

Lauren B. Townsend

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DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

*LEGISLATIVE ARENA EXPERTISE | PUBLIC POLICY | PROJECT MANAGEMENT | PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIC PLANNING | TREND ANALYSIS | PROBLEM SOLVING | EVENT COORDINATION*

SUMMARY

- ▶ Experienced government-affairs professional and lobbyist with strong background in state government relations, as well as drafting position papers, reports, and lobbying materials.
- ▶ Liaison and advocate with proven track record in representing interests to legislature, executive branch, agencies, associations, and coalitions.
- ▶ Excellent written and oral communicator, negotiator, problem-solver, and public speaker who effectively coordinates communication activities and multitask in fast-paced, deadline environment.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Diversity Affairs, Office of the Mayor/City of Malta ▶ Malta, ID ▶ Sept. 2005 to Present

- ▶ Implement diversity strategies and initiatives for City of Malta.
- ▶ Lead project teams organized to identify and implement diversity initiatives.
- ▶ Consult with business and community leaders to respond to diversity concerns and issues.
- ▶ Develop and implement diversity seminars and training sessions.
- ▶ Serve as diversity spokesperson for Mayor of Malta.
- ▶ Identify and coordinate city's involvement in diversity-related events and activities.
- ▶ Research and stay abreast of diversity trends and best practices.
- ▶ Serve as liaison between Mayor's office and various community and international groups.
- ▶ Increased sponsorships by 14 percent as Chair of Mayor's Celebration of Diversity Awards.

Policy and Research Specialist/Lobbyist, Idaho Health Care Association ▶ Oakley, ID ▶ Oct. 2003 to Sept. 2005

- ▶ Provided testimony and prepared correspondence to state legislators and administrators.
- ▶ Reviewed and monitored legislative bills with potential impact on long-term care profession.
- ▶ Developed industry positions on association's behalf.
- ▶ Served as liaison to Indiana's Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning and its subcontractors.
- ▶ Managed operations of association's Political Action Committee.
- ▶ Wrote articles for association's publications.

Program Director, Idaho Department of Commerce ▶ Boise, ID ▶ May 1999 to Oct. 2003

- ▶ Managed all aspects of statewide Individual Development Account and Assets for Independence Act program with combined annual budget of \$3 million.
- ▶ Performed site visits, analyzed, evaluated, and scored state grant program applications.
- ▶ Developed business relationships with non-for-profit organizations and financial institutions.
- ▶ Conducted statewide marketing and training workshops.
- ▶ Developed marketing and educational program materials.



Legislative Assistant, Idaho House of Representatives ► Boise, ID ► Dec. 1996 to May 1999

- ▶ Coordinated, fielded, and tracked incoming calls and correspondence.
- ▶ Conducted research and data analysis on voter issues.
- ▶ Monitored and analyzed bills for legislators.
- ▶ Served as liaison with federal, state, and local agencies to solve constituent problems.
- ▶ Supervised support staff, interns, and pages.
- ▶ Planned and coordinated conferences, fundraising events, and meetings.
- ▶ Drafted correspondence and speeches.

EDUCATION and TRAINING

Master of Public Affairs in Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, 1999

Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs Management, Baruch College, The City University of New York (CUNY), New York, NY 1993

Certificate of Economic Development, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID, 2000