

# ELLENKOURAKOS

Healthcare engineer and designer seeking an opportunity to create human centered solutions

EKourakos@gmail.com | 914.261.0605 | EllensPortfolio.com

## EXPERIENCE

### HEALTH FOR AMERICA | CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER | DC | 2015 – PRESENT

Selected to lead Health for America's (HFA) innovative Fellowship, and awarded as one of nine social entrepreneurs in Aspen Institute's Urban Innovators in Residence program, to identify and build high-impact solutions to America's health challenges

- Built Fellowship's Health, Design, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership curricula
- Recruited and managed four 2015-16 fellows selected from pool of 300
- Developed a network of 200+ strategic relationships with thought leaders, health systems, startups, C-suite executives, and innovation experts
- Overhauled brand identity and marketing strategy, from values to graphic design
- Successfully transferred HFA ownership and intellectual capital to the MedStar Institute for Innovation (MI2), the mid-Atlantic's largest not-for-profit health system

### HEALTH FOR AMERICA | HEALTHCARE DESIGN FELLOW | DE | 2014 – 2015

Granted year-long fellowship (2% acceptance rate) and co-founded Meerkat Health, an effective and sustainable startup designed to manage congestive heart failure

- Immersed in Christiana Care Health System and synthesized data from hundreds of industry representatives (e.g., entrepreneurs, payers, politicians) and stakeholders (e.g., clinicians, patients) to ensure optimal product design
- Co-led product development and engineering of the hardware + software solution, including user research/experience, prototyping, logo, and website

### CAREFUSION | R&D ENGINEER / PROJECT MANAGER | IL | 2012-2014

Expanded portfolio by 10%, including largest balloon on the market, and ten line extensions for minimally invasive spine surgical tools from concept to distribution

- Obtained FDA clearances for two new product lines and submitted two patents
- Interviewed healthcare professionals in surgery and focus groups to understand customer needs, market landscape, and product development opportunities
- Improved operational efficiency through manufacturing improvements
- Managed and executed entire product development process, including: prototyping, quality testing, developing regulatory strategy, and training physicians

## SKILLS

**LEADERSHIP** | Project management, business development, product development, relationship building

**DESIGN THINKING + USER EXPERIENCE (UX)** | Generative interview, contextual inquiries, personas, journey map, prototyping, usability testing, Adobe Illustrator / InDesign

**STRATEGY + COMMUNICATION** | Brand development, business model canvas, lean processes, graphic design

**HEALTHCARE** | Patient experience, stakeholder engagement, medical devices, financial models, mHealth, wearables

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**CONFERENCES** | South by Southwest (SXSW), HxRefactored, mHealth Summit, Connected Health Symposium, MWC

**COURSES** | Lean Startup Machine, General Assembly: UX Bootcamp & App Development for Non-developers, Institute for Healthcare Improvement Innovation Lab

**CAREFUSION WOMEN'S INITIATIVE NETWORK | 2012-2014** | Board Member | Initiated and led corporate events to empower over 250 women through lectures, networking, and mentorship

**OPENIDEO | 2014** | Co-founder & Facilitator of Chicago Chapter | Organized and guided 30 people in social impact challenges

**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS | 2012-2014** | Provided educational guidance and support to elementary school children

## EDUCATION

**NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY | IL** | Major: B.S. Manufacturing & Design Engineering | Minor: Psychology | Dean's List, Danish Institute for Study Abroad, Tour Guide, PWILD, Global Engagement Summit, Dance Marathon, Alpha Phi

## INTERESTS

Travel • Photography • Hiking • Skiing • Positive Psychology