

Laura Grabowski

Core Competencies

- Approachable leader experienced in empowering staff, encouraging teamwork, and managing organizational change
- Data-driven critical thinker with proven record of creative problem solving
- Effective communicator experienced in succinctly explaining complex issues
- Innovative team member willing to take risks in order to achieve breakthrough organizational improvements

Professional Experience

Director, Office of Vacant and Public Property Administration, Develop Louisville, Louisville Metro Government, 2016 to present

- Oversees team of 9 staff and 3 boards charged with alleviating vacant and abandoned properties, including real estate sales, foreclosures and condemnation proceedings, rehab, and demolition
- Develops key performance indicators and monitors against department and enterprise-wide strategic plan
- Prepares, plans, and manages \$3 million annual budget, including staff and contractors
- Uses data to develop innovative solutions to address vacant and abandoned properties
- Develops marketing and educational materials to communicate complex issues to a wide audience range
- Represents Louisville Metro Government to media and at community events

Assistant Director, Office of Housing and Community Development, Develop Louisville, Louisville Metro Government, 2012 - 2016

- Managed day-to-day operations of three teams totaling 35 staff charged with implementation and oversight of multiple service-related federal grant programs
- Developed strategic plans, managed, and measured outcomes for poverty alleviation programs
- Developed and maintained relationships between employees, supervisors, clients, and partner agencies
- Prepared, planned, tracked, and analyzed \$15 million annual budget
- Trained Metro Government officials, staff, and partner agencies to understand eligible and appropriate uses of grant funds.
- Redesigned departmental and programmatic policies and procedures to ensure compliance and increase efficiency, incorporating industry best practices
- Selected to oversee additional teams as part of Departmental restructuring
- Appointed to two enterprise-wide cross-functional teams charged with re-designing bureaucratic processes to increase efficiency.

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Housing Program Supervisor, Office of Housing and Community Development, Community Services and Revitalization, Louisville Metro Government, 2010-2012

- Managed team of 14 staff responsible for coordinating \$65 million in federal, state, local, and private grants from application through closeout
- Worked on a team to reduce Departmental audit findings from 68 to 1 in 3 years
- Developed innovative methods of connecting compliance staff with program goals
- Redesigned 10-year old grant-making process and oversaw implementation of \$3 million annually in outgoing grants to non-profit agencies
- Worked as part of a team to oversee 50 staff-member office relocation and re-branding of Department
- Provided oversight to department-level human resources and administrative staff, including payroll, recruitment, discipline, and promotion
- Assisted Department Director in budget preparation and program development

Grants Coordinator, River Hills Economic Development District and Regional Planning Commission, 2001-2003, 2004-2009

- Managed lifecycle of community development grants, from application through construction
- Represented agency to elected officials through five-county area of Southern Indiana

Housing Counselor, Louisville Urban League, 2003-2004

- Worked directly with rental and homeowner clients to find appropriate housing options and budget effectively
- Negotiated with lenders to aid in credit cleanup

Education

Master of Arts, Urban Affairs and Public Policy, University of Delaware

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Indiana University Southeast