

Louisville Story Program

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 475237414

KY · NTEE A33

FY ending 2024-12-31

June 9, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Darcy Thompson, Executive Director / CEO** (\$69,960) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **57** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **51st** percentile of comparable organizations

within the typical range

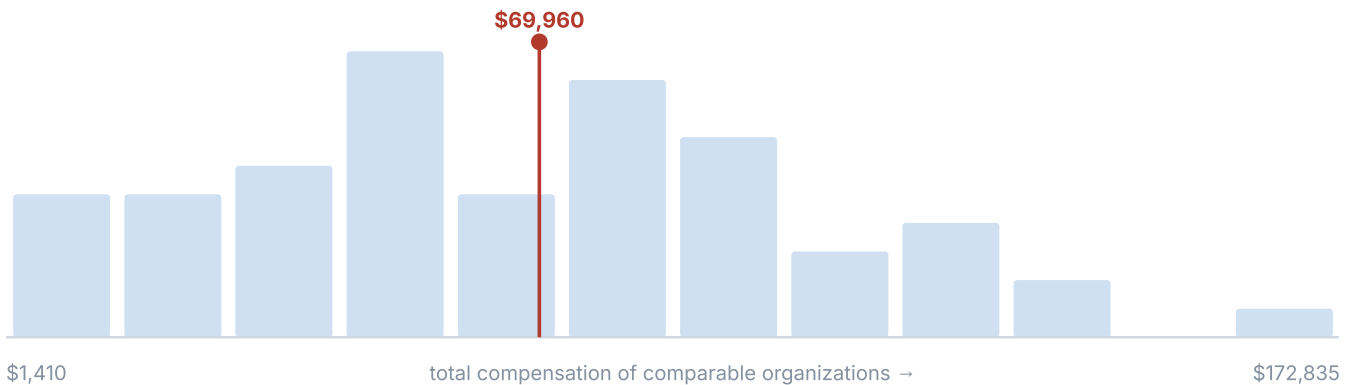
Benchmarked executive: Darcy Thompson — reported title “EXECUTIVE DI”, a **direct title match** to the Executive Director / CEO role.

How comparable organizations were selected

SECTOR	Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (A33).
BUDGET	Total revenue between \$231,797 and \$518,949 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$345,966 (the band tightens as size grows).
GEOGRAPHY	Same NTEE sector (A33), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

57 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **57** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



\$18,581	\$37,662	\$67,748	\$89,986	\$116,092	\$69,960
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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 KY 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
Cavankerry Press Ltd	NJ	\$343,702	Executive Director	\$46,518	\$37,662	2025
Providence Foundation	VA	\$332,489	President	\$92,500	\$83,131	2024
The Catholic Peace Times Weekly Inc	NY	\$364,450	President	\$13,850	\$11,649	2024
Public Multimedia Inc	NJ	\$326,796	President	\$112,615	\$93,587	2024
The Food Alliance	OR	\$326,179	Past Exec. Dir.	\$78,378	\$67,748	2024
Mars Hill Audio Inc	VA	\$323,706	President	\$129,079	\$116,004	2024
Preserving Christian Publications	NY	\$370,593	President	\$24,079	\$20,252	2024
Nightboat Books Inc	NY	\$320,727	Executive Director	\$30,841	\$26,706	2023
In Black Ink	MN	\$319,183	Executive Director	\$37,606	\$35,609	2023
County Economic Research Institute Inc	KS	\$317,331	President	\$171,880	\$172,835	2024
Capital Region Community Media Inc	VT	\$311,307	Editor In Chief	\$60,584	\$56,758	2024
Abba A Womens Resource Center	ME	\$311,069	Executive Director	\$66,576	\$63,883	2023
Skeptic Society	CA	\$309,510	President	\$143,323	\$118,595	2023
Southern California Streets Initiative	CA	\$383,198	Director	\$75,341	\$62,342	2023
Carlisle Communications Inc	MA	\$308,493	President	\$1,731	\$1,410	2025
Arcata Press	MN	\$305,326	Executive Director	\$84,000	\$77,256	2024
The562 Network Inc	CA	\$302,316	Founder Editor	\$68,992	\$57,089	2023

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Authors Alliance Inc	CA	\$394,839	Executive Dir.	\$153,713	\$127,193	2023
The Io Foundation	WI	\$296,207	Secretary/ed	\$90,687	\$85,882	2025
Spectator Publishing Company Inc	NY	\$296,078	Editor In Chief	\$4,250	\$3,575	2024
Ashland News	OR	\$295,181	Executive Editor	\$54,600	\$48,589	2023
Plymouth Rock Publishing Corp	MA	\$399,994	Director	\$37,000	\$31,862	2023
Dignity Usa Inc	MA	\$288,091	Executive Di	\$112,921	\$94,449	2024
Bellevue Literary Review Inc	NY	\$284,941	Executive Dir.	\$39,600	\$33,307	2024
Four Way Books Inc	NY	\$410,023	Publisher And Executive Editor	\$83,687	\$72,466	2023

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to KY 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 KY 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	57 organizations. Compensation range \$1,410–\$172,835; filing years 2023–2025.
SIZE BASIS	Matched on total revenue (\$345,966); for reference, expenses \$466,216 and assets \$445,110.
ROLE MATCH	Darcy Thompson, reported title <i>"EXECUTIVE DI"</i> , benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. The title maps directly to this role.
OUTLIERS	1 peer 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	51 st
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	47 th
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	60 th
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	51 st

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 (Darcy Thompson) 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 9, 2026, comparing compensation against 57 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (A33), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$69,960 is reasonable (approximately the 51st 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 9, 2026.