

JOANNA WOOLMAN

Minneapolis, MN

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Persistent leader, innovative thinker and listener seeking to lead and grow organizations. Skilled in strategic reform, coalition building, problem-solving, and communication with deep and nuanced understanding of child welfare system. Consult and advise agency and legislators. Decades of project management and high conflict resolution and trial skills. DEI implementation and intersectional based team leadership. Collaborative with highly developed work ethic and abundant compassion. .

SKILLS

- Strategic Thinker and Leader
- Trial and Appellate Advocacy
- DEI Implementation
- Project Management
- Team Conflict Resolution
- Highly Effective Communicator
- Content / Curriculum Creator
- Coalition Builder

WORK HISTORY

CONSULTANT | 01/2022 to Current

Casey Family Programs

- Develop, implement, and lead national initiative to support family defense attorneys in rural areas to develop and complete system reform projects
- Includes strategic planning, collaboration with national leaders, project management, and convening and coordinating participants.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | 01/2015 to Current

Institute to Transform Child Protection - Saint Paul, MN

- Direct staff supervision and management of faculty, staff and students including hiring, promotion, human resources support, and annual reviews
- Strategic leadership and sustainability planning; grant writing and reporting; complex project management
- DEI / equity policy creation and implementation, work with school's executive leadership team and Board of Trustees, and external marketing / communications work.
- Advise and support state level cabinet staff and legislators around policy agenda
- Draft legislation and work alongside legislators to move bills, testify, and mobilize community on critical bills during 2022-2023 legislative sessions

PROFESSOR OF LAW | 01/2009 to Current

Mitchell Hamline School of Law - Saint Paul, MN

- Curriculum development, course design for Feminist Legal Theory, Criminal Law, Juvenile, Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Policy Clinic where students work directly on state and federal legislation
- Significant DEI, equity, committee work and student, staff and faculty mentoring.
- Research, writing and national scope in training and speaking

POLICY FELLOW | 09/2022 to 06/2023

University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Policy - Minneapolis, MN

- Intensive leadership skill and knowledge development in strategic internal and external communications, bi-partisan advocacy, system disparities and equity, and national and state legislative reform.
- Established relationships with state leaders, and resolved complex policy problems in diverse cohort

PUBLIC DEFENDER | 01/2005 to 01/2009

State Of Minnesota - Cambridge, MN

- Zealous advocacy of indigent parents in child welfare cases and others charged with crimes. Extensive trial and appellate experience.

EDUCATION

University of San Francisco School of Law - San Francisco, CA | J.D
2004

University of Wisconsin-Madison - Madison, WI | B.S
Botany, Wildlife Ecology, 1998

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

- Child Welfare Leadership Award, Center for Applied Studies in Child Welfare, U of MN, 2022
- Champion of Children Award, Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota, 2016
- Woman of Distinction Award, Century College, 2011
- Minnesota Changemaker, MN Women's Press, 2010
- Judge Harold J. Haley Award, University of San Francisco School of Law, 2004