

The CapinCrouse Story

TRANSFORMED LIVES

Grace. Compassion. Determination. Our clients exhibit these traits every day as they work to change lives around the world. CapinCrouse was founded to support mission-focused nonprofits in this transformational work, and that focus remains at the core of our mission today.

It all started with a desire to follow God's calling.

A MESSAGE IN THE GARDEN

A crowded arena packed with thousands of cheering basketball fans seems an unlikely setting for a businessman to hear a message that would change his life and the lives of countless others around the world. Yet God often chooses to communicate with us in surprising ways, and in unexpected places.

It was March 1961 and Dick Capin, a successful Illinois businessman and certified public accountant, was in New York City on business when he decided to attend a college basketball game between Providence and Holy Cross at Madison Square Garden. As the game progressed, he became increasingly aware of a chant rising from the Holy Cross fans: "Go, Cross, go! Go, Cross, go!"

"As I listened to this chant," Dick said, "while my eyes watched the action, all at once I became unaware of my surroundings, and a vision of the world came before me. I thought of the meaning of the Cross — the Cross of Jesus Christ — and how so many do not know the meaning of that Cross."

Overwhelmed, Dick immediately left the Garden. As he walked the streets of New York, he prayed, "Lord, if there is any way that I can become involved in getting the Cross — the message of the Cross — to those who know not what it means, I am ready."

Learn more about how we're building on our legacy at vimeo.com/capincrouse/story.

A PASSION TO SERVE

The answer to that prayer led Dick to serve in the mission field in Korea and provide a decade of service at OMS International, a Los Angeles-based missionary organization. In 1972, he was ready for the next step but wasn't certain what it should be.

During his travels around the world, Dick had been haunted by the needs of the people he'd seen with broken hearts and lives. He also had observed seminary-trained missionaries burdened with

administrative and financial responsibilities that interfered with their primary purpose and work.

Often, mission leaders who came up through the ranks had been trained to become missionaries or pastors, with little or no training in finance or administration. And until the late 1970s, there was little in the way of written guidelines or financial best practices to assist the leaders of Christian ministries in being good and faithful stewards.



"I began to realize there were no answers regarding how to use funding, or how to maintain the integrity necessary to keep people giving. [Organizations] kept coming to me and saying they didn't know what to do relative to financial issues. There was no written guidance for Christian ministries."

– Dick Capin, Founder

Dick decided to start a small accounting firm in the metropolitan Indianapolis area so he could serve international Kingdom ministries with his accounting and business expertise. It was not about doing accounting, but about doing *ministry through accounting*.

The new firm was motivated and equipped to assist mission-focused ministries in maintaining integrity and maximizing their stewardship. CapinCrouse

soon began receiving many questions and requests from nonprofit organizations seeking guidance on responsibilities to donors, financial accounting, internal controls, and compliance with governmental requirements.

“I thought within five years I’d be finished and back on the mission field,” Dick noted. “But I stayed with the firm 15 years because God kept expanding the need and the relevance of what we were about.”

“God had shown a need for an accounting firm, one especially equipped to assist Christian ministries.”

– Dick Capin

NEW STANDARDS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Dick's passion for accountability, transparency, and integrity in service to nonprofit organizations played a major role in the growth of the firm. It also had a significant impact on the accounting and financial reporting systems and procedures used by Christian ministries and other nonprofit organizations.

In the mid-1970s, Dick and partner C.E. Crouse attended a conference for foreign mission organizations, where they discussed various accounting issues that were common in mission organizations. That meeting gave CapinCrouse the impetus to help in developing the first accounting guide for these organizations.

Dick also worked with a number of Christian leaders to form the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) in 1979 to provide established standards and accreditation for Christian nonprofit organizations. He later went on to serve on the board of directors and as treasurer and chairman.



CapinCrouse logo from 1981-1992

The lack of standard accounting procedures and practices not only handicapped ministry leaders, but left donors in the dark as to how and where their contributions could be used most effectively. But changes were coming.



During the 1970s, other Christian leaders also began to recognize the need for greater accountability and transparency by Christian ministries. In Southern California, the Christian Management Association (CMA) was formed for ministries to share and exchange information about financial policies and to achieve uniformity in their financial reporting. Dick became active with CMA during its early years and served on the board of directors. CMA later merged

with Christian Stewardship Association to form the Christian Leadership Alliance.

