

Christopher Allen

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Education

Master of Business Administration – Graduation Date December 2014
Cardinal Stritch University

Bachelor of Arts – Graduation Date December 2011
Lakeland College – Major: Business Management

Professional Experience

Diverse and Resilient, Milwaukee, WI
President & CEO

2022 – Present

Accountable for the successful achievement of the organization's vision and mission. Responsible for development, supervision, and administration of all programs within the organization. Provides management information and leadership to the Board of Directors about changing community needs and modifies Diverse and Resilient's strategic direction accordingly.

Goodwill Central Texas, Austin, TX
Manager of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Engagement

2021 – 2022

Led DEI strategic, system-wide initiatives focused on empowering people through education, career training, and work. Collaborated with and trained the Executive Leadership team to ensure policies, procedures, and practices are aligned with our DEI philosophy. Established company-wide standards of practice that aim to eliminate disparate impact.

- Led the implementation of DEI-specific trainings for over 1,800 team members.
- Created and hosted monthly webinars focused on increasing awareness of cultural differences, racial inequities, and systemic barriers.
- Evaluated and addressed DEI issues with Human Resources managers and directors.
- Managed DEI Specialists, DEI Council, and Affinity Group Co-Leads.

Department of State Health Services / University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
Manager of Health Equity Initiatives / Research Associate IV

2015 – 2021

Built and fostered partnerships between Texas Department of State Health Services (TX DSHS) and communities across Texas disproportionately impacted by HIV. Engage community members across the state to create, implement, and evaluate initiatives addressing HIV prevention and care.

- Designed monthly workshops and webinars for TX DSHS employees to increase awareness of the social determinants of health and the role discrimination based on race, ethnicity, class, gender, and other intersecting identities plays on health outcomes.
- Partnered with community members to identify financial resources for home-grown interventions to improve sustainability.
- Provided on-going technical assistance and capacity building to community leaders across Texas and DSHS TB/HIV/STD Branch.
- Chaired the TX DSHS annual HIV Conference's Health Equity Track.

Diverse and Resilient, Milwaukee, WI
Milwaukee Programs Manager

2010 – 2015

Managed nine grant-funded programs focused on behavioral change, leadership development, and capacity building for LGBTQ+ communities.

- Managed two grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) providing resources to improve HIV awareness, prevention, and testing services to GBQ/SGL people of color and transgender individuals.

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- Led the creation, design, and management of a drop-in space for Black and Latinx LGBTQ+ youth. Coordinated and supervised activities in the drop-in space.
- Created and presented interim, annual, and end of year progress reports for funding agencies.

Guaranty Bank, Brown Deer, WI **Customer Service Center Manager**

2005 – 2010

Managed a team of 30 employees while serving as communication lead for all company-wide initiatives.

- Created, coordinated, and implemented projects focused on recapturing company revenue leading to 80% of potentially lost revenue being captured.
- Created and led training for company-wide standardization of procedures.

Volunteer Experience

Milwaukee Street Warriors **Board Member**

2022 – Present

- Create, review, and approve operating policies and procedures.
- Identify funding opportunities, create grant applications and reports.
- Participate in organizational planning and development.

Texas Transgender Alliance

2018 – 2021

- Recruited participants throughout Texas who identify as people who share the trans-experience to serve in an advisory capacity for community-based organizations across Texas.
- Identified community, state, and national resources to create a one-stop-shop website for people of the trans-experience to search for competent service providers.
- Co-led monthly meetings, providing a virtual space and serving as a connector between the alliance and TX DSHS.

Texas HIV Syndicate

2015 - 2021

- Assisted TX DSHS with HIV program development, implementation, and prioritization of prevention and care services.
- Assisted in the creation of Texas' HIV/AIDS Strategy.

Milwaukee Teen Pregnancy Prevention Oversight Committee

2014 – 2015

- Collaborated with the City of Milwaukee's Health Commissioner and other community leaders to review state pregnancy and STI rates, review progress on established goals, discuss opportunities to address these rates, and establish new goals.

Wisconsin HIV Community Planning Group

2011 – 2015

- Elected Community Co-Chair Elect (01/15 – 04/15)
- Assisted the Wisconsin AIDS/HIV program in developing, implementing, and prioritizing HIV prevention and care services in Wisconsin.
- Assisted in the creation of Wisconsin's HIV/AIDS Strategy.

Wisconsin Minority Health Leadership Council

2013 – 2015

- Advised the Wisconsin Department of Health Services on the health needs of racial and ethnic minority populations in the state.

Conference Presentations

2022, 2021, and 2018 South Central AETC Annual Conference, Galveston, TX

- HIV in the Black Community: Working Towards Equity
- Unconscious Bias: Moving Beyond Awareness

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2021 and 2020 South Central AETC's Building Trust Series, Dallas, TX

- Social Determinants of Health – Reality for Our Trans Communities
- Achieving Health Equity – Addressing Minority Stress

2019 NAESM National MSM Leadership Conference, Arlington, VA

- Innovative Approaches to Achieve Health Equity

2019 Health HIV SYNChronicity Conference, Washington DC

- Health Equity: Putting Talk into Action

2019 South Texas Health Equity Conference, Laredo, TX

- Achieving Health Equity in Texas

2018 AIDS Foundation Houston, Houston, TX

- Gay, Bisexual, Queer, & SGL Men – What is Health Equity?

2016 United States Conference on AIDS (USCA), Hollywood, FL

- Taking a Health Equity Approach in Texas

2016 MSM Symposium, Atlanta, GA

- Conducting Needs Assessments to Identify Inequities

Trainings / Certificates Held

- Emotional Intelligence 2.0 (Facilitator)
- Undoing Racism (Facilitator)
- Unconscious Bias (Facilitator)
- Change Management (Facilitator)
- Conflict Management (Facilitator)
- Liberating Structures (Facilitator)
- CDC Evidence Based Interventions:
 - mPowerment – February 2011
 - Many Men, Many Voices – March 2011
- Other Evidence Based Interventions:
 - Safe Dates (Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation) - February 22, 2014
- WI Counseling, Testing, and Referral (CTR) Services
- UW Continuing Studies:
 - Adopting Motivational Interviewing into Practice

Media

Milwaukee Public Television: Black Nouveau: Program #2211 (November 2013)

- Interview topic: World AIDS Day and HIV in Milwaukee

Milwaukee Public Television: Black Nouveau: Program #2111 (November 2012)

- Interview topic: Importance of HIV testing in Milwaukee

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: HIV home kit gives fast results (October 2012)

- Interview topic: Milwaukee HIV statistics and impact of new HIV testing technology.