

Sandra Pasch BSN, MSN, MA



Sandy Pasch is eager to serve on the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging. Her experiences over the years as an advocate, nurse, public servant, family member, and now as a senior member of the community, have prepared her well for this role. She focused much of her career in advancing the quality of life and autonomy for individuals and groups for whom those issues were too often marginalized.

Sandy has extensive experience in health care, advocacy, government, education, and nonprofits. A nurse for over 40 years, Sandy has a BS in nursing from University of Wisconsin, Madison, an MS in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing from the University of Rochester, and an MA in Bioethics from the Medical College of Wisconsin. As an ethicist, she advanced the use of care and narrative ethics to promote a better understanding of autonomy in populations where it was often ignored. This included people with compromised living situations, limited financial resources, and disabilities.

Sandy practiced as a nurse in inpatient, outpatient, and public health settings. She taught nursing at Rush University in Chicago and Columbia College in Milwaukee. In addition to her teaching career, Sandy has been active in the community as a volunteer outreach nurse at Red Cross. She also co-established the CIT program in the Milwaukee area, training law enforcement groups across Milwaukee County in best responses to mental health crises in the community. As an adjunct to the CIT program, Sandy created the CIP (Crisis Intervention Partners) program, which trains community members to work with law enforcement in the same best practices. This program has since been utilized across the country.

From 2009 until 2015, Sandy served as a Representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly. She utilized her health care expertise to advance health care laws, most notably, Mental Health Parity. Sandy rose to leadership ranks, serving two terms as the Assistant Minority Leader.

Sandy has also been involved in many non-profit organizations, serving on the Boards of Directors of NAMI Greater Milwaukee (President), Hope House, Red Cross of Greater Milwaukee, Hunger Task Force, and FAST Fund. She is a founding member of the Mental Health Task Force of Greater Milwaukee. In addition, Sandy serves on other Boards of Directors which advocate for social justice and progress, especially in areas of health care, criminal justice reform, and racial justice.

Sandy has received numerous awards and recognition for her work over the decades. She is currently retired, but remains quite active in the community.