

Lindsay Walz, M.Ed.

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Candidate Summary

Visionary Leader

Strategic and innovative thinker who builds on strengths and seeks creative solutions to address challenges.

Resilient and Grounded

Committed to emotional well-being and stability, persevering in the face of stress and challenge.

Financial Acumen

Skilled at nonprofit finances - including analysis, values-based budgeting and forecasting.

Community-Focused

Champion for community connection, collective impact and local investment.

Education

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus

- Master of Education, Youth Development Leadership, 2013
 - B.S. Family Social Science/Minor in Youth Studies, 2005
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Professional Experience

East Side Neighborhood Services

Sr. Director of Youth & Families, June 2022-present

- Oversee administration of all youth and family-focused programs serving over 1000 people annually, including: five out-of-school time locations, a summer camp in northern Wisconsin, a contract alternative high school, two community-based family support services, and Creative Art therapies.
- Manage budgets totaling approx. \$2.25M - including review of monthly billing, strategic funding allocations and program-level planning and oversight.
- Provide staff supervision and development to 6 direct and 30 in-direct reports.
- Serve on the Executive Leadership team, providing guidance to agency-wide initiatives and serving as a staff liaison to the Board of Directors.
- Partner with Advancement team to increase financial and in-kind resources through funder prospecting, grant writing, community partnerships and donor campaigns.
- Strengthen internal and external partnerships to support program outcomes and participant needs.

YouthLink

Youth Voice, Equity, and Leadership Advocate, Nov. 2021 - June 2022

- Partnered with the Voices of Youth Advisory Council (VOYAC) to refine their purpose within the organization's governance structure and improve process and procedures.
- Engaged in strategic planning with Council members, staff leadership, Board of Directors and other stakeholders to deepen support for the Council, including budget development, division of duties, and integration of youth leadership into the organizational structure.
- Engaged with community partners to support the personal and professional growth of VOYAC members and young people served by the agency.
- Provided training, professional coaching and mentorship to Council members.
- Served as a liaison between agency and Council leadership.

Walz Well-Being

Owner, 2014 - Present

- Design curriculum and present workshops for schools, agencies, conferences and individuals focused on trauma, resilience, youth development, and leadership.
 - Developed the Ripples of Resilience model for personal and professional well-being.
 - Coach professionals in high stress environments to build personal resilience practices.
 - Facilitate professional learning communities focused on anti-racism, trauma-responsive care and personal resilience.
 - Assess, train, and implement trauma responsive services with agencies including Alexandra House, the Bridge for Youth, MN Alliance with Youth, and FabricMpls.
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Courageous heARTS

Founder & Executive Director, September 2012 - December 2020

- Conceptualized and provided visionary leadership for all stages of org development - from conception to implementation and dissolution - while facilitating a culture of reflection, feedback and continuous improvement.
- Built authentic leadership roles for diverse youth at all levels of the organization - including board and paid staff positions.
- Built board and committee leadership strategy, including new member orientation and training, as well as a mentoring framework for effective youth/adult partnership.
- Managed daily operations of our storefront studio, ensuring programs were safe, inclusive and accessible to our diverse community - including community outreach, staff/volunteer training and risk-management.
- Developed and managed organizational budget and fundraising goals, with support of community volunteers.
- Designed and implemented programs that provided evidence-based practices in youth leadership, creative expression, entrepreneurship, and community building.
- Designed and implemented a 9-month paid apprenticeship program for teens and young adults focused on expressive arts coaching, community building, and trauma-informed engagement.
- Partnered with youth to design and implement: an arts-based wellness room at Roosevelt High School, art fairs highlighting youth artists, and a youth-designed coloring book sold at area gift shops.
- Supervised and mentored over 30 high school and college interns from STEP-UP Minneapolis, St. Kate's, and University of Minnesota, as well as hundreds of volunteers.
- Co-facilitated monthly community building circle for staff and volunteers.
- Coordinated special events, including: fundraisers, launch parties, youth art sales, and other community gatherings.
- Generated, designed, and managed all marketing and external communications, including social media and e-newsletters.
- Designed, built and updated the organization's website.
- Evaluated and implemented software and technology needs for the organization.
- Developed collaborative partnerships with area nonprofits, schools, and businesses.
- Managed fundraising efforts, including: grant writing, donor development, earned revenue strategies and events.

NorthStar Youth Worker Fellowship

Project Manager, February 2016 - December 2020

- Supported Fellowship participants as a mentor and writing coach.
- Met with leadership team and stakeholders from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to build a strategic vision for the Fellowship.
- Facilitated panel discussions with fellowship alumni at local conferences.
- Managed e-study partnership with the UMN Humphrey School of Public Affairs, coordinating deliverables with key stakeholders.
- Supported three cohorts of fellows as they created online learning content for educators and public policy professionals.
- Built a website to serve as a public repository of practitioner wisdom and professional development for the field of youth work.
- Designed marketing content for community outreach.

AchieveMpls

STEP-UP Work Readiness Trainer, February 2014 - May 2016 (Seasonal position)

- Provided weekly classroom instruction to high school students with diverse learning styles who were participating in the STEP-UP Achieve summer jobs program.
 - Coached youth in soft employment skills to support their success in summer employment.
 - Observed and evaluated youth participants and provided feedback to program coordinators who matched youth to summer job opportunities.
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Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Program: It's All About the Kids/Empowering Students to Achieve

ESA Supervisor, January 2011-February 2014

- Initiated new contracted services for Hennepin County's Be@School truancy program, managing all aspects of the partnership.
- Managed hiring process for program positions.
- Supervised and coached three educational support staff and additional interns.
- Assisted with the development and oversight of the annual program budget.
- Managed agency-wide partner certification with Minneapolis Public Schools.
- Continued to fulfill the work responsibilities below with a small caseload.

