

RUTHIE BURICH-WEATHERLY

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SUMMARY

Public health advocate with over 10 years experience supporting prevention and care programs. Seeking to serve on the City of Milwaukee Board of Health. As a very involved member of the community, I bring my passion, skills and public health knowledge to help enhance the Health Departments ability to serve its residents in the best way possible.

SKILLS

- Disease Intervention Specialist
- Phlebotomy
- Crisis Counseling and Intervention
- Motivational Interviewing
- Public Speaking
- HIV/STD Testing and PrEP Counseling

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Riverside Consulting LLC, Milwaukee, WI

01/16 - Present

President

- Consulting for various organizations including the Wisconsin State Department of Health, Froedtert and the Medical College of WI, and Holton St. Clinic.
 - Focus efforts on HIV and Syphilis investigation follow-up and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) study implementation.
- Operate "LetsPrEPWI" Facebook page which provides resources and referrals to Truvada for PrEP.
 - Encourage individuals at high risk to explore potential use of PrEP to reduce risk for HIV.
 - Provide information on WI based news, events and resources for PrEP use.
 - Assist individuals in making PrEP appointments, applying for co-pay cards and identifying local practitioners.
 - Advocate for more comprehensive health services for the LGBTQ+ community.

City of Milwaukee Health Department, Milwaukee, WI

05/13 - 06/15

Communicable Disease Specialist

- Conducted confidential interviews for those recently diagnosed with HIV/STDs to collect partner information to prevent the spread of infection, then located and notified those partners to provide education, HIV/STD testing, support and follow up care.
- Conducted general outreach, provided testing services, and encouraged PrEP use.
- Advised local agencies and medical providers on compliance with CDC guidelines for treatment of STDs.
- Supported local Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for follow-up and linkage to care services.
- Utilized Luther Partner Services Web, Evaluation Web, WEDSS and MIS to document all testing completed and partners notified.

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

01/09 - 05/13

HIV/HCV Prevention Specialist

- Created and implemented HIV/STI/Hepatitis prevention and education programming for at-risk individuals, healthcare providers, and community educators - reaching over 2,000 contacts annually.

- Participated in Lifepoint Syringe Exchange Program, focusing on the Harm Reduction approach to injection drug use.
- Supported the IDU (Injecting Drug User) population in making healthy lifestyle choices including safer injection practices, abscess prevention, wound care and overdose prevention education and treatment of Hepatitis and HIV infection.
- Phlebotomy trained to safely and efficiently collect blood specimens, collected more than 800 specimens for HIV, HCV and STDs, providing pre- and post-test counseling, diagnosis and referral to ongoing care.
- Served as primary HIV testing planning coordinator for more than 4 major events serving over 1000 community members.
- Participated in local and statewide task forces and committees, advisory groups, and professional organizations focused on STD/HIV care, prevention, and drug abuse.

Minnesota AIDS Project, Minneapolis, MN

02/07 – 01/09

HIV Case Manager

- Maintained a caseload of more than 40 clients living with HIV.
- Performed comprehensive needs assessment and evaluation.
- Facilitated medical care coordination as well as other social service needs within the community.
- Provided medication adherence counseling.

United States Peace Corps, St. Lucia, West Indies

07/06 – 12/06

Peace Corps Volunteer

- Implemented Behavior Change Communication techniques in relation to HIV and STD Education.
- Facilitated group discussions on positive lifestyle choices.
- Assessed risk behavior and counseled individuals on risk reduction.
- Worked with various community agencies and referred individuals to proper resources.

Aurora Medical Center, Oshkosh, WI

02/04 – 07/06

Patient Care Associate, PCA

- Provided patient assessments, triaged patients appropriately.
- Started IV's, blood draws, collected and labeled lab specimens.
- Performed EKG's and Foley catheter placements and various other medical procedures.
- Demonstrated high-quality customer service and assisted staff in secretarial duties.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI

2006

Bachelor of Science – Major: Human Services, Minor: Health and Wellness Promotion

- **AED and CPR Certified** **2002 - Present**
- **Certified HIV Educator, Tester and Counselor** **2005 - Present**
- **Phlebotomy Training** **2006**

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **BestD Clinic, Board Vice President & Lab Manager** **2012 - Present**
- **Brady Street Association, Board Member and Secretary** **2016 - Present**
- **Wisconsin Voices, Board Member and Secretary** **2017 - Present**
- **Member of Statewide HIV Action Planning Committee (SAPG)** **2012 - 2016**