

**Name: Joan C. Hall**

**Occupation:** Microfinance Consultant

**Employer:** Self-employed, 1999 to present; Previous employer: United Nations, 1996-98

**Membership in Professional Organizations:**

- Women Advancing Microfinance, Member, 2004 to present.

**Involvement with Community Organizations:**

- Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association, Area Representative

**Why do you wish to serve as a Director of Access Tucson?**

I'm interested in empowerment, and I believe in giving people access to the tools which can empower them. TV is a powerful medium. Giving people access to cameras, knowledge, and program time helps make for a more transparent and democratic media environment. People need a voice, and, in this time of media consolidation, fewer and fewer independent voices are being heard. Community access TV gives nonprofits and civic groups more ways to reach people who need their services or who might support them financially. This is access that they would not otherwise have. Access Tucson is also locally controlled and that makes its content more relevant than the packaged, duplicative, info-tainment that is so prevalent in national media. It encourages media literacy and transparency, so that people learn how the media functions and can question what they hear. Some of the important issues that are or should be presented by community members on Access Tucson are downtown development, water issues, preservation of historic zones and homes, financial literacy, and the mayoral elections, among others. It would be an honor and a learning experience to work with Access Tucson on its board.

**What expertise or special qualifications do you possess which you feel would be important to Access Tucson?**

I have been involved in working with nonprofits internationally for many years and know the nonprofit culture. Having moved back to Tucson a few years ago to be near my parents, I am bringing my skills to play in my neighborhood (Jefferson Park). I am an experienced grant writer. I am a strategic thinker and planner. I work well in a team setting; I like working with others and learning from them. I have innovative "outside the box" problem-solving skills. I am proactive and I like to keep things moving. I am articulate and passionate about things that I believe in, and I hope that I am learning to be an effective public speaker. I have worked with and in other cultures, and speak fluent Spanish as well as some French.