

Winning Workplaces

Archford Capital Strategies, LLC

If you are a business owner struggling to get employees engaged in their jobs and the community, you should meet Jim Maher, founder and owner of Archford Capital Strategies.

The company, founded by Jim Maher in 2013, helps individuals and business owners with wealth management, retirement planning and business consulting.

Thanks to an innovative program called Archford Angels, Maher has created a one-of-a-kind culture where employees are making a difference in the firm's clients and the community.

Under the program, every employee is given \$1,000 to donate to a charity of their choice, participate on a project with their charity and get involved. The employees then compete for additional grants to the winning charities.

The program has been remarkable. In the past two years, the program has generated over \$400,000 in donations and grants through the organizations it helped.

"Giving back is really simple for us," Maher said. "The core value of our firm is shared success. Our motto is help others first. We help the families we work with, we help our colleagues, we help the community."

Maher created the program as a philanthropic business model that other business owners can use at no cost to get their



Founded: 2013

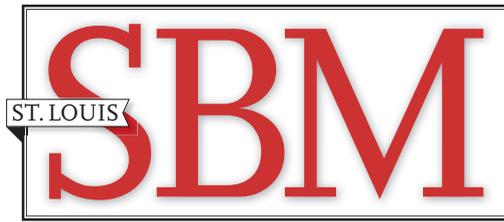
Employees: 17

To Name Just One benefit:

Archford Angels. Each employee is given \$1,000 to donate to the charity of their choice or participate in a charitable project.

employees excited about giving. He hopes other companies will adopt the program in support of the nonprofits they are passionate about and the communities in which they work and live. The guide can be downloaded from Archford's website: <https://archfordcapital.com/archford-angels-2019/#angels-carrot>

"The biggest thing for us is that sense of purpose and engagement," he said. "You have a sense of purpose when you know your actions have long-term impacts on families. We have a team here. We don't have stars. We have a team of stars. I'm just the coach. As players, they understand they are the ones that represent the company, and they realize what we are able to do and accomplish for our clients and our community." ■



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Archford Capital Strategies, LLC

2 Questions with:
Jim Maher,
Archford Capital Strategies



How do you differentiate yourself from others in the industry?

One, we work with closely held businesses, and the thing that has really differentiated our practice over the years is our philanthropic focus. When it comes to working with closely-held businesses, I grew up in a closely-held business. It is why I do what I do today. I work very hard to make sure there is open communication and transparency in the planning and the processes that we use to help these companies. Because I am a small-business owner, I have empathy that customers know and see. From each decision business owners make, from taxes to investing, we help them think through their options and implications of these decisions. Also, at Archford our mission is "Taking Care of Families" and we live that mission out every day as we help save families time and money through our services, and we help families in need throughout the region with our philanthropic efforts.

One of your many philanthropic efforts is a program called

Archford Angels. Explain the Archford Angels?

Under our program, The Archford Angels, every employee is given \$1,000 to donate to a charity of their choice, participate on a project with their charity and get involved. The employees then compete for additional grants to the winning charities. The program has been remarkable. In the past two years, the program has generated over \$400,000 in donations and grants through the organizations we have been working with. Giving back is really simple for us. The core value of our firm is shared success. Our motto is help others first. We help the families we work with, we help our colleagues, we help the community. I created this program as a philanthropic business model that other business owners can use at no cost to get their employees excited about giving. I hope that other companies will adopt this program in support of the nonprofits they are passionate about and the communities in which they do work. A free copy of the philanthropic campaign guide is available to download at ArchfordCapital.com.