

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2014-present** CAMBRIDGE JAZZ FOUNDATION: **Executive Director**  
Responsible for raising over 70k per year, for production of the annual Cambridge Jazz Festival. Hire and supervise production staff and volunteers. Provide scholarship money to high school students and the City Scholarship Fund. Develop relationships with individuals and businesses for sponsorships. Interact with various levels of city government in collaboration of the festival production.
- 2012-present** CAMBRIDGE ELECTION COMMISSIONER  
Manage federal, state, and local elections for the City of Cambridge. Hire, train, and supervise over 65 election workers every election. Create and implement election policies for the City. Monitor campaign finance activities of all candidates for city council and school committee.
- 2009-2010** CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MA: **Elected member of the Cambridge City Council.**
- Reviewed and approved \$455 million city administration budget.
  - Participated in weekly-televised city council meetings to discuss city business.
  - Hosted meetings to collaborate with individual residents and community groups to resolve many contentious public issues.
  - Interacted regularly with all forms of the media.
  - Visited and worked with Cambridge students and schools on a regular basis.
  - Served as Chair Person of University Relations Committee, liaison between City government and local colleges & universities.
  - Negotiated agreements and zoning petitions/concerns with university officials and local residents.
- 2004-present** CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (2010): **Full-time Substitute Teacher.**  
2004-2006 Taught ninth and tenth grade physics course at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School. Provided one-on-one and classroom teaching and supervision to students of varied abilities, multiple ethnic backgrounds and diverse socio-economic status. Consulted with parents, behavioral specialists, psychologists, social workers, student mentors and colleagues to ensure the best individual educational plans for students.
- 1999-2002** **Boston University, Sargent College, Department of Rehabilitation Counseling:** Participated in recruitment and application review process of master's level minority candidates.
- 1996-2004** HUMAN SERVICES CONNECTION MAGAZINE: **Founder and Publisher.**  
Entrepreneurial founder and publisher of a monthly magazine focused solely on career development for the New England human services community.
- Recruited, hired, trained, motivated, compensated, and evaluated all individuals within the writing, editing, and production/printing processes of the magazine.
  - Scheduled interviews and organized a conference, held in Boston, during the 2004 Democratic National Convention, which highlighted former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis as moderator.
  - Monitored design and development of corporate website.
  - Collaborated with human service agencies throughout New England to obtain employment opportunities for qualified individuals.
- 1988 - 1995** CAREER SERVICES PROGRAM (CSP), CENTER for PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION, BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA  
**Academic/Job Development Counselor.**  
Collaborated and coordinated all services for Career Service Program students including recruitment. Interacted with parents, provided counseling, facilitated outside services which included housing, medical, social, and employment.
- 2011** **Candidate for Cambridge City Council**  
Recruited, built, and led campaign committee. Raised and budgeted campaign donations and expenses. Drafted campaign policy positions, organized dozens of volunteers for campaign related activities, collaborated with individuals and groups on community issues, participated in six community sponsored candidate debates/forums; came within 53 votes of winning election.

**2001-2005** *Statewide Community Organizer Director: Coalition for Authentic Reform in Education (CARE)*, and also *FairTest*, Cambridge, MA.

Organized and educated parents regarding the potential negative impact of newly implemented MA educational reform policies; spoke at public conferences; developed state and national coalitions; created a network of active and involved citizens. Media appearances included: PBS (Channel 2), New England Cable Network (Channel 8), ABC (Channel 5) and CW (Channel 56), as well as WBUR and WILD radio. Regularly participated in debates with members of the MA Department of Education, via television, radio, and at various public school community forums.

**1980** ALEXANDRIA PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, Alexandria, VA: *Full-time School Teacher (8<sup>th</sup> grade)*

Prepared and implemented daily classroom lessons. Worked with a small group of Special Education students; participated in parent-teacher conferences; planned and implemented various out-of-school activities that often included parent involvement.

## EDUCATION

### **BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA**

Doctorate of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling, May, 2002

### **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College Park, MD**

Master of Arts in Education, May, 1983

### **BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA**

Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Services, December, 1979

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Interests: Traveling, Reading, Working out

Community and Volunteer Activities: Day of Service, annual service event in Cambridge, Head Basketball Coach for Cambridge Ballers, Teen Mentor Volunteer

## AWARDS

- 2018 32nd Annual NAACP Cambridge Branch Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major for Community Award.
- 2018 Youth Sports Volunteer Award Galluccio Associates
- 2017 Berklee Urban Service Award in an award
- 2011 nominee for the Cambridge "Go Green" Award for starting ink cartridge recycling program
- 2010 Winner of Citizens for Public Schools Annual Award: distinguished activist for public schools
- 2003 National finalist for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Ira Glasser Racial Justice Fellowship. Fellowship Proposal: *Working for the Reality, Not the Rhetoric of "No Child Left Behind": A Proposal for Policy Development and Community Organizing: Developing a relationship between public school parents and the ACLU affiliates.*

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- *Panelist:* Public School Education Forum, University of Massachusetts, Boston (September, 2011)
- *Guest lecturer:* Cambridge Chamber of Commerce (September, 2009)
- *Guest lecturer:* educational issues; Suffolk University, (September 2006)
- *Presenter:* annual conference, Coalition for Authentic Reform in Education (Oct 2006)
- *Guest lecturer:* educational issues; Harvard University (Feb 2005)

## PUBLICATIONS

Ward, L. W. (2004) High Stakes Testing. *Response Magazine*, 36 (3), 23.

Ward, L. W. (2002) Doctoral Dissertation: *A Survey Description Direct Care Providers' Satisfaction With Their Supervisors: A Look at Race, Education, Gender and Age.*

## BOARD AFFILIATION:

2019 – Present

**Advisory Board Member**, Tutoring Plus of Cambridge, MA