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### **Qualifications Summary**

- Proven leader able to build collaboration and lead positive change within complex operational systems.
- Expertise in a wide range of public and private health policy and programs, including Wisconsin Medicaid, FoodShare, the Affordable Care Act, behavioral and community-based health services.
- Championed successful policy reform advocacy efforts strengthen the delivery of health care.
- Deeply committed to improving the health and wellbeing of underserved populations.
- Impressive track record of bringing together diverse partners to achieve a common goal.

### ***Director, Advocacy and Government Relations, Ascension Wisconsin***

**2021- Present**

- Crafts the organization's policy priorities and strategy. Serves as the principal system office leader responsible for working with the Market Chief Advocacy Officers (MCAOs) to ensure organizational alignment in the implementation of those priorities.
- Directs operations for researching policy issues and provides responsive and comprehensive analysis and strategic counsel to internal leadership. Initiates processes to take consistent and appropriate positions on policy issues that align with the organization's mission.
- Provides strategic oversight and directs the organization's legislative tracking initiative.
- Builds and maintains positive relationships with key local, state and federal government and community stakeholders across Ascension Wisconsin's service region.
- Collaborate with internal stakeholders to interpret and implement policy and regulatory changes.
- Directs health policy analysis and research efforts to build the organization's capacity to participate and provide thought leadership in developing innovative health policy models.

### ***Director, Government and Community Relations, Advocate Aurora Health***

**2015 – 2021**

- Directly responsible for building and maintaining positive relationships with key local government and community stakeholders in southeastern Wisconsin.
- Develop and advance community and government affairs engagement, outreach and operational activities that support Advocate Aurora Health's system strategies and community health priorities, which include food security, primary care, behavioral health, housing and community safety.
- Lead the planning and implementation of community sponsorship, in-kind and operational investments. Provide consultation to leadership and other staff to effectively maximize return on investment of partnerships.
- Direct the implementation of Advocate Aurora-sponsored community events and collaborative initiatives, including a Kenosha centered food security council, the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership's Housing Navigation Committee, community-based flu and COVID vaccination clinics and a variety of Aurora Better Together Fund supported projects intended to improve health outcomes in underserved geographies.
- Working in conjunction with interdisciplinary teams of internal and external stakeholders, develop and implement local government lobbying and engagement activities that support public health initiatives, behavioral health, health and human services, new building projects, and other activities requiring county and municipal oversight.
- Manage all aspects of hospital Community Steering Councils, including identifying Council members, meeting agendas, presenters and reports. The advisory councils serve as a soundboard to AAH leadership and are comprised of business, municipal, community agency and public health leaders representing the geography of a hospital.

### ***Manager, Government Affairs, Aurora Health Care***

**2007 - 2015**

- Served as a liaison to government and public officials representing Aurora Health Care's service region in eastern Wisconsin. These relationships included a variety of government stakeholders, including city, county and state

elected officials and representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and other government departments.

- Monitored, assessed and informed leadership of legislative proposals and policy changes that impacted Aurora's operations, facilities and financial outcomes.
- Developed and implemented outreach strategies for Aurora's priority legislative and government department initiatives, collaborating with stakeholders from a variety of internal departments and external organizations and coalitions.
- Served as a loaned executive to the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership's Behavioral Health Providers Committee and Milwaukee Enrollment Network. Regularly staffed and participated in a variety of the Partnerships cross-health sector coalitions and ad-hoc work groups.

***Manager of Health Care Services, Community Advocates***

***2004 - 2007***

- Supervised staff of eight health care advocates that assisted uninsured and underinsured individuals in accessing Medicaid, Social Security Disability, housing, food, W-2 and other basic needs programs.
- Designed and implemented health care advocacy programs that served vulnerable populations living in the metro-Milwaukee area.
- Monitored and evaluated the quality, outcomes and compliance of health care programs and contracts.
- Chaired and staffed local and statewide coalitions that work to improve health care access for low-income people.
- Provided health program and policy trainings to the staff of health care and social service agencies.

***Health Care Advocate, Coordinator of Aurora Outreach Program, Community Advocates***

***1999- 2004***

- Designed and coordinated a health advocacy program for Milwaukee area Aurora patients in need of government-sponsored health coverage and programs to address social and economic needs.
- Provided information and advocacy to low-income persons seeking guidance and advocacy regarding their health providers, managed care coverage and services available through the Medicaid program.
- Coordinated monthly meetings for the Health Watch Coalition of Milwaukee.
- Supported the development and administration of a public policy training program for community professionals.

**Achievements**

- Recipient of Aurora's CEO Award of Excellence in 2014.
- Led an Aurora system-wide patient outreach, education and enrollment strategy to promote new enrollment options following the enacted of the Affordable Care Act and resulting changes to the Wisconsin Medicaid program. The initiative directly resulted in an additional 4,500 individuals enrolling into health coverage within a three-month period. The high enrollment at Aurora also contributed to Milwaukee receiving first place in President Barack Obama's Healthy Communities Challenge for having the highest enrollment in the country.
- Served as an Aurora spokesperson in the community, as well as with government, such as serving as a panelist for Congresswoman Gwen Moore's Affordable Care Act Stakeholder Meeting.
- Successfully led the expansion of Aurora's participation in the Wisconsin Well Woman Program in all capable hospitals and clinics through a competitive grant process.
- Served in a leadership role with several coalitions with provider, managed care and community partners, including: The Milwaukee Health Care Partnership's Housing Navigation Committee, Milwaukee Enrollment Network, Behavioral Health Providers Committee, Health Watch Milwaukee and Wisconsin, Enrollment Process Improvement Committee (EPIC), Mental Health Task Force and Make it Work Milwaukee.

**Volunteer Experience**

Menomonee Valley Partners, Board Member	2018 –2023
Wisconsin Policy Forum, Trustee	2016 – Present
Greyhound Pets of America Wisconsin, Foster Home	2012 - Present
Mental Health America, Board member	2015 - 2018
Sojourner Truth House, Hotline/House Support	1998 - 2001

**Education**

Bachelor of Fine Arts with an emphasis in Women's Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, December 2002  
Yoga Teacher Training 200 Hour Certification, Yama Yoga, Milwaukee, WI, August 2020