Dick retired from CapinCrouse in 1987 but has remained active in ministry service. God has continued to lead him to use his business and leadership skills in serving OMS International, Samaritan's Purse, and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

EXTENDING THE LEGACY

Dick's son Gregg Capin joined the firm in 1979 and now serves as Partner, Chairman and Interim CEO. Gregg continued his father's mission of serving the nonprofit community, becoming a recognized and trusted industry leader himself. His service over the years includes:

1987 – ECFA Standards Committee

Gregg served over a 20-year period, during the time when the initial ECFA standards were being enhanced and refined and certain significant issues challenged the sector. This includes the Foundation for New Era Philanthropy, a Ponzi scheme that swept up many organizations and over \$500 million. Gregg and others collaborated and investigated to expose this fraud as noted in several articles, including one in *Reader's*

Digest in March 1996. Gregg has continued to serve on the ECFA Standards Advisory Committee and its Religious Organizations Accounting Committee.

1990 – AICPA Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee

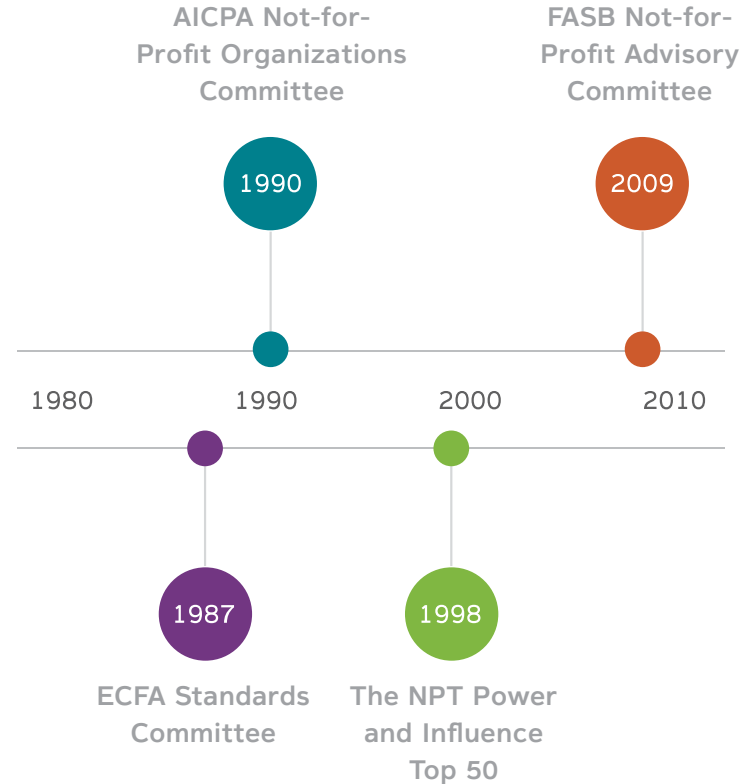
Gregg served on this committee for over 20 years, during which it changed to an Expert Panel. He also concurrently served on the NFP Audit & Accounting Guide Revision Task Force as member and chair. This industry group was responsible for identifying issues and developing accounting guidance for nonprofit entities. During this time Gregg participated in the creation of the first AICPA National Not-for-Profit Industry Conference and has served on many subsequent planning committees.


1998 – The NPT Power and Influence Top 50

Gregg was recognized as one of the Top 50 people of power and influence in *The NonProfit Times'* first annual compilation of "movers and shakers in the third sector."

2009 – FASB Not-for-Profit Advisory Committee

This was the first standing committee to provide input to the FASB on nonprofit industry matters and the development of financial accounting standards. Gregg served on the committee for six years.



A photograph of a woman in a sari with her hands clasped in prayer, surrounded by others in a community setting. The image is overlaid with a green tint. The woman is in the center, looking down with her hands pressed together. To her right, a man in a striped shirt is partially visible, looking towards her. In the background, other people are blurred, suggesting a group gathering. The overall mood is one of devotion and community support.

From digging wells to translating Scripture to feeding those hungry in body and spirit, our clients are transforming lives across the globe, and our focus is on helping them further their life-changing work.

ONGOING COMMITMENT TO SERVING THE NONPROFIT COMMUNITY

The firm's commitment to serving the nonprofit community has continued through the years. As leaders in the industry, CapinCrouse members follow in Dick's footsteps and regularly participate in national roles and events that impact our nation's nonprofit entities.

During the 1980s and 1990s, the firm was involved in the development of the Accounting and Financial



CapinCrouse logo from 1992 - 2005

Reporting Guide for Christian Ministries, which was originally co-sponsored by ECFA, CMA, the International Foreign Mission Association (IFMA), and the Evangelical Fellowship of Mission Agencies (EFMA) and is now sponsored by ECFA.

Over the decades, members of the firm have been involved in many different industry groups. Our partners also regularly serve as board members of non-client organizations and institutions and as higher education accreditation commission members. It's part of our firm-wide commitment to serving the nonprofit community.

“We’re here to leave a legacy, to make ministries more valuable, by providing them with the tools they need to take them from where they are now to where God wants them to be.”

