

Vanessa D. Allen

Current Mailing Address:

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Milwaukee, WI 53208

Additional Contact Information:


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Education **UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON, *La Follette School of Public Affairs***

Master of Public Affairs, Socioeconomic Policy, May 2007

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME Notre Dame, IN

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, May 2003

Notre Dame Angers Program Angers, France, Fall 2001

Honors

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Advanced Opportunity Fellow | 2005-2006 |
| • Notre Dame Peer Advisor | Fall 2002 |
| • Dean's List | Spring 2002 & 2003 |
| • Sankofa Scholar | Fall 2000-Spring 2003 |
| • Balfour-Hesburgh Scholar | Summer 1999 |

Work

Experience

• **Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI**

Researcher

October 2008-Present

- Track and analyze the fiscal sustainability of local governments in the Milwaukee region
- Monitor the impact of current and proposed public policies
- Keep local residents and government officials apprised of the Forum's research findings and other public policy issues through publications, presentations, and the Forum's policy blog
- Conduct research using face-to-face meetings with government staff/officials, surveys, national and local databases, and the internet
- Maintain internal database of government fiscal and performance data

• **Milwaukee County Department of Administrative Services, Fiscal Affairs, Milwaukee, WI**

Fiscal and Management Analyst

June 2007-September 2008

Fiscal Affairs Intern

June 2006-August 2006

- Analyze budget requests submitted by Milwaukee County judiciary and public safety departments, including Combined Court Related Operations, Department of Child Support Enforcement, Sheriff's Office, House of Correction, District Attorney's Office, and Medical Examiner's Office
- Formulate and present programmatic and staffing recommendations to maximize financial resources while maintaining effective public service provision
- Review departmental financial statements to monitor and maintain budget compliance
- Forecast and monitor departmental impacts resulting from local, state, and federal fiscal policy
- Attend County Board standing committee meetings on a monthly basis to track changes and concerns in County policy, contracts, and fiscal standing
- Track fiscal decisions using the Budget Reporting & Analysis Support System (BRASS)

• **Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Budget & Finance, Madison, WI**

Project Assistant/ Fiscal Analyst

September 2006-May 2007

- Provided research for policy alternatives and advancements
- Analyzed state agency requested budgets for the 2007-09 biennium
- Prepared and presented budgetary and policy recommendations to Governor and Budget Director

• **Illinois Department of Children & Family Services, Labor Relations, Chicago, IL**

Public Administration Intern/ Labor Relations Liaison

February-August 2005

- Advised and assisted management in labor relations matters
- Oversaw policy implementation and adherence to contractual agreements
- Assisted in grievance resolutions
- Gathered necessary information to administer warranted disciplinary actions

**Courses &
Skills**

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| • Cost-Benefit Analysis | • Micro & Macroeconomics | • SAS, STATA & Excel |
| • State & Local Public Finance | • French | • Microsoft Word |
| • Social Welfare Policy Management | • Fundamental Swahili | • PowerPoint |
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Major publications

Day, Douglass; Allen, Vanessa; Henken, Rob (December 2012). Milwaukee Public Schools' Fiscal Condition: Passing the Test, But Making the Grade? Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/MPSFiscalCondition.pdf>

Allen, Vanessa; Henken, Rob (October 2012). Budget Brief: 2013 Proposed City of Milwaukee Budget. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/2013CityBudgetBrief.pdf>

Allen, Vanessa (July 2012). Milwaukee County Juvenile Recidivism – Metrics and Trends. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through: <http://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/JuvenileRecidivismBrief.pdf>

Henken, Rob; Allen, Vanessa; Peterangelo, Joe (May 2012). Exploring Shared or Consolidated Fire Services in Southern Milwaukee County. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/SouthernMilwaukeeCountyFire.pdf>

Allen, Vanessa; Henken, Rob (October 2011). Budget Brief: 2012 Proposed City of Milwaukee Budget. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://publicpolicyforum.org/sites/default/files/2012CityBudgetBrief.pdf>

Day, Douglass; Allen, Vanessa; Henken, Rob (June 2011). Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's Fiscal Condition: Downstream Accomplishments, Upstream Challenges. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/pdfs/MMSDFiscalCondition.pdf>

Day, Douglass; Allen, Vanessa; Henken, Rob (September 2010). Milwaukee Area Technical College's Fiscal Condition: Growing Demand, Shrinking Resources. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/pdfs/MATCFiscalCondition.pdf>

Henken, Rob; Allen, Vanessa; Day, Douglass; Helpap, David (January 2010). Exploring the Potential for Structural Reform in Milwaukee County Government. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/milwaukeeecountyreport.php>

Allen, Vanessa; Day, Douglass; Henken, Rob (August 2009). City of Milwaukee's Fiscal Condition: Between a Rock and a Hard Place. Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee, WI. Accessible through:
<http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/pdfs/CityOfMilwaukeeFiscalCondition.pdf>

Contributor to Public Policy Forum blog: <http://milwaukeetalkie.blogspot.com/search/label/Allen>