2331 W. Vista Bella Drive, Ock Creek, WI 53154 ~ Phone: 312401.3909

## TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- Fourteen years experience analyzing and setting policy for state and federal long term care and employment support programs, including Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Housing, & Food Stamps
- Nine years experience working with consumers, providers policymakers including strategic planning, resource mapping, direct service benefits panning, vocational counseling, training & technical assistance, program policy development, etc.
- More than ten years experience developing initiatives to increase competitive employment outcomes for people through existing systems mechanisms, such as feleral waivers, personal assistance programs, & benefits planning software development & implementation
- Ten years experience developing collaboration across state agencies to establish shared outcomes to support employment of people w/disabilities.
- Effective program management skills, strong written, verbal & interpersonal communication
- Social Media Manager, utilizing bleeding edge technology outreach & info promotion
- National commercial experience: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IV4HUBUMuHQ">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IV4HUBUMuHQ</a>

### **EDUCATION**

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFIED LIFE CARE PLANNER
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HEALTH CARE CERTIFICATION

2010

LIFE CARE PLANNING CERTIFICATION
CAPITAL LAW UNIVERSITY, COLUMBUS OH

2010

MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN REHABILITATION PSYCHOLOGY University of Wisconsin-Madison

SEPTEMBER 1996

Member, Education Advisory Committee

**SPRING 1995 - 2005** 

BACHELORS OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

DECEMBER 1994

Speaker, Public Education in Action (PEA Committee)

1990 - 1994

#### EXPERIENCE

# HEALTH & DISABILITY ADVOCATES/NCHSD

OCTOBER 2005 - PRESENT

#### SENIOR POLICY ANALYST

Responsibilities include technical assistance & training through HDA's Technical Assistance Center – the National Consortium for Health Systems Development; policy analysis on Social Security disability programs and work incentives programs; and Medicaid and Medicare as it relates to long-term care and health related employment supports. Medicaid buy-in policy development, policy analysis, programmatic analysis, research & implementation

- Development of rural/urban transportation options & policy for persons with disabilities
- Work incentive & benefits planning technical assistance & training development
- Utilization & development of assistive technologypolicy & technical assistance centers
- Development of asset building coalitions & methodologies to increase self-sufficiency
- Facilitation & assistance with state/federal communication on national policy with Social Security Administration Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services, & state governments

# STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL, WI DEPT. OF HEALTH & FAMILY SVCS.

**JAN. 2004 – JULY 2005** 

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

As the director of the Council governing Wisconsin's eight Independent Living Centers, responsibilities include effective coordination of federal, state& local resources, staff management & leadership, & implementation of the state plan for independent living.

• Analyze & present key data &policy recommendations to the Governor, legislature, & State agencies.

- Monitor State/Federal legislation & regulations for impact on dsability & employment.
- Explore innovations & participate in national discussions on promising practices.

# BRIDGES TO WORK PROJECT, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON SENIOR RESEARCH SPECIALIST/SENIOR POLICY ANALYST FEBRUARY 2002 – OCTOBER 2005

- Bridges to Work is a federally-funded initiative to increase competitive employment outcomes of people with disabilities in Wisconsin. Management responsibilities project design, implementation, analysis project staff. Nationally-recognized speaker with more than twenty-five presentations representing the project.
- Liaison for state & federal partners regarding current projects& future opportunities.
- Created the first automated comprehensive benefits offset software has been nominated for a 2004 "Technological Innovations In Government" award.
- Provide technical assistance to more than 18 stdes to support the development of programs & policies to remove employment barriers, like the Medicaid Buy-Ins
- Active representative on the Governor's Committee on Healthcare.
- Developed Personal Assistance Services Pilot to evaluate the need for onthe-job supports for workers with disabilities in Wisconsin.

# <u>Pathways To Independence, WI Department of Health & Family Services</u> 2000 – February 2002 Senior Policy Analyst

Responsibilities included evaluation & analysis of existing policies around innovative healthcare systems & managed care service delivery systems. Policy analysis, budget preparation& program management for new initiatives within the programs, including Wiscasin's Medicaid Buy-In program, SSI waiver, & personal assistance services to support competitive employment.

## **EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES, INC.**

1996-2000

#### BENEFIT SPECIALIST/EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANT/NETWORK TECHNICIAN

Assisted beneficiaries in education of benefits/work incentives, amendments, PASS plans, & appeals. Assisted in the development & implementation of innovative return to work programming that resulted in longer-tenured & higher-paid employees with chronic disabilities.

# WILLIAM S. MIDDLETON MEMORIAL VETERANS HOSPITAL

1996-1997

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

Diagnosis, & facilitation of substance abuse treatment groups & anger management groups Implemented & administered the first Job Clinic through the Madison Veteran's Administration.

## YAHARA HOUSE CLUBHOUSE UNIT

1995

#### **CLUBHOUSE COUNSELOR**

Employed "Fountain House" approach to mental health providing group leadership, facilitation, & task management for individuals with long-term chronic mental illness. Worked with community support programs to assist in employment, social support, & barriers to work.

## WI DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

1995

#### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATIVE COUNSELOR

Provided vocational counseling to empower people with physical, mental, & congenital disabilities to return to work &/or become gainfully employed.

### FROEDTERT HOSPITAL SPINAL CORD INJURY CENTER

1990-1997

## FAMILY SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVE/PEER COUNSELOR

Provide patient education, family education, & peer counseling to newly injured patients