

Helen J.M. Bassett

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Golden Valley, MN 55427

Education

- Bachelors of Public Administration, Public Service Leadership, summa cum laude (3.857)
- University of St. Thomas, Certificate for Non-Profit Business Management
- Harvard School of Public Health, Advanced Certificate in Violence Prevention

Multidimensional Professional Experience

Government Affairs Liaison

2021 – Present

Minnesota Department of Commerce

External and Government Affairs Division

Liaison between Commerce's Insurance and Enforcement Divisions and the House and Senate Legislative aides to Committee chairs, as well as to legislators in general, facilitating review and analysis of legislation and policies affecting the programs and services regulated by the Commerce Department.

Human Services Consultant

2017 – 2021

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Child Safety and Permanency Division

Social Security Title IV-E - Fostering Connections - Educational Stability – ESSA Consultant

- Facilitate the development and implementation of Title IV-E Training Plans for four Minnesota federally recognized tribes participating in Title IV E Plans.
- Administer the Title IV-E foster care candidacy program
- Provide technical assistance to the tribes in the American Indian Child Welfare Initiative (AICWI).

Rules and Legislation Coordinator

2013 – 2017

Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Driver and Vehicle Services Division (DVS)

- Timely completed three Good Cause rule amendment projects
- Timely completed one full rulemaking project with hearing Minnesota Motorcycle Road Guard
- Coordinate with internal and external stakeholders during rulemaking projects, day-to-day public inquiries, and bill reviews by content experts, supporting management legislative testimony and decisions
- Conduct research to inform the development of policy proposals consistent with the agency's mission.
- Contributor to the Annual Rule Makers Seminar Planning Committee for the required annual training required for state agency rule-makers.

Program Management and Administrator Chief Function: Public Engagement

2002-2013

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Public Health

Administrator and content expert for the Minnesota Fathers' Adoption Registry (MFAR)

- Direct service delivery to putative fathers, providing program intake, resource, and referral services
- Collaborate with state court administrators, county foster care, adoption, and welfare staff

- Develop operational procedures, guidelines, and administrative protocols.
- create and deliver training and technical assistance materials for program constituents
- Led internal and external agency interest and work groups
- Designed public awareness campaigns, community and targeted outreach for professional audiences
- Developed signage and brochures, including the development of a PSA
- Monitor state and federal legislation, policy, and practices in the field for vital records, putative fathers, and adoption Lead worker for assigned clerical assistants.

Community Health Coordinator – Public Engagement and Program Implementation Public Health 1998– 2002

University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Epidemiology Division

Girls Health Enrichment Multi-Site Study-GEMS & Minnesota Dare Plus (75% Time)

- Create and lead three action teams of school-based, community, and parent participants
- Design and deliver direct interventions and services promoting changes that reduce student alcohol, violence, tobacco, or drug problems among middle school youth
- Assisted in the development of protocols, implementation methods, study materials, and procedures
- Records management and data collection
- Facilitated implementation of community prevention initiatives developed by the adult action team

Project Director – Program Development and Implementation 1996 – 1998

The Minneapolis Foundation, Alternatives to Violence Coalition (AVCO)

A nationally affiliated initiative that coordinated youth violence prevention was supported by metro-wide collaboration between corporate, philanthropic, community, and faith-based organizations through a public health model.

- Volunteer recruitment and retention
- Develop orientation and deliver training to over ninety volunteers across multiple community agencies
- Develop, administer project budget, and lead fundraising
- Coordinate and co-sponsor Advanced Leadership in Violence Prevention 3-day workshop in concert with and delivered by the Harvard School of Public Health
- Supervise professional staff and managed three dynamic volunteer work groups of professionals focused on: (1) Media Violence, (2) Violence Prevention Research and Public Policy, and (3) Service Coordination
- Recruited youth and planned special events such as a televised segment on Court TV; a Youth Speak Out with Harvard Professor Dr. Alvin Poussaint; co-production of a commercial, etc.
- Liaison to the project’s national funding affiliate.

Juvenile Diversion Specialist - Public Safety 1993 – 1995

Minneapolis Police Department, Investigation Bureau, Juvenile Division.

- Member of the inaugural five-person project design team
- Develop program design, start-up and implementation for a city-wide juvenile diversion and prevention program for the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD)
- Managed program operations and service delivery for the 5th Precinct of Minneapolis)
- Co-developed operating and policy procedures and records management of confidential juvenile records

- Caseload management of misdemeanor, 6-18-year-old court-diverted youth, including supervision and counseling of 70-120 enrolled youth, developed internship placements, negotiated terms and conditions, and monitored community service placements for assigned youth
- Collaborated with sworn officers, social service agencies, parents, social workers, teachers, administrators, community-based agencies, court services, and the Hennepin County Attorney's Office.

1983-1993 Police and Fire Dispatcher, City of Minneapolis

- Fire and Police public safety dispatching of sworn personnel
- Telecommunications Public Safety Communications

School Board Director, Robbinsdale Area Schools, District 281

2002 - Present

The district includes a 12,500-plus student body and over 800 professional, technical, and trades staff. The district serves part or all of the cities of Robbinsdale, New Hope, Crystal, Golden Valley, Plymouth, Brooklyn Center, and Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, with an annual budget of over \$ 177,000,000. Named to the highest honor for public school board service, 2018 All-State School Board, by the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA).