– Dick Capin



CapinCrouse team members are or have been involved in industry groups such as:

AICPA Not-for-Profit Entities Expert Panel and Guide Task Force

AICPA National Not-for-Profit and Tech Conferences

AICPA Not-for-Profit Audit Risk Alert Committee

AICPA Not-for-Profit Advisory Council

AICPA Technical Standards Committee of the Ethics Division

AICPA Alternative Investments Committee

AICPA Net Asset Value Task Force

AICPA Audits of Group Financial Statements Audit Risk Alert Task Force

AICPA Gifts-in-Kind Task Force

IRS Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities (ACT)

FASB Not-for-Profit Financial Statement Project Group

FASB Consolidations Task Force

Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA)

Christian Leadership Alliance (CLA)

Association of Business Administrators of Christian Colleges (ABACC)

Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)

Council of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU)

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS)

National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) Tax Forum

NACUBO UBIT Conference

MissioNexus Mission Leaders Conference

Accord Network Gifts in Kind Standards and Summit

...and many other groups and state CPA societies

CONTINUING THE VISION

Over the years, CapinCrouse's staff grew to meet demand and offices were added first in Illinois and California, and then around the country.

"Even into the 1990s, the firm was seeking merely to serve and see the opportunities God would bring," Gregg said. "We were in a mode of trying to be faithful in service and discovery of God's plan. It was more about God's provision and His calling on the lives of those involved than the design of the firm as a whole. And it was in that time frame we began to realize our increased stewardship responsibility and began to focus on infrastructure to realize God's calling and provision."

Today, CapinCrouse serves more than 1,500 mission-focused nonprofit clients from a network of offices

across the nation. This includes domestic and international outreach organizations, universities and seminaries, foundations, media ministries, rescue missions, churches and denominations, and many others working in more than 60 countries around the world.

Dick Capin's vision of an accounting firm dedicated to serving and empowering nonprofits has been at the core of the firm's mission for more than 45 years.



CapinCrouse logo from 2006 - 2014

EMPOWERING NONPROFITS™

160

ASSOCIATES



WE SERVE **MORE THAN 1,500** NONPROFIT ENTITIES NATIONWIDE, INCLUDING

15



OFFICES NATIONWIDE



400+
CHURCHES



140+
INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS



70+
FOUNDATIONS



60+
DENOMINATION
ENTITIES



twenty-four
PARTNERS




200+
OUTREACH
ORGANIZATIONS



90+
COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES,
AND SEMINARIES



80+
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT
PLANS



90+
ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOLS



WE SERVE CLIENTS IN **60+** COUNTRIES, AND WE **ONLY** SERVE **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.**

DIFFERENCE MAKERS WITH A PASSION TO SERVE

What started as one man's vision has provided a strong foundation from which CapinCrouse will continue to grow and expand the ways in which we work to empower nonprofits changing lives around the world.

The entire CapinCrouse team shares a passion and calling to serve, and we are committed to contributing to our clients' success by helping them maintain sound financial and accounting practices designed to minimize risk and maximize stewardship.

It is our mission to be **empowered professionals** providing **innovative service** to organizations whose outcomes are measured in **lives changed**.

That includes a commitment to providing clients with innovative service that supports their mission. Recognizing nonprofits' increasing need for expert

information security services, in January 2017 CapinCrouse merged with Traina & Associates. This brought Traina & Associates' world-class talent and expertise in information security risk management to the firm, enabling us to offer clients crucial cybersecurity support.*

As we look ahead, our focus is on moving forward in a way that honors the past and builds on the legacy Dick Capin created. Whatever the future holds, our commitment to the success of our nonprofit clients' life-changing work will guide us each step of the way. Together, we are transforming lives.



CapinCrouse logo since 2014

It is our mission
to be **empowered
professionals**
providing
innovative service
to organizations
whose outcomes
are measured in
lives changed.

OUR CLIENTS:



Host

500,000

worshippers **every weekend.**



Impact

100,000

college & university students **each year.**



Serve

13,000

meals at rescue missions **every day.**

ABOUT CAPINCROUSE

As a national full-service CPA and consulting firm devoted to serving nonprofit organizations, CapinCrouse provides professional solutions to organizations whose outcomes are measured in lives changed. Since 1972, the firm has served domestic and international outreach organizations, universities and seminaries, foundations, media ministries, rescue missions, relief and development organizations, churches and denominations, and many others by providing support in the key areas of financial integrity and security. With a network of offices across the nation, CapinCrouse has the resources of a large firm and the personal touch of a local firm.



Portions of this e-book are adapted from *Giving Account: Life Lessons of Businessman and Accountant Dick Capin*, by Dick Capin as told to Bob Kelly.
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Audit | Review | Tax | Consulting | Cybersecurity

