

# Amanda A. Avalos



## SKILLS:

- High oral and written communication skills
- Excellent ability to coordinate learning spaces with a disparate set of communities
- High organizational skills
- Strong facilitation and fundraising skills
- Outstanding creative thinking and problem-solving abilities
- Extensive knowledge of the intersectionality of the progressive movement
- Bilingual (Spanish)
- Ability to develop strong team infrastructure
- Committed to work that builds trust and enhances collective capacity
- Technologically proficient

## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE:

02/2020–Present **Leaders Igniting Transformation**  
*Senior Civic Engagement Director*

Milwaukee, WI

- Oversee implementation of civic engagement and political programs, including established field tracking, data, and accountability systems.
- Provide high-level strategic advice to the Executive Team on program development including targeting, electoral, legislative, and ballot initiative opportunities.
- Assist state and local partners in development of comprehensive political plans that engage community members in electoral process including voter education, GOTV, and issue campaigns.
- Hire, train, and supervise outreach staff in grassroots canvassing skills. Build a team with an eye towards leadership development.

11/2016–02/2020 **Center for Popular Democracy**  
*National Canvass Operations Lead*

Milwaukee, WI

- Recruited and developed Canvass Directors, Field managers, and Canvassers by conducting outreach, interviewing prospective management staff, and assist the National Field Lead in training
- Supported Canvass Directors to meet their office objectives and canvass in the field as needed to train new and experienced staff and meet personal and office fundraising requirements
- Worked with CPD partners and affiliates on developing efficient and effective strategies for their canvass offices to become fully sustainable
- Ensured that the Sustainability programs are in full compliance with federal and local laws, including canvassing permits and donation processing systems, as well as ensured member security.
- Organized quarterly canvass director boot camps to build effective canvass programs around the country for the social, racial, and economic justice campaigns of our CPD partners.
- Worked with and supported Canvass Directors to carefully track income and expenses and manage a budget; analyze staff performances and consult on strategy.
- Tested and developed new techniques to streamline street and door-to-door organizing and fundraising.
- Launched canvass offices for affiliate organizations (Working Washington, Make the Road Pennsylvania) and trained Canvass Directors to run grassroots field offices to build membership and raise reoccurring money to build power in low-income communities of color
- Raised thousands of recurring small-donation dollars for local community organizations around the country

9/2016–12/2016 **Wisconsin Jobs Now**  
*Canvass Director*

Milwaukee, WI

- Recruit and develop leaders; build a team of canvassers by conducting outreach, interviewing prospective staff, making hiring and firing decisions, support the team.
- Transform social change; join the team on the ground, contribute new ideas, test new methods of fundraising and mobilization, help change how social change happens in America.
- Manage staff; train staff in grassroots fundraising and campaign skills, work with staff in individual and group settings.
- Raise money and build membership; meet office objectives, recruit new active members for our partner organizations to help build our power-in-numbers approach to organizing.

- Ensure Member Information Security
- Run an innovative office; track income and expenses to manage a budget, analyze performance and set strategy, test new technologies to streamline door-to-door organizing and fundraising.

6/2016–8/5/2016 **Journey House**, Longfellow Elementary School

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Group Leader*

- Lead group activities/games (sports games, board games, art projects)
- Assist the Supervising staff in facilitating all activities
- Motivate youth to following direction and instructions
- Control groups en-route to various walking locations
- Assist with lunch/dinner duties including monitoring activity and cleaning the facility after lunch/dinner
- Report all accidents and injuries
- Act as a positive role model to youth
- Manage camper behavior through positive reinforcement and proper disciplinary techniques

8/2015–2/2016 **Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin**, Community Services Department

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Community Health Navigator, Amani/Franklin Heights neighborhoods*

- Connector to community resources as part of the hospital network care delivery team
- Identified assets, needs, barriers, strengths of families and neighborhoods; Worked with social determinants of health

9/2014–7/2015 **Public Allies**, City of Milwaukee Health Department

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Family and Community Health Division, Program Assistant*

- Created an outreach strategy to identify and engage new organizations that will receive comprehensive safe sleep education and resources and be recognized as Safe Sleep Community Partners
- Conduct a full SWOT analysis of the Latino community in Milwaukee around the topic of infant mortality through a series of focus groups of community leaders and members. Final report of the analysis is utilized to inform outreach, education and future partnerships.
- Review and assess current teen pregnancy prevention program models and analyze basic outcome data to evaluate the success of the model. Findings will be used to shape potential modifications to and/or expansion of the current model.

