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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

THE COMMONWEALTH FUND

Washington, DC

Commission on a High Performance Health System

Senior Policy Director

July 2008-present

Developing and Carrying Out National Policy Strategy

- Develop, execute, and oversee a program for implementing the Commission's national policy strategy for improving health system performance with national policymakers and key stakeholders.
- Develop and execute the annual Bipartisan Congressional Retreat which draws members of Congress from both parties and both houses for an in-depth, off the record dialogue on health policy issues.
- Develop and execute the annual Bipartisan Congressional Staff Retreat which draws congressional staff from both parties and both houses for an in-depth, off the record dialogue on health policy issues.
- Serve as a liaison between members of Congress and their staffs and the Commonwealth Fund to ensure that the work of the Commission and the Fund informs the deliberations of national policy makers.
- Develop and execute of a series of Alliance Briefings and Roundtables each year. These programs are designed to reach congressional staff and Washington, DC-based policymakers and analysts, including but not limited to staff of national organizations related to health care and health policy.
- Serve as an information resource and assure effective dissemination of the Fund's and Commission's work through interviews and briefings to policymakers, health care leaders, researchers, consumers, and the media.

Other Commission-Related Activities

- Contribute to and lead policy reports prepared for and by the Commission with particular emphasis on examples of high performance health systems or innovative state policies.
- Draft or present testimony, as requested; prepare issue briefs and reports; and serve as presenter at policy forums, state forums, and professional meetings.

State Innovations

Program Officer

January 2007– June 2008

Policy Analysis and Research

- Identified and analyzed state policy options to improve health system performance.
- Evaluated examples of high performance health systems and innovative state policies that are replicable and transferable.
- Identified research and technical assistance needs at the state and national level related to the development of a high performance health system.

Grant Oversight and Management

- Developed new projects and grants for the State Innovations program.
- Reviewed reports and publications related to grants; provided expertise and assistance to grantees.
- Partnered with grantees to ensure smooth and timely fulfillment of grant items.

Communication and Outreach

- Served as editor for "States in Action" newsletter highlighting health policy innovation at the state level.
- Produced and contributed to scholarly articles, case studies, reports, issue and policy briefs, and presentations for the Commonwealth Fund and its Commission on a High Performance Health System.
- Presented findings from Commission reports and studies at national and state-level meetings.
- Represented the Commission on a High Performance Health System in meetings with Congress and others in Washington, DC and across the country.

UNITED STATES SENATE
Office of Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Legislative Assistant

Washington, DC

June 2005 – January 2007

Policy Analysis Issue areas include healthcare, retirement, seniors and tax

- Developed and drafted legislation on health and retirement issues such as Medicare, Social Security, children's health and substance abuse/mental health.
- Formulated policy and legislative recommendations for floor proceedings, committee hearings and constituent meetings.

Communication

- Produced speeches, opinion/editorials and articles for publication.
- Delivered remarks and participated in events on behalf of the Senator.

State and Community Outreach

- Conducted site visits and developed relationships with stakeholders in Washington such as hospital CEOs, tribal leaders, technology firms, state government officials, local press, rural health advocates and other constituents.
- Coordinated healthcare press events held in the state of Washington.

UNITED STATES SENATE
Office of Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)
Health Policy Fellow

Washington, DC

July 2004 – June 2005

- Staffed Senator Bingaman on the Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee.
- Assisted Sr. Policy Advisor on staffing the Senator on Finance Committee issues.
- Drafted the Children's Health Crisis Relief Act and the IMPACT bill for reintroduction.
- Served as an instructor for the Student Leadership Institute, an annual event in New Mexico in which the legislative staff holds policy sessions for over 150 high school students selected for participation.

THE HEALTH COUNCILS, INC.
Community Health Planner/HIV Prevention Planner

St. Petersburg, FL

September 2000 – June 2003

Community Health Policy Analysis

- Compiled and analyzed data relevant to the assessment of community health in an 8-county region.
- Produced the 2003-2006 District Health Plan, which set health priorities and recommended policies for a five-county district in West Central Florida.
- Served as a liaison between providers and state and local government offices.

Community Outreach and Organization

- Facilitated community groups to prioritize health issues and to set action plans.
- Served as a consultant and source of technical information for Polk County Board of County Commissioners and county health officials.
- Provided input and technical assistance to Federally Qualified Health Centers and other community organizations such as Healthy Start and the Hillsborough County Health Insurance Task Force.
- Presented at the 2003 American Public Health Association Meeting on methodologies for integrating qualitative input into a quantitative model to set health priorities.

