

Sherisse M. Butler

Experience

City Year Detroit

October 2022 - Present

Senior Vice-President and Executive Director

- Hires, leads and trains a staff of 35 full-time employees and 100+ AmeriCorps members to implement academic and social emotional interventions in systemically under resourced schools in Detroit Public Schools Community District
- Develop and implement a strategic and diversified fundraising plan that exceeds \$7.4M annual operating budget by 10-25% annually.
- Increased operating revenue by over 50% to over \$10M. Successfully advocated for the passage of section 99hh in the FY24 and FY25 school aid budget; awarding City Year Detroit \$6 Million dollars
- Increased the organization's footprint in the Detroit community from 8 schools to 14 schools over two fiscal years, reaching nearly 10,000 Detroit students.
- Implemented a multi-city marketing and recruitment strategy thereby increasing AmeriCorps members serving by 75%, with Detroit leading the nation in mid-year recruitment applications
- Organization recognized as Crain's Best Managed Non-Profit Finalist in December 2023
- Ensure site meets Whole School Whole Child program delivery outcomes including annual operating and federal AmeriCorps grant goals; Saw a 17% year over year increase in student academic outcomes
- Ensure site meets all federal compliance regulations and grant outcomes
- Monitor site's financial progress throughout the year ensuring fiscal transparency for all staff members and key stakeholder to demonstrate how funds are used

Detroit Public Schools Community District

Senior Director, Government & Community Affairs

June 2021 - October 2022

Assistant Director, Government & Community Affairs

May 2020 – June 2021

Policy & Research Associate, Government & Community Affairs

January 2019 – June 2020

- Successfully lobbied for the passage of numerous legislative changes including Senate Bill 618 and the adoption of a \$475 Million public school infrastructure investment in the 2022-2023 School Aid Budget
- Manages and provides strategic oversight for the \$180,000 third-party lobbying firm contract with Governmental Consultant Services, Inc. (GCSI)
- Serves as the DPSCD representative for the Government Relations and Policy Committee for the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrator, School Management Lobbyist Group, Council of Great City Schools Superintendents & Legislative Liaisons, Executive Office of the Governor Racial Disparities Task Force Workgroup, the Protect Michigan Commission, Educators Workgroup, and the Michigan Department of Education Government Relations workgroup
- Develops the department's \$1.8 M budget and oversees all hiring, payroll, administrative, and procurement processes for the department
- Serves on the Superintendent's Cabinet and Senior Leadership team & provides leadership to three full-time employees, three fellows/interns, and 18 district community engagement auxiliary employees. Collaborate with other Senior Leaders in the development of messages to government officials, the press, and public.
- Develops the district's legislative agenda, advocacy, and legislative engagement strategies in alignment with the District's Blueprint 2023 strategic plan. Identifies key stakeholders on legislation affecting the district, including proponents and opponents, and develops the legislative engagement strategy for the District
- Serves as the District's registered lobbyist agent and directly lobbies state policymakers to advance equitable public education policy and funding.
- Develops the strategic plan, division plan, goals, and outcomes for the government affairs department and implementation strategy for the legislative agenda
- Provides strategic leadership to the department's Community Engagement Leader program to expand the District's community outreach initiatives

- Oversees the management and data analysis of the Office of the Superintendent's Constituent Response system. Successfully resolved over 10,000 constituent inquiries.
- Provides professional writing, research support, and preparation of draft technical documents on relevant legislative issues. Draft legislative updates, fact sheets, newsletter articles, and testimony related to the District's government relations priorities.
- Engages internal leadership as needed to inform the District's public policy positions.

Detroit Land Bank Authority, Detroit, MI

July 2018 - January 2019

Community Relations/Social Media Associate

- Developed community engagement strategies for school-based and community organization outreach initiatives. Cultivated relationships with local precinct delegates and civic leaders. Increased DLBA monthly presence in Detroit community three-fold.
- Designed and implemented DLBA marketing strategy and increased user engagement, brand awareness and website traffic ten-fold on a consistent basis.
- Develops and generates content for a monthly electronic newsletter for community members and stakeholders.
- Maintains relationship with local government stakeholders by attending local city council and mayoral meetings and serving a liaison to the DLBA.
- Attend community meetings throughout Detroit to provide education about DLBA programs and to address the concerns of the community.

Teen H.Y.P.E Youth Development, Detroit, MI

June 2017 - July 2018

Manager of Middle School Initiatives/ Evaluation Coordinator

- Implements school-based adolescent pregnancy prevention and sexual-risk reduction intervention.
- Ensures that federal grant objectives are met annually and prepares bi-annual grant reports. Supervises team of health educators, prepares scheduling and facilitates training of staff on curriculum.
- Maintains relationships with external school and community partners. Maintains collection of data, pre/post-surveys and attendance records for program evaluation and preparation for grant-reporting.
- Analyzes and interprets data for intervention quality improvement and makes culturally competent curriculum revisions and adaptations.
- Manages all social media forums (FB, Twitter, IG and Snapchat) and supervises peer education marketing team. Produces visual and infographic content for health marketing and agency initiatives. Analyzes data for audience and engagement data and generates reports.
- Maintained State of Michigan CACFP school meal grant reimbursements; zero audit findings

The Senior Alliance/Beaumont Hospital Wayne, MI

June 2016 - May 2017

Community Health Worker

- Using the Coleman Transition Model provided post-discharged seniors and the disabled with transitional care, health coaching and education reducing hospital readmission rates.
- Provided discharged patients and caregivers with community health resources needed for in-home recovery, including housing, medical transportation, long-term care, access to durable medical equipment or in-home meal delivery.
- Successfully exceeded individual client enrollment monthly goals 11 of 11 months and maintained a 95% hospital enrollment rate for eligible patients.

