

Historic Poole Forge Inc

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 202787636

PA · NTEE A80

FY ending 2024-12-31

June 10, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Dawn Rise Ekdahl, Executive Director / CEO** (\$45,200) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **34** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **88th** percentile of comparable organizations within the typical range

Benchmarked executive: Dawn Rise Ekdahl — reported title "DIRECTOR", selected as the organization's **highest-paid individual** — no exact title match, so confirm this is a comparable role.

How comparable organizations were selected

SECTOR Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (A80).

BUDGET Total revenue between \$51,903 and \$116,202 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$77,468 (the band tightens as size grows).

GEOGRAPHY Same NTEE sector (A80), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

34 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography

→ **34** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



\$2,217	\$13,478	\$23,065	\$28,100	\$50,734	\$45,200
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● Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to PA cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Fort Preservation Society	CA	\$75,251	Executive Director	\$14,880	\$13,266	2023
Electrical Workers Historical Society	DC	\$81,472	President (Eff. 1/4/23)	\$239,765	\$217,216	2023
Appelo Archives Center	WA	\$73,356	Administration	\$23,914	\$22,104	2023
Central European History Society	GA	\$72,068	Editor Of Ce	\$1,000	\$1,039	2023
The Nolumbeka Project Inc	MA	\$83,733	President	\$250	\$232	2023
Jackson County Historical Society	IA	\$84,497	Curator	\$25,000	\$27,449	2024
Mainstreet Las Vegas Inc	NM	\$85,591	Executive Director	\$25,000	\$26,963	2024
Whitesville Historical Society Inc	KY	\$86,210	Executive Di	\$21,012	\$23,306	2023
Friends Of Col Ben Stephenson House	IL	\$68,398	Museum Director	\$44,318	\$44,981	2023
Heath Community Arts Council	OH	\$67,989	Executive Di	\$40,000	\$43,738	2023
Dublin Community Center	NH	\$87,586	Center Director	\$24,999	\$23,147	2024
Crawford Family Historical Museum Inc	TX	\$87,830	Secretary-treasurer	\$29,952	\$30,932	2023
Waupaca Historical Society	WI	\$66,228	Director	\$24,473	\$25,630	2024
Hartford Preservation Alliance Inc	CT	\$66,165	Executive Dir.	\$21,000	\$20,327	2023
Historical Society Of Perry County	PA	\$91,041	Employee	\$930	\$930	2024
Center For Civil War Photograp	PA	\$63,774	Exec Director	\$5,400	\$5,400	2024

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
The John P Parker Historical Society Inc	OH	\$63,235	Docent	\$10,179	\$11,131	2023
Historic Marion Revitalization	SC	\$91,900	Executive Dir.	\$27,394	\$27,919	2025
Hawaii Japanese Center	HI	\$61,982	President	\$24,700	\$22,175	2024
Reflections Of Manatee Inc	FL	\$61,848	Executive Director	\$5,000	\$4,850	2023
Vision Historic Preservation Founda	TX	\$59,350	Treasurerdirector	\$9,167	\$9,195	2024
Old Santa Fe Association Inc	NM	\$96,670	Executive Di	\$69,783	\$75,264	2024
Historic St Mary's Mission Inc	MT	\$97,317	Executive Director	\$24,249	\$26,212	2024
The Legacy Project Inc	VA	\$57,462	Executive Director	\$16,540	\$16,488	2023
216 E Washington Blvd Foundation	IN	\$56,979	Treasurer	\$1,000	\$1,089	2023

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to PA cost of living and 2024 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to PA cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: peerbasis.org/methodology.

Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT 34 organizations. Compensation range \$232–\$217,216; filing years 2023–2025.

SIZE BASIS Matched on total revenue (\$77,468); for reference, expenses \$96,556 and assets \$37,041.

ROLE MATCH Dawn Rise Ekdahl, reported title "*DIRECTOR*", benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. **Selected as the organization's highest-paid individual without an exact title match — the board should confirm this is a comparable role.**

RELATED-ORG PAY 1 peer report related-organization compensation (column E), which the D + F benchmark does not fully capture; review where material.

OUTLIERS 4 peers fall outside 1.5× the interquartile range — consider whether any reflect one-time payments (severance, deferred-comp payouts).

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

BASIS	SUBJECT PERCENTILE
Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default	88 th
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	88 th
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	91 st
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	88 th

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

● **Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness · 26 CFR 53.4958-6**

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

Draft board minutes – executive compensation

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Dawn Rise Ekdahl) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 10, 2026, comparing compensation against 34 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (A80), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$45,200 is reasonable (approximately the 88th percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [__ for / __ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 10, 2026.