Lead Educational Support Advocate, November 2009 - December 2010

- Managed program implementation, partnership development, documentation and data gathering.
- Mentored new staff and worked with leadership to design skill-building training and on-going case consultation.
- Partnered with an external evaluator to develop teacher, student, and family surveys and facilitated administration.
- Collaborated with the IT department to implement and maintain data gathering case management software - served as "super user" for department.
- Continued to fulfill the work responsibilities below with a small caseload.

Educational Support Advocate, August 2008 - November 2009

- Advocated for educational and social-emotional needs of youth at school and home.
- Created individualized case plans to address academic challenges, partnering with school professionals to provide appropriate interventions for educational success
- Monitored attendance, grades, and behavior through consistent communication with schools, parents, and community service providers.
- Developed and implemented assessment tools to identify student needs, address home learning environments and maintain case plans and goals.
- Co-wrote and secured federal grant, adding two additional staff to expand services from a single position to full program.

Program: Karibu House

Independent Living Skills Coordinator, July 2005 - February 2008

- Re-designed the Independent Living Skills program for youth aging out of systems involvement to include a weekly group curriculum with clear learning goals.
- Promoted the ILS program to community leaders and county officials who offered support through donations and youth referrals.
- Counseled and motivated youth to engage in positive interactions, complete program expectations, and pursue life goals.
- Collaborated with county social workers to develop individual case plans and goals for youth and ensure that progress is made in desired areas.

Notable Presentations

2015-current: Offer professional development workshops focused on trauma awareness and resilience to agencies including: University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Public Schools, City of Minneapolis, Headway Emotional Health Services, Zumbro Education District [and more](#).

2019: Provided inspirational keynote address to an international audience of 400.

2017: Presented and responded to questions from a trauma survivor's perspective to 200 members of the National Transportation Safety Board.

2015: Contributed to a *NorthStar Youth Worker Fellowship* e-study in partnership with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs: [A Human-Rights Based Approach to Youth Work](#).

2015: Developed and facilitated Ripples of Resilience model through UMN College of Education and Human Development's Office of Professional Development.

2009: Keynote speaker for *Footprints of Disaster* Conference, a behavioral health conference for emergency response professionals.

2008: Panelist for *Footprints of Disaster* Conference.

Continuing Education

2021: Before We Were White: Ancestral Recovery for Collective Liberation - White Awake (12 hrs); Intro to Circle: Midwest Practitioners - Restore Circles (20 hrs); From Ally to Accomplice - The Woke Coach (Year-long program, through June 2022)
2016: Academy of Leaders - The Center for Courage & Renewal (8 months/75 hrs)
2012: Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience - MN Peacebuilding Leadership Institute (5 days/30 hrs); Restorative Circle Keeping - Washington County Community Circles (8 hrs)
2010: Restorative Practices in Schools - Minnesota Department of Education (40 hrs); Restorative Conference Facilitation - Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice (20 hrs); DBT Skills Training - DBT Associates (20 hrs)

Published Writings

2017: Guest editor for special issue of the Journal of Youth Development, [Practitioner Inquiry Matters: Questions by and for Youth Workers](#)
2015: Guest writer for MinnCAN's blog: "[Many paths, one destination](#)"
2014: Contributor to the book [Story Circle Stories](#) by Rose McGee & Ann Fosco
2013: Guest writer for Young Education Professionals - Twin Cities' blog. Two articles: "Responding to Heart Hurts" and "The School of Life"
2012: [Toward a Youth-Centered Approach: Creating a \(New\) Standard Operating Procedure through Shared Values](#) in Moving Youth Work Forward, v. 1

Media Appearances**Postcards: Pioneer PBS**

2018: [Courageous heARTS](#)

Star Tribune

2017: [10 years after 35W bridge collapse survivors find renewed purpose](#)
2013: [Bridge survivor sees art as healing tool for youth](#)
2012: [Lindsay \(Petterson\) Walz: On a mission](#)

Minnesota Public Radio

2009: [Two years later, a 35W bridge survivor reflects on the tragedy](#)
2008: [Bridge collapse survivor searches for touch of healing](#)
2007: [Survivors of 35W bridge collapse still healing in body and soul](#)

Others: TLC, ABC, WCCO (TV and radio). Kare11, Fox 9, KSTP, NPR, KFAI radio, Aljazeera America, Minnesota Monthly, Pioneer Press, RetroReport, History Channel

Community Volunteerism

2022: Facilitated weekly abolition circles for white people; First Universalist
2021: Facilitated bi-weekly anti-racism circles for white people; Standing Up for Racial Justice
2020: Contributed space and support for local high school providing basic needs to students and families following compounding community crises
2018-19: Educated high school students on stress and trauma; Roosevelt High School
2016-18: Presented on personal career pathways to high school students; AchieveMpls
2015-16: Served as a Coming of Age mentor and advisor; First Universalist Church
2015: Taught a seminar for masters-level students; University of Minnesota
2009-13: Facilitated diversion conferences for youth; Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice
2000-01: Served on Board of Directors, Vice President of Board during final year of service; Christian Community Outreach Center

Awards & Recognitions

2019: Living Generously Award from Thrivent Financial
2016: Featured Alumni for [CE+HD Connect](#)
2015: Featured Magic Maker in the book [Infinite Purpose](#)
2014: [Rising Alumni](#) from the University of Minnesota
2013: Honoring the Next Generation Award from the Arts & Healing Network
2012: Fellow with the Walkabout Youth Worker Fellowship (now NorthStar)
2011: LSS participant with multi-agency Developing Leaders Within program