

Contact

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Top Skills

Community Outreach
Organizational Development
Program Development

Honors-Awards

Humanitarian of the Year Award
Collaborative Action Award
Corporate Impact Award
Impacting Lives Award
Rita M. Costella Community Service Award

Publications

Improving access to a living wage can help end hunger
During a crisis, collaboration is key
Diversity, equity, and inclusion: actionable steps beyond the buzz
Corporate social responsibility: Beyond a donated can of green beans
Pandemic partnerships can help nonprofit sector long-term

Ruth Jones Nichols, Ph.D.

Seasoned Nonprofit Executive with Demonstrated Outcomes
Transforming Organizations and Communities
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Seasoned, executive leader with over 25 years of progressive experience in motivating, inspiring and preparing individuals and teams to achieve large-scale, community transformation; Visionary, strategic and innovative change agent with demonstrated track record of brokering public/private partnerships, managing philanthropic investments and promoting gender, racial and economic equity; Skilled practitioner with advanced knowledge of how to develop, evaluate and scale comprehensive programs for women, girls, communities of color and low-income youth; Successful advocate and spokesperson for public policies and programs focused on moving individuals out of poverty and toward economic self-sufficiency; Effective manager with a proven ability to work through others and achieve monumental objectives for private and public institutions.

Experience

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
1 year 6 months

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Engagement
December 2022 - Present (10 months)
Washington, DC

Senior Advisor for Public Engagement
April 2022 - December 2022 (9 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Appointed to serve in the Biden-Harris administration and act as a strategist, thought leader and key liaison for private sector stakeholders, underrepresented community-based organizations and people with lived experience of housing instability.

Feeding America
Chief Movement Officer

November 2021 - March 2022 (5 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore
President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
January 2016 - October 2021 (5 years 10 months)
Norfolk, Virginia Area

YWCA South Hampton Roads
Executive Director
June 2012 - September 2015 (3 years 4 months)
Norfolk, VA

District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)
Director of Resource Development
August 2009 - May 2012 (2 years 10 months)
Washington, DC

Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital
Deputy Director
May 2008 - July 2009 (1 year 3 months)
Washington, DC

Communities In Schools National Office
Organizational Development Specialist
August 2006 - April 2008 (1 year 9 months)
Alexandra, VA

Sasha Bruce Youthwork
Program Director and Consultant
January 2005 - August 2006 (1 year 8 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Crittenton Services of Greater Washington
Program Director
January 2003 - September 2004 (1 year 9 months)
Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

People's Emergency Center
Teen Coordinator
July 1999 - December 2002 (3 years 6 months)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Delta Research and Educational Foundation (DREF)
Vivian A. Ware Research Fellow
July 1998 - July 1999 (1 year 1 month)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

The School District of Philadelphia
School Social Worker Graduate Intern
September 1997 - June 1998 (10 months)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

Middle Peninsula - Northern Neck Community Services Board
School-Based Student Assistance Counselor
June 1996 - August 1997 (1 year 3 months)
Gloucester, Virginia, United States

Education

The Catholic University of America
Ph.D., Social Work · (2016)

University of Pennsylvania
Master of Social Work - MSW, Administration, Policy and Planning · (2000)

William & Mary
Bachelor of Arts - BA, Sociology · (1996)