

# LaRee Siddiqui

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## SUMMARY

Outreach director and program manager with experience in advocacy, outcomes and evaluation research, community organizing and public engagement. Proven professional track record of independent project leadership, program development & management and goal achievement. Focus on addressing issues of social justice. Strong communicator with ability to connect across diverse populations. Recognized as a Maryland Daily Record "20 in their Twenties" honoree.

## EDUCATION

### **MSW, Management and Community Organization, May 2011**

University of Maryland, Baltimore, School of Social Work

### **B.A., Psychology, May 2009**

Argosy University, American School of Professional Psychology

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Director, Education & Outreach**

*Junior Achievement of Central Maryland*

August 2011 – Present

- Responsible for implementing Junior Achievement (JA) Secondary Programming (grades 6-12) through coordinating with school systems and business partners in 13 Maryland jurisdictions
- Oversee county- and system- wide program implementation to meet designated state standards
- Manage community outreach to build strategic relationships with local organizations
- Identify community needs through research and evaluation to design and implement programs
- Conduct and oversee outcomes and evaluation research of all JA K-12 programming
- Implement year-round internship program for 5 undergraduate and graduate students per semester
- Oversaw implementation of programs that led to 64% growth rate in number of students served during initial year of service
- Expanded secondary programs to record-high levels since organization was founded in 1957

### **MSW Intern (30 hrs/week)**

*United Way of Central Maryland, Impact Strategies Division*

August 2010 – May 2011

- Manage Youth Ventures, a \$30,000 regional youth engagement program through project life cycle, meeting all deadlines and budget benchmarks successfully.
- Responsible for volunteer management, public presentations to diverse audiences, overseeing multiple sites and engaging with the organization's marketing and major gifts departments to coordinate strategies.
- Engage local coalitions and community leaders to craft, analyze, lobby for/against and testify for/against various social policies proposed in the 2011 Maryland legislative session, utilizing working knowledge of state and federal policies in issue areas including healthcare, early childhood and education, safety net, workforce development and affordable housing
- Assist with grant writing and RFP development, strategic plan implementation and messaging, and research

### **MSW Intern (20 hrs/week)**

*St. Agnes Center for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery*

August 2009- May 2010

- Implemented group wellness activities utilizing Yalom's therapeutic factors to enhance overall well-being for clients and successfully advocated for integration of required wellness activities into pre-surgical program
- Developed longitudinal research study with Dr. David von Rueden to examine the impact of pre-surgery weight loss on post-surgical success
- Performed psychosocial assessments to evaluate readiness for bariatric surgery, lifestyle changes and created multifaceted clinical interventions to better empower clients
- Facilitated the development of functional lifestyle skills in clients through individual and group counseling
- Coordinated internal and external resources to meet individual client needs

**Operations Manager, Regional Operations Consultant**  
Gold's Gym International, Fairfax, VA

May 2007 – May 2009

- Managed all operations and staff at Gold's Gym Fairfax Station (30-40 employees)
- Developed and conducted operations staff training for the region
- Managed budget, staff training and development, and sales strategies in collaboration with regional staff
- Provided career mentorship to students from area schools,

**Office Manager / Notary Public**  
Prosign Notary, Southern CA

January 2004 – April 2007

- Developed nationwide network of notaries and maintained subcontractor database for out-of-area requests from clients
- Managed all office operations and schedules

**MEMBERSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES**

- Baltimore County Youth Council, 2011- present
- Howard County Public Schools Business Education Advisory Board, 2011 – present
- Howard County Public Schools Academy of Finance Board of Directors, 2011- present
- Baltimore County & Anne Arundel County AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Advisory Council, 2011- present
- Mid-Atlantic Pug Rescue; Maryland Outreach Coordinator (2008 – present)
- Executive Board, Riverside Neighborhood Association (2009 – 2013)
- Social Engagement Coordinator, University of Maryland University Recreation & Fitness (2009-2011)
- Member, University of Maryland School of Social Work Student Delegation to El Salvadoran Government & Political Action Groups (January 2010)

**HONORS & PUBLICATIONS**

- Maryland Daily Record "20 in their Twenties" honoree, 2013
- "Life on Welfare", Welfare Advocates, 2010
- Ohmidog.com guest writer, <http://www.ohmidog.com/2011/07/27/pug-love-as-a-pug-lover-sees-it/>