

# MAHAFFEY HARRIS RENEE, CHES

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## PROFILE

A professional with proven success in corporate, non-profit and public sector leadership. An expert in the following: policy development, community based participatory research (CBPR) approach, development of evidence-based interventions, research to address health disparities, shaping community development, community engagement and public policy through advocacy.

- Skilled presenter, public speaker, and author of targeted health publications.
- Officer of several non-profits, local and state public health boards, including Ohio Governor Mike Dewine's COVID 19 Minority Strike Force, Health Policy Institute Equity Collaborative, Ohio Health Disparity Policy Committee, Chaired Health in All policy Development City of Cincinnati.
- Data Collection and analysis for public health projects focusing on obesity, food deserts and underserved populations. Expertise in community-based research to address health disparities among vulnerable populations.
- Able to identify and assess critical issues and develop productive solutions.

## EXPERIENCE

### **The Center for Closing the Health Gap in Greater Cincinnati (The Health Gap)**

*President & CEO*

2019 - Current

- Lead the vision and mission of The Health Gap, which is to eliminate health disparities through education, advocacy and outreach.
- Update communication strategy and expand The Health Gap's grassroots mobilization model to eliminate health disparities, resulting in a 15%+ increase of Cincinnati's Black Families committed to living healthier lifestyles.
- Build and foster relationships with agencies with similar goals, objectives and/or initiatives. Enable efforts and resources to stretch through community agency collaboration.
- Launched and growing organization's signature initiative designed to engage and empower African American women across the socioeconomic spectrum of our community to live healthier lives -- body and mind (Black Women's Health Movement).

*Chief Operating Officer*

2008 - 2018

- Manage operations and staff of community health professionals, public relations and community engagement initiatives of the Health Gap. Co-Chair of the City of Cincinnati Healthy Living Food Desert Taskforce.

### **RMH Consulting Group, Cincinnati Ohio**

*President*

2006 - Current

- Consultant practice focused on government relations, economic inclusion, community engagement, and public health.
- Client lists include: State Senator Eric Kearney, Center for Closing the Health Gap, Global Lead, Institute for Entrepreneurial Thinking and Life Center Organ Donor Network.

### **Institute for Entrepreneurial Thinking Ltd., Cincinnati, Ohio**

*Senior Director*

2004 - 2005

- Led operational executive for a leading for-profit think tank.
- Managed all national client relationships and developed additional opportunities.
- Successfully managed the development and launch of three new service offerings.
- Grew the revenue from the new initiatives to over 25% of the firm's total sales.

**Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), Cincinnati, Ohio** 2000 - 2004  
*Director*

- Launched national organization affiliate and implemented comprehensive strategic programming in four county regions.
- Managed \$1.5 million annual operating budget, leveraging \$15 million for real estate and capacity building projects.
- Executed fund development plan of \$5.5 million in start-up capital and capacity building initiative.
- Recruited and managed professional staff and advisory committee.

**PNC Bank, Cincinnati Ohio** 1994 - 2000  
*Vice President, Community Development*

- Managed a \$74 million residential portfolio and achieved two outstanding ratings from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.
- Lead campaign to increase homeownership in Cincinnati with Freddie MAC and Mayor of Cincinnati.
- Created new product strategies for underserved business market.

**The Provident Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio** 1992 - 1994  
*Associate Director*

- Managed and coordinated Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) programming for Northern Kentucky.
- Directed oversight of CRA products and service development.

**Congressman Charles J. Luken, Cincinnati, Ohio** 1991 - 1992  
*Intergovernmental/Community Affairs Special Assistant*

- Researched and developed community forums on federal policy.
- Managed public affairs events on key federal legislation.

**Mayor David S. Mann, Cincinnati, Ohio** 1990 - 1991  
*Community Affairs Director*

- Developed public affairs outreach on City legislation.
- Managed constituent relations for targeted city neighborhoods.

**Ohio Secretary of State Sherrod Brown, Southwest Ohio** 1987 - 1990  
*Public Information Officer*

- Coordinated Southwest Ohio office for three county regions.

#### NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS DELIVERED

- RWJF National Childhood Obesity Team
- American Cancer Society
- Cobb Institute
- National Council on Black Health
- Centers for Disease Control
- Ohio Statewide Health Disparity Collaborative
- National Medical Association
- Black Communities: A Conference For Collaboration
- American Public Health Association (APHA)

## PRESENT & PAST BOARDS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Ohio Governor Mike Dewine's COVID 19 Minority Strike Force,
- Health Policy Institute Equity Collaborative
- Ohio Health Disparity Policy Committee
- Chaired Health In All policy Development City of Cincinnati
- Black Women's Health Movement
- Hamilton County Oral Health Coalition
- Governor DeWine's' Recovery Ohio Minority Health Working Group
- Health Collaborative Community Advisory Board Gen-H Steering Committee
- Baptist Ministers Conference Community Outreach Award
- Ebony Magazine 50 Leaders of the Future
- The Cincinnati Herald - Nefertiti Award Winner
- Transformation of Mission-based Health Care Community Advisory Board
- Taft Lecture Series Advisory Council
- UC College of Medicine – MPH Community Advisory Board
- OAAACHD (Ohio African-American Coalition on Health Disparities), President
- Health Equity Advisory Board for the Health Policy Institute of Ohio
- Ohio Coalition of Health Council- Leadership Team
- Ohio Health Disparities Collaborative Coalition - Policy Committee
- Giving Black Cincinnati Advisory Committee
- Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Government Affairs Council
- Cincinnati Parks Foundation Board
- African American Leadership Development Program – Class II
- Ohio Commission on Minority Health Expert Medical Panel
- Applause Image Maker Award - Emerging Leader Award recipient
- Ohio Statewide Health Disparities Collaborative
- United Way and Community Chest Regional Leadership Team
- Chair United Way Neighborhood Vision Council
- Co-Chair United Way Government Relations Committee
- Greater Cincinnati Boys & Girls Club Board
- Greater Cincinnati Urban League Board
- YWCA Board of Directors
- UC Real Estate Advisory Committee
- Member of former Greater Cincinnati Port Authority
- SUMA Board of Directors
- DCI Small Business Committee
- 1997 Outstanding Young Woman of America

## EDUCATION

- B.S. Communications, Ohio University,
- Health Education Certification, Union Institute, Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)
- University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Master of Public Health (MPH) Candidate 2022