

Summary

Dynamic and solution-focused with over two decades of experience in the health and human services field, leading and managing multiple national, state and local efforts impacting the well-being of diverse individuals and communities.

Skills

Building and managing results-driven relationships with diverse stakeholders and community members, while planning, implementing and evaluating programs, policies and systems to positively impact people's lives. A rare combination of visionary, conceptual thinking, coupled with high-quality tactical implementation; strong leader and manager of people and projects; politically savvy and diplomatic with high emotional intelligence and a strong ability to successfully manage tough conversations.

Experience

Colorado Department of Human Services/Deputy Executive Director for Community Partnerships

October 2019 - PRESENT, DENVER, CO

- Currently also serving as Interim Co-Executive Director for the department
- Provides oversight, leadership and support for the department's <u>Equity Diversity and Inclusion</u> <u>Initiative</u>; Homelessness Prevention Initiative; and the Offices of Economic Security; Children, Youth and Families; and Adult, Aging and Disabilities Services.
- Provides oversight to establish and maintain strong relationships between CDHS and key
 partners and stakeholders, such as Family Voice Council and county human services agencies,
 to ensure achievement of Department mission and goals.
- Serves as CDHS Co-Chair of the Policy Advisory Committee and oversees development of policies and procedures related to community facing programs.
- Collaborates with the Division of Performance and Strategic Outcomes to oversee CDHS' performance management of county and community partners.
- Reviews work of other regulators, constituents, and key stakeholders to anticipate and identify potential issues that may impede Department results and works collaboratively to resolve issues and find acceptable solutions.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

September 2005 - October 2019, DENVER, CO

Director of the Office of Planning, Partnerships and Improvement

March 2019 - October 2019

- Served on the department's leadership to provide oversight and support for the budget, personnel and management of the office which works to improve Colorado's public and environmental health system through providing consultation, technical assistance and training to local public health agencies.
- Served as a liaison to strengthen state and local relationships, working with health and human service agencies and county commissioners/boards of health.

- Led the state and local assessment and planning process, then implements system improvement strategies to ensure every person in Colorado has the opportunity to reach their full potential in a safe and healthy environment.
- Presented regularly to the State Board of Health, making rule and regulation changes using a robust stakeholder process.

Director of Local Public Health Partnerships

MAY 2017 - FEBRUARY 2019

- Served as the primary designated liaison between 53 local public health agencies across the state of Colorado and all department divisions and programs.
- Consulted with local agencies and county commissioners/boards of health on structure, governance, funding and programmatic issues.
- Developed a <u>summary</u> after visiting all 53 health departments during the first year on the job.
- Provided oversight for managing data, information, and processes that bring stakeholders together to work toward public health system improvement and implementation of the core public health services.
- Directed the development of Colorado's health and environmental assessment and public health improvement plan, while reporting to the Colorado Board of Health on progress and rule reviews in connection with the 2008 Public Health Act.
- Served as the Chair of the Senior Management Team, reviewing and approving department policies.
- Prepared fiscal notes, decision items, legislative testimony and policy recommendations.

Office of Health Equity Interim Director

AUGUST 2015 - JANUARY 2016

- Upon special assignment from the Executive Director's Office, provided oversight to the office to improve health equity and environmental justice across Colorado.
- Conducted an <u>environmental scan</u> to identify a strategic direction for the office, while implementing a hiring process that ensured a diverse pool of applicants to serve as the permanent director.
- Provided policy direction within the department and other state and local agencies, including developing and disseminating Colorado's Healthy Aging Plan.
- Led the Health Equity Commission and served on the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs.
- Employed engaging and effective communication strategies with state and local communities to increase awareness about health equity strategies, including publishing *Change the Story:* Choose Equity and Justice.

