

Jeff Spence

PROFILE

Action-oriented, purpose driven professional with solid experience in leading all facets of organizations. A creative problem solver, able to rally teams around a collective vision and pathways to success. A civic leader engaged in a multitude of activities committed to education and an improved Milwaukee. Experiences include securing funding, leading cross functional teams, strategic planning and systems thinking. Outstanding public speaking and written communication skills.

EXPERIENCE

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), Milwaukee, WI
MMSD is a special-purpose government serving 28 communities in Southeastern Wisconsin, providing wastewater reclamation and flood prevention services, while improving overall water quality throughout its watersheds and Lake Michigan.

Retired: September 2023

Senior Fellow/ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, June 2022-September-2023

Responsibilities include:

- Organizational Development
- Organizational Culture
- Leadership Development
- Lead Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts

Director, Community Outreach & Business Engagement, 2015-2022

Responsibilities include:

- Procurement
- Small, Women, Minority Business Enterprise Program
- Milorganite Operations and Marketing Program
- Communications and Outreach
- Educational, Business and Community outreach
- Workforce and Business Development Training Program
- Household Hazardous Waste Program

Director, Agency Services, 2004-2015

Responsibilities included:

- Human Resources
- Procurement
- Small, Women, Minority Business Enterprise Program Monitoring
- Information Technology
- Milorganite Operations and Marketing Program
- Graphic Services
- Commission Services
- Records Management
- Facilities Management
- Workforce and Business Development Training Program
- Household Hazardous Waste Program

Qualifications Summary

- *Executive level leadership.*
- *Strong experience in collaborating with governmental and community groups.*
- *Experienced in successful governance and policy making strategies.*
- *35+ years of change management and process improvement in public and private sectors.*
- *Excellent interpersonal communication and organization skills.*
- *Proven ability to handle multiple, complex projects simultaneously.*

Over 30 years of civic engagement.

Manager, Agency Services, 2001-2004

Responsibilities included:

- Procurement
- Small, Women, Minority Business Enterprise Program Monitoring
- Milorganite Operations and Marketing Program
- Commission Services
- Records Management
- Facilities Management
- Workforce and Business Development Training Program

Manager, Milorganite Program Manager, 2000-2001

Responsible for sales, marketing, product development, inventory, regulatory, packaging and distribution for the District's fertilizer program which provides over 10% of its operating income.

Manager, Laboratory and Water Quality Monitoring, 1999-2000

Responsible for all chemical and biological testing of wastewater, surface water, biosolids, and the District's Milorganite fertilizer program. Oversight of more than 40 scientists and technicians.

National Accounts Manager, Sigma-Aldrich Research, St. Louis, MO 1996-1999

Responsible for corporate efforts in developing, presenting and implementing business solutions (e-commerce, on-line elements) to premiere research entities in industry and academia. Territory included Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern territories. Accounts managed achieved an average growth of 20%.

Manager-Flavors & Fragrances Division, Aldrich Chemical Company, Milwaukee, WI 1992-1996

Responsible for business development of Flavors and Fragrance business unit. Duties included managing sales, marketing, purchasing, quality control, customer service, and packaging operations. Key outcomes during tenure included more than 30% growth in revenue.

Supervisor-Promotions and Publications, Aldrich Chemical Company, Milwaukee, WI 1990-1992

Responsible for the development of concepts, costing, coordination, production and distribution of promotional, technical and advertising materials worldwide. Coordinated all trade show activities,

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Board Member, Milwaukee Board of Schools Directors- Milwaukee, WI 1999-2016

Elected to four terms, serving in a multitude of leadership capacities during tenure, from Board President to chairing all major committees. Worked collaboratively with four different Superintendents.

Board Member, Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation- Milwaukee, WI 1999-2016

Board Member, First Stage Children's Theater- Milwaukee, WI 2000-2007, 2019-present

Board Member, Milwaukee Youth Arts Center- Milwaukee, WI 2018- Present

Board Member, Discovery World Children's Museum- Milwaukee, WI 2001-2020

Board of Control Member, Cooperative Educational Services Agency 1 (CESA 1) - Milwaukee, WI 2012-2016

Trustee, Lakeland College- Sheboygan, WI 2002-Present, Board Chair since 2020

Trustee, Columbia College of Nursing-Milwaukee, WI 2012-2020

Board Member, Urban Ecology Center- Milwaukee, WI 2013-Present

Board Member, Hope House- Milwaukee, WI 2015-Present

EDUCATION

Lakeland College, Sheboygan WI

- Bachelor's degree earned 1983
- Majors: Chemistry and Business Administration
- **Minors:** Economics

PERSONAL

- Life-long resident of Milwaukee, WI
- Attended Milwaukee Public Schools
- Married for 35 Years to a retired MPS Special Education Teacher (Jana Spence)
- Two sons, both graduates of MPS