Three-year attendee at National School Boards Association (NSBA) Advocacy Institute, Washington, DC, 2015, 2016, 2017. Named by the Minnesota School Boards Association to the prestigious 2018 All-State School Board.

Policy, review approval, and governance for the District:

- Fiduciary duties associated with levy authority, facility maintenance/construction bonding, budgeting
- Labor relations and constituent concerns.
- Advocacy and lobbyist at the congressional level and state level around education policy.
- District representative to the Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) delegate assembly

Board Director

2005 – 2019

West Metro Education Program (WMEP) Joint Powers School Board (JPB)

Former officer for nine consecutive years, including Chairwoman for 4 years. WMEP provides adult professional development for teachers and educational professionals around issues for equity, inclusion, integration, and desegregation with an annual budget of over \$ 32,000,000. The JPB is comprised of 11 school districts, including Edina, Hopkins, Brooklyn Center, Wayzata, Eden Prairie, St. Anthony/New Brighton, Columbia Heights, Richfield, Robbinsdale, Minneapolis, and St. Louis Park.

Education Partnership Institute

2019 – Present

Planning, Development, and Implementation of Interdisciplinary health and wellness initiatives focused on school-based settings, community, and law enforcement.

Produced *Symposium # 1 Advancing Health and Wellness for Public Education Stakeholders 2022*

<https://www.facebook.com/EdPartnershipMN/>

Program Coordinator

Violence Prevention and Community Intervention and Public Health

1998 – Present

Survivors for Violence Prevention, Inc.

- managed day-to-day affairs, and liaison to the Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center.
- Assisted in survey design, outreach, and evaluation.
- Lead planner for national conferences co-sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH).

- Establish and maintain a national network of survivors
- Supervise graduate students and volunteers

Program Director – Co-Founder

1990 – 2002

Catalyst, A Program for Women

- Supervised professional social work staff, delivering case management
- Administered agency fiscal operations, grant writing, and reporting
- Developed case management model for women offenders w/chemical abuse & child welfare issues
- Supervised the development of the program models for service delivery, including the technical design specifications for an Internet-based electronic information and referral case management system;
- Coordinated project development with the workgroup of Hennepin County School Support Truancy Unit, two local school districts, the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office, and Juvenile Probation.
- Managed the negotiation and selection process for technical vendors; administered agency operations, program planning and development, and fiscal operations.

Co-Founder – Managing Director

2016 – Present

Minnesota School Board Directors of Color & Indigenous Fellowship

Development and delivery of technical coaching for successful governance in public education.

- Leadership development for potential or existing candidates for public school board service.
- Strategic planning, policy review, and issue education for school board directors.

Volunteer and Organizational Affiliations & Awards

2018 – Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) 2018 All-State School Board

2015 - Planning Committee, 2014, 2015, 2016, Annual Rule Makers Seminar. Continuing Ed. Agency rule makers.

2015 – 3-month Minn. School Boards Association (MSBA) rep. to MN Dept. of Ed. Teacher Equity Advisory Comm.

2013 – Testimony at the MN Legislature for HF 247 Integration Revenue Program. Assoc. Metro. School Districts.

2013 – Rapid Health Impact Assessment of School Integration Strategies in Minnesota. Human Impact Partners and ISAIAH. Stakeholder committee member

2011- 2012 MN Dept. of Ed. Integration Revenue Replacement Task Force:

2007 – 2009 Office of the State Registrar, Minn. Birth & Death Registration (MR&C) Planning Group

2005 – 2006 Minnesota Supreme Court, Children’s Justice Initiative, Services for Fathers Sub-committee

National State and Local Presenter and Speaker

2019 Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. Continuing Medical Education Conference. The Impact of Violence and Trauma on Health and Healing Conference. *“Adapting and Adopting Child Find Strategies to Serve Survivors in Education Settings.”* Los Angeles, CA

2019 National School Board Association Co-Presenter, Council on Urban Education (CUBE) “Excellence is the Standard: An Equity Framework Supporting High-Quality Education”. Miami, FL

2019 Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation (MRLF) Local Elected Officials Convening *“Why Local Governance Matters.”*

2015 Minnesota School Boards Association Co-Presenter: January 2015 Leadership Conference “Engaging Family and Community Members as Partners”

2014 National School Board Association (NSBA) Co-Presenter: April 2014, New Orleans. “Building a World Series School District: We’re In It to Win It!”

2013 Minnesota Council of Non-Profits Annual Leadership Conference: October 24, 2013, Minneapolis. *“Working with Policymakers, panel presentation.”*

2012 MN School Boards Assoc. (MSBA) Co-Presenter: *“E=MC²: Excellence=Making Community Connections”*

2012 National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS). *“The Vital Role of Putative Father Registries in Child Welfare, Public Health, and Fatherhood Services”*. Minneapolis, MN.

https://naphsis-web.sharepoint.com/mtg/Documents/BASSETT_Presentation_NAPHSIS_May_31_Updated.pdf

April 2011. Minnesota Putative Father Registry: Overview. URL: <http://slideplayer.com/slide/2388305/>

Administrative Proficiency: Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, WebEx, SharePoint, Facebook, LinkedIn

Travel: Africa, Ghana; Netherlands, Amsterdam; China, Shanghai and Beijing; Europe, England and France; Caribbean, Jamaica and Bermuda; Mexico, and Canada; Thailand, Bangkok

