Dynamic, energetic and innovative Health and Human Services Director with over 25 years experience in health and the social determinants of health, including mental health, substance use, housing and homelessness, criminal justice and diversion efforts, community development and education. Vast array of experience bringing a rare ability to understand and lead systems conversations from multiple perspectives to support collective, cross-system change efforts. Highly accomplished team builder and leader proficient at motivating, influencing and mentoring employees at all levels to achieve success. Skilled facilitator of strategic planning and performance measure efforts. Keen understanding of data and ability to present for impact and decision making. Experienced public speaker, skilled at crafting effective messaging and presenting to a variety of audiences.

AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

Strategic Planning Performance Measures Policy Development Multiagency Leadership & Coordination Systems Design & Facilitation Employee Coaching & Engagement Leadership Team & Development Budget Development & Implementation Public Speaking & Meeting Facilitation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • Long Beach, CA • 2013 - Present

Director

Lead a Department of more than 55 diverse programs including core Public Health Services (e.g., Chronic Disease Prevention, Public Health Nursing Programs, WIC, Environmental Health, Clinical Services, Public Health Emergency Management, Epidemiology and Disease Investigation, Vector Services); Homeless Services; City of Long Beach Housing Authority; Health Equity, Violence Prevention and Youth Development. Operate 12 diverse sites. Skillfully develop and manage a \$180 million budget, of which nearly 95% comes from outside grant sources and fees. Guide employee development and growth opportunities. Maintain positive relationships with Mayor, City Council members, City Manager, and four commissions (Health and Human Services, Veterans, Homeless Services and Housing Authority) to support policy and resourcing needs and to address community concerns. Serve as a lead convener with community leaders, city departments, local educational institutions, and other governmental jurisdictions to develop and implement cross-system models for promoting healthy communities. Track and proactively plan for potential impacts of national, statewide and local legislative policy and funding decisions. Engage in national and statewide public health conversations and efforts. Present frequently in front of City Council, community meetings, press conferences, media interviews and live-streams.

Key Achievements:

- Brought the Health and Human Services Department back to relevance through engaging with City and County leadership and Departments, non-profit organizations, community members and funders to build trust and relationships while designing Department programming to meet community needs.
- Expanded Department to include violence prevention and reentry, early childhood education, Office of Youth Development, Veterans Commission, older adult planning and response, basic needs line and referral system, and mental health supports.
- Strengthened the Department's financial health through effective fiscal oversight and management. Increased grant funding by nearly \$90 million and produced over \$10 million fund balance to support the Department in cases of public health crises.
- Improved internal and external Departmental communications by hiring a Public Information Officer to improve communications with media and external partners through press releases, social media and media interviews as well as streamlining internal communications through Microsoft teams and hosting bi-weekly virtual all-Department meetings to share key operational information, upcoming events, and to educate about different Department programs.
- One of the first public health jurisdictions in California to achieve Public Health Accreditation. Reaccredited in 2022.
- Served lead role for the nationally recognized response to the COVID-19 pandemic including policy design, data analyses, testing, sheltering and isolation, communications, national and regional conversations, and systems design for recovery and resiliency. Highlights of response are listed here: http://longbeach.legistar.com/View.ashx? M=F&ID=11658220&GUID=901CDE1F-4DEE-4362-AAE3-E7B0D66B972D

- Expanded Homeless Services Continuum of Care from approximately \$11 million to \$70 million through state, federal and philanthropic grants as well as negotiating with the City Manager and City Council for structural funding. Opened 125 bed year-round bridge housing, purchased two motels and 35 modular units for interim shelter, and identified sites to host the LA County winter shelter programs each year. New programs include new mobile access centers, REACH teams including a public health nurse and mental health clinician, on-site and virtual mental health services, encampment resolution efforts, and partnering Housing Authority efforts to reduce homelessness.
- Identified funding and opened the first municipal Office of Equity in southern California building to a team of 6. Launched an Equity Toolkit and Data Collection toolkit; led the first Government Alliance for Race and Equity (GARE) cohort for the City of Long Beach; trained 40 staff in authentic community engagement and facilitation strategies to strengthen community voice; co-led the Long Beach Racial Equity and Reconciliation process and plan (https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/health/media-library/documents/healthy-living/office-of-equity/reconciliation/ report-racial-equity-and-reconciliation-initiative) and launched an Equity investment Framework that has been selected as model practice by NACCHO.
- Led the design and launch of several strategic plans including the City of Long Beach 2030 Strategic Vision; Health and Human Services Strategic plan (2021-2026); Strategic Plan for Youth and Emerging Adults, Long Beach Early Childhood Education Plan, Everyone Home Long Beach, HIV/STD Strategy and Older Adult Strategic Plan.
- Improved access and reduced stigma of mental health in Long Beach by negotiating Los Angeles County and Long Beach City processes to locate a new Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center in the City; increasing mental health services for people experiencing homelessness; participating in Los Angeles County alternative to incarceration mental health efforts; launching a Mental Health Matters campaign and developing a resource website; and launching the Developing a Robust Mental Health System in Long Beach (2023) plan of action focused on prevention, building workforce, expanding services, and utilizing data.

