

## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Experienced urban planner and public policy professional with expertise in climate adaptation and resilience, disaster recovery, and community development strategies and techniques. Holds a key leadership role in policy development of disaster recovery portfolio worth in excess of \$16B. Has led numerous large-scale and high-profile inter-governmental and consultant-staffed special project teams, including Louisiana's response to HUD's National Disaster Resilience Competition, resulting in an award of \$92.6M. Demonstrated track record of high-level communication skill and expert-level work product. Dedicated team member with strong work ethic and passion for public policy and planning.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Louisiana Office of Community Development, New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA** **2012-**

*Resilience Policy & Program Administrator 2016-;*  
*Policy Advisor 2013-2016;*  
*Community Development Specialist 2012-2013*

Leads agency's resilience group, specifically in the development and implementation of two programs — the Resettlement of Isle de Jean Charles and Louisiana's Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments (LA SAFE). Advises executive leadership on Louisiana's disaster recovery programs and policies, specifically as they may be tailored to account for future disaster risk and to incorporate resilience. Tasked to develop program and policy options to remedy challenges in a variety of post-disaster recovery and community development environments and design new programs and policies when new funding streams become available. Acts as a key policy liaison to appointed and elected officials, non-governmental organizations, professional consulting firms, media outlets, local and national philanthropic groups, and the public at-large.

### **Selected Achievements**

- Successfully led Louisiana's project team tasked to develop an application in response to HUD's National Disaster Resilience Competition, a \$1B opportunity emphasizing resilience-oriented planning and program development; state finished 5th of 67 national respondents and received \$92.6M grant award
- Co-Authored Louisiana's action plan for use of \$1.8B in CDBG-DR funds following statewide severe flooding events in March and August 2016. Developed the state's unmet needs methodology and related narratives. Currently part of core team designing state and parish recovery policies and programs
- Developed and authored agency's resilience policy framework — LA SAFE — outlining pre- and post-disaster planning and community development strategies around future flooding risks. Framework lays out strategic path forward for lowland communities projected to be at highest future risk, those with cultural or economic value along the coast, and those with under-utilized upland lands of minimal risk
- Conceived of and led project team in development of Phase 1 of the Resettlement of Isle de Jean Charles; first phase focused on intensive geographic surveying effort, a census of Island residents and initial outreach and engagement efforts on the Island and including two public meeting events
- Chaired inter-governmental task force charged with analysis and programmatic intervention of affordable housing initiative in Plaquemines Parish, LA, including analysis of development options following and in anticipation of legislative changes to the National Flood Insurance Program
- Co-Authored Louisiana's post-Hurricane Isaac action plan for use of \$64M in CDBG-DR funds. Developed the state's unmet needs methodology and related narratives. Subsequently, designed state and parish recovery programs and authored action plan amendments detailing policies and objectives, as well as funding timelines and priorities
- Researched and compiled 'Quarterly Management Review' documents detailing expenditure rates, projections and performance metrics for all programs created in response to and funded under grants received for hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike. Reports were used by executive staff to identify programmatic strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and served as an aid in stakeholder presentations and strategic decision-making

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

- Served on Louisiana Disaster Housing Task Force charged with setting post-Isaac recovery priorities
- Selected to participate in national working group to develop and refine FEMA's National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) for implementation nationally and as part of Louisiana's emergency support functions (ESFs) following Hurricane Isaac

### **MDS Analytics, LLC, Covington, LA**

**2011-2012**

*Economic and Real Estate Analytics Consultant*

Authored the Fashion Center Business Improvement District's annual report detailing economic and real estate trends for an audience of property owners, stakeholder groups, government officials, and the public.

### **The Clarion-Ledger & The Northeast Ledger, Jackson, MS**

**2007-2008**

*Journalist; Lead Designer and Editor*

Developed original content and edited content for print and online consumption for metro's largest news publication with a print circulation of more than 90,000 and online audience of more than 1 million.

## CORE COMPETENCIES

- Leading large project teams with diverse skill sets in community planning and policy development
- Building coalitions of stakeholder groups including from non-governmental and philanthropic sectors
- Communicating complicated policy concepts and datasets to audiences of all sizes and types through verbal and visual techniques in post-disaster scenarios and in environmentally-vulnerable communities
- Analyzing data and trends in multiple formats to inform executive staff, appointed and elected officials, media, and the public regarding initial design and ongoing performance of publicly-funded programs and initiatives, specifically in time-sensitive, post-disaster environments
- Conducting community outreach with local stakeholder groups, including elected and appointed officials and other leaders, media, and the public to ascertain and prioritize community development needs
- Creating high-quality documents and presentations to guide and inform recovery and planning processes
- Writing grant proposals in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and priorities
- *Computer Skills:* Highly proficient in ArcGIS, QGIS, Google Earth, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, SPSS, and the Adobe Creative Suite on both Windows and Mac OS

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Fashion Center Business Improvement District (BID), New York, NY**

**2011**

*Infrastructure and Streetscape Internship*

### **Greater New Orleans, Inc., New Orleans, LA**

**2010-2011**

*Project Associate*

### **Build Now, LLC, New Orleans, LA**

**2010**

*Graduate Internship*

### **New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services, New York, NY**

**2009-2010**

*Graduate Planning Internship, Division of Real Estate Services*

## EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

### **American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), License #027964**

**2015**

American Planning Association

### **Housing Development Finance Professional (HDFP), License #0915-037**

**2015**

National Development Council

### **Master of Urban Planning, spec. Housing and Economic Development Policy**

**2011**

New York University, Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service

### **Bachelor of Arts — Mass Communication, minors in Political Science, History**

**2006**

Louisiana State University, Manship School of Mass Communication