CDC HIV Prevention Community Planning

- Recruited members to the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) that reflected the local HIV epidemic.
- Convened Community Planning Partnership and associated committees to complete the development of the comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan.
- Set priority populations for research and funding at the state and local level using quantitative and qualitative research.
- Developed comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan tailored for a seven county area in West Central Florida.

JSI RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE

Denver, CO

Program Associate – Ryan White Care Act

1998 – 2000

- Provided technical assistance to grantees on HIV/AIDS related contracts.
- Designed data collection tools and performed data analysis.
- Provided project support to the Ryan White Title I Planning Council.

STATE OF COLORADO

Denver, CO

Office of the Governor

Deputy Director, Boards and Commissions

1997 – 1998

- Worked in conjunction with departments of state government, community organizations and constituents to recruit nominees for vacancies in over 300 Governor appointed boards and commissions.
- Monitored Senate confirmation process.
- Researched legislation regarding eligibility and qualifications of appointees.
- Coordinated the State of Colorado Internship Program.

Legislative Analyst Intern

1997

- Researched bills and drafted bill summaries for internal bill reviews.
- Monitored committee hearings and other events for legislative staff.
- Maintained bill tracking system.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

2003

Concentration: Health Policy and Management

- Health policy and management public health program
- Courses included policy analysis, biostatistics, health economics and management
- Special project Somatoform Disorders: the cost of inaction.
- Chosen by the School of Public Health as the nominee for the David Winston Health Policy Fellowship

BACHELOR OF ARTS

University of Colorado, Denver, CO

2000

Major: Political Science

- Deans List
- Member, Political Science Honor Society
- Staff Writer for the student newspaper, *The Advocate*

PUBLICATIONS

S. Mika and R. Nuzum, Policy Points: Alternative Paths to a High Performance U.S. Health System: Impact of Three Approaches on Health Care Spending, The Commonwealth Fund, July 2009

S. R. Collins, R. Nuzum, S. Rustgi, S. Mika, C. Schoen, and K. Davis, How Health Care Reform Can Lower the Costs of Insurance Administration, The Commonwealth Fund, July 2009

S. Mika and R. Nuzum, Policy Points: Options for Financing Health Reform: Comparing the Impact of Selected Policy Options, The Commonwealth Fund, June 2009

R. Nuzum, S. Mika, C. Schoen, and K. Davis, Finding Resources for Health Reform and Bending the Health Care Cost Curve, The Commonwealth Fund, June 2009

A. Frey, S. Mika, R. Nuzum, and C. Schoen, Setting a National Minimum Standard for Health Benefits: How Do State Benefit Mandates Compare with Benefits in Large-Group Plans?, The Commonwealth Fund, June 2009

R. Nuzum, Policy Points: The Path to a High Performance U.S. Health System, The Commonwealth Fund, March 2009

A. Shih, K. Davis, S. Schoenbaum, A. Gauthier, R. Nuzum, and D. McCarthy, Organizing the U.S. Health Care Delivery System for High Performance, The Commonwealth Fund, August 2008

D. McCarthy, R. Nuzum, S. Mika, J. Wrenn, and M. Wakefield, The North Dakota Experience: Achieving High-Performance Health Care Through Rural Innovation and Cooperation, The Commonwealth Fund, May 2008

R. Nuzum, D. McCarthy, A. Gauthier, and C. Beck, Denver Health: A High-Performance Public Health Care System, The Commonwealth Fund, July 2007

K. K. Shea, K. Davis, A. Gauthier, R. Nuzum, B. Scholl, and E. L. Schor, Health Care Opinion Leaders' Views on Priorities for the State Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization, The Commonwealth Fund, April 2007

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

“You Can’t Have One Without the Other: Bending the Healthcare Cost Curve & Financing Health Reform.” Alliance for Health Reform Briefing: *Show Me the Money: Options for Financing Health Reform*, July 31, 2009.

“National Health Reform: Prospects for Moving Forward on the Path to High Performance.” Society of American Business Editors and Writers Annual Conference, April 26, 2009.

“Why Not the Best? Results from the National Scorecard on U.S. Health System Performance, 2008.” Presentation to Democratic congressional staff led by office of Congressman Sander Levin (D-MD), August 21, 2008.