OPTUM HEALTH • Salt Lake City, UT • 2012-2013

Network Director

Led coordination of care design efforts for mental health services in Salt Lake County, including establishing relationships and processes with inpatient providers and community-based treatment providers to ensure those with severe mental illness and those in crisis had access to the appropriate levels of care. Managed provider network of over 220 mental health and substance use treatment providers, including negotiating and monitoring contracts, and supervised the OptumHealth network team. Led the training plan development for providers to increase compliance with process, documentation, and reporting as well as shift the culture of service to focus on recovery and resiliency. \$60 million budget.

SALT LAKE COUNTY • Salt Lake City, UT • 2005-2012

Associate Director, Human Services Department (2005-2011)

Acting Director, Division of Mental Health

Associate Director, Community Services Department (2011 - 2012)

Acting Director, Division of Parks and Recreation

Served multiple roles in Salt Lake County government, providing leadership to HHS agencies (Public Health, Aging Services, Community Resources & Development, Criminal Justice Services, Behavioral Health, Libraries, and Youth Services with \$166 million budget and over 1,200 employees) and to Community Services agencies (Parks and Recreation, convention & tourism, theaters, museums, and arts with \$100 million budget and over 1,000 employees). Primary roles included: leading successful multi-agency efforts engaging state, county and local governments and community-based organizations; guiding agency strategic planning, program design, performance measure development and tracking; participating in budget development, oversight, and presentations to Mayor and County Council; managing employee development and engagement; and meeting with community groups to address concerns and negotiate resolution. Served as County's primary facilitator of community and partner meetings and as internal consultant for program evaluation and program redesign efforts.

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES • Salt Lake City, UT • 1996-2005

Research Consultant/Electronic Product Manager, Office of the Executive Director, 1998-2005 Research Director, Division of Substance Abuse, 1997-1998 Research Consultant, Division of Child and Family Services, 1996-1997

Worked closely with the divisions of Aging and Adult Services, Child and Family Services, Juvenile Justice Services, Licensing, Services for People with Disabilities, Recovery Services, and Substance Abuse & Mental Health leading cross agency initiatives, developing performance measures, conducting research and evaluation, identifying technology needs, and redesigning websites.

EARLY CAREER HISTORY

Policy Studies Associates • Senior Research Associate • Washington DC

• Conducted research and analysis of public policy issues in education including managing project teams, developing and implementing research protocols and sampling plans, data collection, analysis and reporting.

Mellman & Lazarus, Inc • Research Analyst• Washington DC

Drafted surveys for clients running for political office, analyzed survey results, and co-authored client reports.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Education

- MA, PUBLIC POLICY, Duke University, Durham, NC
- BA, GOVERNMENT, Smith College, Northampton, MA (minor Mathematics)

Professional Training

- Certificate, Organizational Management and Development
 Fielding Graduate University
- Certified Public Manager State of Utah

Affiliations

- Big Cities Health Coalition Coalition of lead health officials from 35 of the largest metropolitan local health departments in the Country. (Past Chair)
- Los Angeles County Public Health Commission Appointed by Supervisor Janice Hahn representing municipal government. (Past Chair)
- Public Health Alliance of Southern California Coalition of executive leadership of 11 local health jurisdictions representing 60% of California's population. (Past Co-Chair)
- County Health Executives Association of California Statewide organization of County and City Health Department and Agency Directors. (Executive Committee)
- National Association of City and County Health Officials
- American Public Health Association

Volunteer

- California State University Long Beach College of Health and Human Services
 Community Advisory Board Member
- California State University Long Beach Guest Lecturer
- The Children's Clinic Advisory Board Member
- Fairfield YMCA Board Member
- University of Southern California School of Public Health

 Guest Lecturer