

Diane Behers Mikulis
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A community leader and education activist with a strong business background and decades of experience working with individuals with disabilities seeking reappointment to the Howard County Commission on Disability Issues.

Relevant experience

Howard County Commission on Disability Issues – July 2015 to present

Special Olympics – Twenty-six years' service in managing events, public relations and coaching. Special Olympics serves children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through a program of sports training and competition.

- Special Olympics Howard County Executive Management Team – 10 years
- Head of Delegation for a 220-member Team Maryland at 2014 USA Games
- Public and media relations director – 15 years; Volunteer orientation presenter – 15 years
- Event management – 12 years
- Coaching: Alpine skiing -- 10 years, tennis – 7 years
- Coach for Special Olympics World Games in 2013, 2007, 1991 and 1987

Two Top Mountain Adaptive Sports Foundation – Four seasons teaching skiing to individuals with a variety of physical and developmental disabilities. Two Top is run out of Whitetail Ski Resort and is affiliated with Disabled Sports USA and the Wounded Warrior Project.

- Received certification from Professional Ski Instructors of America in Adaptive Skiing, Level 1
- Taught individuals with developmental disabilities, PTSD, TBI, autism, stroke recovery
- Experience with physical disabilities such as paralysis, limb amputations
- Worked with Wounded Warriors and their families

Professional Background

Board of Education of Howard County – Elected member from 2004 to 2008, served as chairman, vice chairman, particular emphasis on special education

Leadership Howard County – Class of 2008. Currently serving on the General Membership Committee and as chairman of the Social Committee

The Baltimore Sun – Freelance writer from 1999 to 2004. Covered community events, education and real estate.

Northrop Grumman Corporation/Westinghouse Electric Corporation – 1979 to 1996. Worked in marketing, communication and government relations.

Educational Background

Loyola University Maryland – Master of Business Administration, concentration in marketing

University of Pittsburgh – Bachelor of Arts in communication

Community activities

- PTA member and officer for five schools over the past 21 years. Chairman of the after prom party (attended by 600 students) at River Hill High School for the past 4 years.
- Boy Scout Troop 793 – Assistant Scoutmaster and high adventure coordinator/trainer for 7 years.

Personal

- Howard County resident for 30 years, originally from Pittsburgh
- Married for 33 years to Dwight Mikulis, mother of three sons – Adam, age 26, David, age 22 and Patrick, age 17.
- Interests include travel, skiing, hiking, backpacking, cycling, tennis