Directors of Programs and Initiatives for the Children, Youth and Families Branch

OCTOBER 2012 - APRIL 2017

- Directed complex systems efforts affecting women, children, youth and families.
- Provided leadership and management of a department section, while managing a multi-million dollar budget and providing strategic vision and action to ensure alignment with the department's strategic plan.
- Provided technical assistance to state and local staff on equity and community engagement.
- Identified strategies to determine efficacy of program and policy interventions.
- Prepared legislative fiscal notes and decision items.
- Developed policies, procedures and <u>reports</u>.

Adolescent and School Health Director

SEPTEMBER 2005 - SEPTEMBER 2012, DENVER, CO

• Developed and led a variety of statewide efforts to improve the health and well-being of Colorado youth by implementing evidence-based practices at the state and local levels.

- Served as a consultant to urban and rural public health agencies, assisting with budgets, contracts and program approaches.
- Supervised a team of staff who addressed issues such as positive youth development, substance use and injury prevention, sexual health and mental health.
- Oversaw the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey and School-Based Health Center Program.
- Served as the President for the National Network of State Adolescent Health Coordinators.

University of Colorado Health Sciences Center / Senior Instructor

MARCH 2004 - AUGUST 2005, DENVER, CO

- Served as the State Social Work Consultant and Diagnostic & Evaluation (D&E) Clinic Coordinator for the Health Care Program for Children and Youth with Special Needs (HCP) with the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment.
- Responsible for building collaborative systems across the state to support and improve the well-being of children and youth with special needs and their families.
- Provided technical assistance and consultation for social workers across the state.
- Consulted with urban, rural and frontier public health departments on policy and program implementation.
- Conducted program improvement activities to expand the D&E Clinic Program.

Cerebral Palsy of Colorado / Site Director

APRIL 2002 - FEBRUARY 2004, DENVER, CO

- Managed the blended-funded (Head Start, CCAP, CPP, Private Pay, Scholarships) Creative
 Options Center for Early Education program, serving over 100 children, ages birth to five
 years of age with varying abilities.
- Conducted staff recruitment, hiring, training, evaluation and terminations.
- Provided first and second-level supervision for 40 employees.

Babies Prep School, Inc / Assistant Director, then Executive Director

JUNE 1999 - FEBRUARY 2002, NEW YORK, NY

- Directed an early childhood development and intervention program for children with developmental disabilities.
- Managed a \$3 million budget, recruited, hired and trained a diverse staff of over 30 employees and contractors.
- Completed and ensured compliance with New York City Board of Education and Department of Health contracts
- Conducted family training/counseling
- Coordinated students' Individualized Education Programs and coordinated related service providers (e.g. speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy).

Help for Abuse Victims in Emergency Need (HAVEN) House at Counseling Associates, Inc/Case Manager

December 1994 - AUGUST 1998, Conway, AR

- While attending college full-time, worked 30 hours a week, providing case management services to young women between the ages of 12-18 years
- Provided informal counseling and supported the development of skills related to communications, interpersonal and general life skills (e.g. employment, budgeting, laundry).
- Conducted intakes with law enforcement and coordinated planning services with multi-disciplinary teams.
- Participated in support meetings (e.g. family services, individualized education plans).

Education

Columbia University / Masters of Science in Social Work

September 1998 - May 2000, New York, NY

Hendrix College / Bachelor of Arts / Magna Cum Laude

August 1994 - May 1998, Conway, AR

Awards

- Board Member, YESS Institute, 2016
- Employee of the Month, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, 2016
- Inclusiveness@Work Award Finalist, The Center for Legal Inclusiveness, 2016
- Lewis Hine Award, National Child Labor Committee, 2013
- Young Leaders Award Nominee, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2012
- President's Award, Rocky Mountain Society for Adolescent Health & Medicine, 2012
- Employee of the Year, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, 2011
- Employee of the Month, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, 2011

Personality Profiles

- StrengthsFinder: Woo, Positivity, Developer, Maximizer, Arranger
- Myers Briggs Type Inventory: ENFJ (Extraverted, Intuitive, Feeling, Judging)
- DISC Profile: Influencer (primary) Dominant (secondary)