

SBJ

# Laine Himmelman

**Development  
director,**  
Habitat for  
Humanity of  
Greater  
Sacramento



PER SERVING

Age  
**31**

**MAY HELP IMPROVE**  
*focus and determination*

NET WT 330Z.

## Himmelmann Facts

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**H**immelmann started her career at Habitat nine years ago as a “glorified receptionist” during the worst year of the recession. “I waitressed after work the first year to make ends meet,” she said. During that time, she also became inspired by Habitat’s mission to build and repair homes for low-income families, seniors and veterans, and she wanted to share the nonprofit’s success stories. “Little by little, those earnest efforts from the trenches to share what we were doing and connect people to it developed into what it is today,” she said. This year, Himmelmann said her department will raise almost \$3 million in financial and in-kind donations, nearly double what the organization was raising when she first started. In her role, Himmelmann oversees annual fundraising efforts, volunteer programs and public relations. During her time at Habitat, Himmelmann has raised nearly \$10 million in financial donations, engaged 22,500 volunteers and generated over 1,000 local and national earned media spots. “Every aspect of leadership, entrepreneurialism and innovation I’ve shown in my career at Habitat has happened not as an intention but as a result of an earnest and steadfast belief in the impact of what Habitat does and wanting others to have the opportunity to be a part of it too.”

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**Education:** B.A.S., English,  
Gonzaga University

**The biggest challenge I've overcome:** “When my family fell on hard times, we lost our home and my father in a devastating way, but I learned then that regardless of what life throws at you, you can still choose joy and meaning.”

**What's your biggest concern about your industry:** “Too

often as nonprofits we operate in silos because we feel we are competing against one another for limited resources rather than realizing we should actually be competing together against poverty.”

**My go-to comfort food:** “Sunday sushi is sacred for my boyfriend and I and our go-to comfort food is always “secret tofu” at Midtown Sushi.”