

Ellen Zofia Piekalkiewicz
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Qualifications Summary

Nonprofit Executive with experience in community-based nonprofit, association, legislative, state, and federal environments. Expertise in identifying needs, devising pragmatic solutions to complex issues, facilitating substantive changes, and achieving ambitious goals in high-profile arenas.

- ✓ Proven ability in successful non-profit administration
 - ✓ Fundraising
 - ✓ Board development and stewardship
 - ✓ Public policy analysis
 - ✓ Skilled at budget development, financial and grant management
 - ✓ Accomplished instructor and communicator
 - ✓ Known for ability to partner successfully with all levels of stakeholder
 - ✓ Adept at strategizing and implementing plans to secure funding including foundation and federal grants
 - ✓ Ability to initiate projects with strong follow-through
 - ✓ Strong supervisory skills
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Highlights of Accomplishments

- ✓ Successful advocacy campaign to increase City of Tallahassee and Leon County funding of the nonprofit human services sector.
- ✓ Authored, United Partners for Human Services (UPHS) publication, *Essential Services Outstanding Stewardship*, 2015
- ✓ Annual UPHS Conference on Nonprofit Leadership and Excellence for 250 nonprofit professionals in Tallahassee, FL, 2014-2017.
- ✓ Facilitated community forums in Tallahassee on affordable housing for low-income households, public transportation; criminal justice; and health disparities.
- ✓ Graduate, Leadership Tallahassee Class 34 (affiliate program of the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce)
- ✓ Co-Author, National Council on Disability 2012 Publication, *Deinstitutionalization: Unfinished Business*
- ✓ Conducted three regional trainings for the Florida Pregnancy Care Network on minority infant mortality and health disparities, 2016.

- ✓ Assisted the Florida Medicaid agency in developing the supportive housing section of Florida's successful federal Money Follows the Person Medicaid Grant application.
- ✓ Served on Florida's Veteran's team representing Florida at a Veteran Policy Institute sponsored by the Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services; and the Veterans Administration.
- ✓ Conducted training sessions on the intersection between the criminal justice system and individuals with mental illnesses and substance use disorders; prescription drug abuse among the elderly; supportive housing; consumer/peer empowerment; supportive employment for individuals with disabilities; nonprofit board diversity; health disparities.
- ✓ Monthly column in the *Tallahassee Democrat* (local newspaper) on the role and impact of community-based human service organizations.

Professional Experience

Director, 2018 – present

Center for the Study and Promotion of Communities, Families and Children

The Center, through its four component centers and institutes, is able to identify and to respond effectively and efficiently to some of our most criminal social and society issues whether local, regional, statewide, national or global.

Executive Director, December 2013 - 2018

United Partners for Human Services, Inc.

UPHS is a member organization serving the 75 human service nonprofits in the Greater Tallahassee region which has as its mission is to educate, support and advocate for nonprofit human service agencies of the region. Responsible for daily operations; community partnerships; strategic planning; annual reports; board development; revenue diversification; fundraising; sponsorship support; social media; and public policy expertise. Responsible for organizing an annual conference for 250 nonprofit professionals and facilitating community forums. Member of the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. Serve on the City of Tallahassee Commission appointed Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.

Owner/President, 2010 – 2016

Capital Health Strategies

Served as Owner/President of Capital Health Strategies providing legislative and public policy research analysis; grant writing and grants management services to state and local governments and private non-profit organizations. Projects included the research for the FSU Center for Prevention and Early Intervention on the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on children and families; Tallahassee Culture Grants program (Tallahassee Council on Culture and Arts); fundraising, membership development, management and public policy services for the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition; and a research project with the National Council on Disabilities on deinstitutionalization of individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities and Medicaid managed care; grant writing for Whole Child Leon; nutrition curriculum project for pregnant low-income women for the Florida Pregnancy

Care Network; five regional trainings in Florida on health disparities; facilitated and planned stakeholder forums on Medicaid managed care in 10 states for the National Council on Disability.

Program Manager, Substance Abuse Prevention and Suicide Prevention, April 2012-April 2013

Florida Department of Children and Families

Substance abuse prevention policy; and staffing of the Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention and Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council. Managed \$3 million Criminal Justice Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant. Managed federal Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws grant.

Executive Director, 2004 – 2010

Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation

Served at the pleasure of the Board of Directors of the Corporation as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, a non-profit corporation, which was created by the Florida Legislature to oversee the state's publicly funded substance abuse and mental health services by gathering and compiling data and holding public forums for stakeholder input. Responsible for daily operations, annual reports, board development, and public policy expertise.

The Corporation was charged with making recommendations annually to the Governor and the Legislature on policies designed to improve coordination and effectiveness of the state's publicly funded mental health and substance abuse systems. Responsible for promoting the recommendations with the Governor, gubernatorial cabinet and staff, members of the Florida Legislature and its staff.

Served on the Florida Veteran's Team representing Florida at a Veteran's Policy Institute sponsored by a Veteran Policy Institute sponsored by the Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services; and the Veterans Administration. The Florida team produced an action plan which Florida is implementing.

Successfully secured foundation support for the Corporation.

Acting Chief Executive Officer, 2004

Disability Rights Florida, Florida's Protection and Advocacy Programs

Chief Executive Officer of the fourth largest federal/state protection and advocacy program for people with disabilities. Oversaw programmatic, budget and litigation operations. Managed the eight federal grants that fund the Center.

Deputy Director of Operations, 2001-2003

Disability Rights Florida, Florida's Protection and Advocacy Programs

Responsible for human resources, staff development, and general operations of the fourth largest federal/state protection and advocacy program for people with disabilities with a staff of 56 and three Florida locations. Director of all cross-programmatic teams of the eight federally mandated programs of the agency; annual goal setting and strategic planning with included public forum for stakeholder input; supervision of the Center's Information and Referral function; leadership involvement in systemic mental health and Medicaid issues; advocating for systemic reforms to ensure voting access

for people with disabilities; led collaboration between the Able Trust and the Disability Rights Florida to advocate for competitive employment for individuals with disabilities.

Director of Policy and Planning, 1993-2001

Kansas Association of Community Mental Health Centers

Responsible for planning and coordinating the public policy agenda of the Kansas Association of Community Mental Health Centers. Included directing the legislative program of the Association and ensuring that the Association policy positions were communicated to the state agencies. Served as technical assistance advisor for the National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health for Systems of Care.

Senior Fiscal Analyst, 1990-1993

Kansas Legislative Research Department

Conducted in-depth research and situational analysis for members of the Kansas Legislature. Budget development and analysis. Interfaced with state agency officials, the press, and the general public. Staffed House Appropriations Committee.

Fiscal Analyst, 1987-1990

Kansas Legislative Research Department

Teaching Assistant, 1986-1987

University of Kansas

Education

University of Kansas, Masters of Arts

Grinnell College, Bachelors of Arts

Volunteer Activities

Leadership Tallahassee Human Services Day

Tallahassee Artist Series, Board Member

Capital Region Career Source, Board Member

Chiles High School Soccer Boosters

Tally Book Club

Grinnell College Admissions and Fundraising Volunteer

Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition Advocacy Volunteer