10/2013–7/2014 **Public Allies**, United Way of Greater Milwaukee

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Healthy Birth Outcomes Project Coordinator*

- Authored a culturally relevant “Let’s Talk Month” book in Spanish for parents on how to talk to their teens about sexual health, healthy relationships, and other young adult topics.
- Supported the work of the Health Portfolio Manager and Healthy Birth Outcomes Coordinator by engaging in public outreach and education among Healthy Birth Outcomes
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention
- Infant Mortality
- Deliver parent toolkits to organizations upon request
- Public relations activities such as updating the Baby Can Wait website and social media
- Assist in establishing a strong Latina Taskforce with recruitment and facilitation
- Contributing member of The Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF) collaborative, the Healthy Girls/Making Proud Choices program, the Contraceptive Access Workgroup, the Healthy Ancillary Group, and the Teen Pregnancy Oversight Committee.

## **EDUCATION:**

9/2015–2016 **UWM Zilber School of Public Health**

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Degree: Master’s in Public Health, in progress*

*Track: Public Health Policy & Administration*

9/2008–5/2013 **Marquette University**

**Milwaukee, WI**

*Degree: Bachelor of Arts, graduated May 2013*

*Major: Social Welfare and Justice*

*Minor: Philosophy*

## **LEADERSHIP:**

**City of Milwaukee Safety and Civic Commission, Vice-Chair, Commissioner (September 2017-Present)**  
**Emerge Wisconsin, cohort member of the class of 2020**  
**Global Shapers Milwaukee Hub (World Economic Forum), Alum member (January 2016-Present)**  
**Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee, Member, (2009-Present); Conexiones Advisory Committee member (2014-Present)**  
**American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin, trained Legal Observer, volunteer**  
**Necia Media Collective, Regional Representative, member**  
**Diversity and Anti-Oppression Trainings, facilitator/planner of Sexism and Racism trainings, 2015**  
**Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Incorporated, Academic Advisor (Fall 2015-Present); Community Service Chair (August, 2012-May 2013); active member (Fall 2012-Present)**  
**Latin American Student Organization, Executive Board Member, Community Service Chair, (December 2009-Present); Member (September 2008-May 2013)**  
**Milwaukee Beautiful, Co-Founder**

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**TRAINING EXPERIENCE:**

2020	<b>Emerge Wisconsin, Class of 2020</b>
2017-Present	<b>Milwaukee Safety and Civic Commission, Vice Chair Commissioner</b>
2018	<b>Young American Leaders Program, Harvard Business School</b>
2009–Present	<b>Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee; Mentor/Mentee, Advisory Committee</b>
2013–2015	<b>Latino Taskforce; Facilitator, member</b>
2017	<b>Wisconsin Lobbying Training</b>
2016	<b>Center for Popular Democracy, Canvass Director boot camp training</b>
2016	<b>Democratic Training for Elections and Action in Milwaukee, DemTeam 7</b>
2016	<b>ACLU of WI, legal observer training</b>
2013–2015	<b>Public Allies, AmeriCorps (2 terms: Public Ally, Public Ally Fellow)</b>
2010–2013	<b>Marquette University, Latin American Student Organization, Executive Board</b>
2012-2013	<b>Marquette University, Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Incorporated, Executive Board</b>
2011-2012	<b>Rosalie Manor Community &amp; Family Services, Case Management Internship and Milwaukee Safe Sleep Training, First Breath Training, and My Baby and Me Training.</b>

Ann Wilson	7/9/12	7/9/17	(Replaced Stark)
Marisabel Cabrera	7/25/13	7/8/18	(Replaced Buford) Resigned 4/12/19
Steven M. DeVougas	11/7/13 10/18/18	7/8/18 7/9/23	(Replaced Cox)
Fred Crouther	5/21/15 5/15/20	7/7/19 7/8/24	(Replaced Lor)
Angela McKenzie	7/27/16	7/11/21	(Replaced O'Hear)
Nelson Soler	7/11/16	7/11/21	(Replaced Morgan)
Everett L. Cocroft	1/4/19	7/9/23	(Replaced Hein)
Raymond Robakowski	12/17/19	7/9/23	(Replaced Cabrera)