbydelegates.com-the only application which allowed democrats to lobby super delegate in 2008
- www.pgballot.com- allowed citizens to make their sample ballot in 2010
- iPhone Application for Marylanders to find polling locations, confirm their voter registration, and check on the status of absentee ballot applications

### **MENTOR**

Shukoor mentors over a dozen entrepreneurs and several young political candidates. He mentored 3 teenagers in 2012 for School Board races in his county and they all won their primaries:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zvq9NIZuOs8>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=od4KOSZLzVM>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yh9bt1oybhw>  
<http://archive.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=199349>

### **BOARDS & MEMBERSHIPS**

- State Democracy Foundation
- Humanity First
- Maryland India Business Round Table
- TIE (The Indus Entrepreneur)
- Member of Chamber of Commerce of Bowie
- IALIPAC
- MIPAC
- Governor's Commission for Asian Pacific Americans (2007- Present)
- Advisory Committee for Minority Businesses by MDOT (2009-Present)
- Ayesha & Ali Padder Foundation
- Clinton Foundation for Inner City Entrepreneurs
- Governor Oden Bowie Democratic Club (Vice President 1994-1996)
- Maryland Democratic Party AAPI Council
- Bowie Business Innovation Center
- NAACP

### **LOCAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Governor Oden Bowie Democratic Club (Vice President, 1994-96)
- PTA High Bridge Elementary School (1998-2007)
- PTA Samuel Ogle Elementary School (2006-2009)
- Bowie Chamber of Commerce
- Bowie Business Innovation Center (Board Member)

## **POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT/AFFILIATION**

- Field Director, Bill Bradley for President 2000
  - State Director, Joe Lieberman for President 2004
  - Prince George's County Coordinator, Bill Richardson for President 2008
  - Internet Director, Jack Johnson for County Executive, 2002 & 2006
  - Campaign Manager, Katina Johnston for Congress, New York, 2002
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- Mentor to David Murray & Ed Burroughs for School Board, 2010
  - Candidate for Maryland House of Delegates, 2006
  - Legislative Aide, Delegate John Giannetti (Laurel), 1999
  - Helped over 50 Political Candidates & over 50 Non-Profit Organizations

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

- Nominated for the Patricia Wallace Outstanding Citizen of Bowie (1994 & 1995)
- Nominated for the Presidential Service Award in 1995 (President Clinton)
- Nominated for the Governor's Volunteer Award in 1995 (Governor Glendening)
- Nominated for the Prince Georgian of the Year Award (1995)
- White House Fellowship Regional Finalist (Made the list of 108 applicants out of 9000) in 2005
- Governor's Service Award in 2006 (Governor Ehrlich)
- Recognized by Inc. Magazine as one of the 500 fastest-growing companies in the US in 2007 (Ranked # 267)
- Fastest Growing Company by Deloitte in Maryland in 2007 (Ranked #1)
- Fastest Growing Company by Deloitte in the US in 2007 (Ranked #19)
- Fastest Growing Company by Deloitte in Maryland in 2008 (Ranked #7)
- Minority Business Award by Business Journal in 2008
- Ranked 5th in Local Giving (Washington DC) by Business Journal, 2009
- Outstanding Alumni by Strayer University, 2009

## **LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Only Democrat in Prince George's County to Support Public School Choice (Began the campaign in 1998 and helped enact Public School Choice in 2003. Currently there are 36 Charter Schools in the State serving about 12,249 students)

- Only Candidate in District 23A who supported Inter-County Connector (will be opened in 2010)
- Only Candidate in District 23A that supported Slots Revenue for Education (Passed through Referendum 2008)
- Assisted groups to lobby for Stem cell Research (2006)
- Helped Repeal Tax on IT/Computer Industry (2008)

## **EDUCATION**

- Fellowship in Entrepreneurship, University of Maryland, 2005
- MPP, Master in Public Policy, American University, 1999
- BS, Computer Information Systems, Strayer University, 1993
- BS, Mathematics & Physics, Osmania University, 1983

## **PERSONAL**

Shukoore is an example of the American dream being alive and well. He came to this country as an immigrant from India a little over 18 years ago, with just \$500 in his pocket. Since then, he has been able to start a family with his wonderful wife, get a graduate degree, and build his own company from the ground up.

Before coming here, Shukoor's parents instilled the value of getting an education, which is why upon arrival, he completed his bachelor's in Computer Science (he later went on to complete his Master's in Public Policy from American University). He then worked in the travel industry where he learned the basics of customer service. It is also where he was able to hone his listening skills. Believe him, the only thing worse than getting your flight canceled is dealing with the person who just had his flight canceled.

From the start, Shukoor immersed himself in community service, working with several non-profits, social organizations, and faith groups. In fact, between 1992 and 2006 he volunteered for an average of 30 hours a week for such causes. Some of these groups included Lutheran Social Services, Winter Haven Homeless Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, State Democracy Foundation, and Ayesha & Ali Padder Foundation.