Madison Carver Academy- Cornerstone Charter Schools, Detroit, MI

November 2015 - June 2016

Mathematics Academic Interventionist and Long-Term Middle School Math Substitute

- Provided small group instruction for at-risk students in congruence with the Common Core Math standards.
- Uses a variety of manipulatives and hands-on activities to support content standards and the needs and capabilities of the individuals or student groups involved.
- Utilized blended-learning strategies to improve the number of students achieving grade-level proficiency in math

First A.M.E. Church: Bethel, New York, NY

September 2008 – February 2015

Christian Education, Health and Community Outreach and Youth Minister

- Instructed Christian education courses and helped to design a youth-centered curriculum and programming.
- Implemented community outreach programming in Harlem, NY

- Organized elected officials and community organizations for the annual Back to School celebration
- Organized faith-based health initiatives in order to promote holistic health and wellness.

Bank Street School for Children, New York, NY

September 2001 - August 2011

After School Head Teacher, Assistant Camp Director and Basketball Coach

- Provided tutoring and constructive recreation of children (K-8) in the After-School Program.
- Designed a child-friendly healthy cooking recipe book and a practicum for the Summer Camp.
- Facilitated STEM hands-on learning activities for primary school students in the after school program

The Office for Multicultural Affairs, Barnard College, New York, NY

August 2006 – July 2010

Graduate Assistant for Diversity & Inclusion

- Coordinated campus-wide programming around issues of diversity and student life.
- Facilitated community discussion groups on diversity awareness for first-year students and crisis intervention and support programming in response to non-tolerant and other acts that hinder an inclusive cultural environment.
- Researched and designed office publications and developed a cultural resource guide and office website.

Department of Chemistry, Barnard College, New York, NY

May 2004 – May 2006

Research Assistant

- Conducted inorganic and electrochemical research with Dr. Linda Doerrer.
- Synthesized Pt (II) and Au (III) polypyridyl double-salt compounds to study the metalophilic interactions.
- Utilized cyclic voltammetry data to study the oxidation and reduction patterns of the complexes and determine the effectiveness of the synthesized salt in creating stable and effective nanowire.
- Presented at the National American Chemical Society “Electrochemistry of Platinum and Gold Double-Salt complexes”

Community Impact, Columbia University, New York, NY

September 2003 – May 2004

GED Science Teacher and Health Education and Awareness League Team Member

- Taught the science curriculum consisting of life science, earth science and physical science utilizing the preparation guide and real life examples from the newspaper or multimedia for further understanding.
- Prepared adult students for the NYS GED Science exam.

Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Master of Science Candidate

Program: Health and Behavior Studies-Health Education, Focus: HIV/AIDS Epidemiology

Union Theological Seminary, New York, NY

Graduated: May 2011

Master of Divinity

Program Focus: Christian Social Ethics & Systematic Theology

Thesis: Sexuality and the African Methodist Episcopal Church: Toward A Liberating, Holistic & Healthy Christian Ethic of Love (Completed with Distinction)

Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Graduated: May 2006

Bachelor of Science

Major: Chemistry, American Chemical Society Certified Minor: Religion, Classics

Recognitions

- Skillman Foundation Visionary Award, 2024
- Crain’s 40 under 40, 2023
- Crain’s Best Managed Non-Profit Finalist, 2023
- Spirit of Detroit Award Recipient, 2023
- Michigan Chronicle 40 under 40 Award, 2022

- Spirit of Detroit Award Recipient *Detroit City Council (December 2020)*
- Women in Leadership Award Recipient *MI Annual Conference Women in Ministry (October 2016)*

Volunteer Service/ Community Impact

Current Roles

AJ Butler Northeast Detroit CDC, Founder & Executive Director
Detroit Promise Zone Authority, Board Member
St. Paul AME Church- Downtown Detroit, Itinerant Elder & Youth Pastor

Past Roles

11th Precinct Community Relations, Sgt. at Arms
Committee to Renew DPSCD, Campaign Finance Manager
Detroit Branch NAACP, Member
Detroit Public School Community District, 2024 School Board Candidate
Dr. Hunter-Harvill for School Board, Campaign Manager
Michigan Annual Conference Women in Ministry, President
13th Congressional District Michigan Democratic Party, Precinct Delegate, Elected 2018, 2020
Protect Michigan Commission, Executive Office of the Governor, Education & Faith-Based Taskforce Member
Teen HYPE Youth Development, Board Chair, Vice-Chair, Internal Committee Chair
We Care About 7 Mile/Van Dyke, Member