

Maricha Harris, M.A.

Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin and Metropolitan Chicago



Maricha Harris, M.A., is the Lead Community Relations Analyst for Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin and Metropolitan Chicago, which is the largest of 158 Goodwill organizations in the world and has been providing services since 1919.

Prior to Goodwill Industries, Maricha served at Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS)—the largest public district in Wisconsin. She served in two capacities – Special Assistant to the Superintendent and Partnership & Volunteer Associate. In her role as Special Assistant, Maricha added capacity to the Superintendent in several ways, including: ensuring that the Superintendent was well prepared for meetings and speaking engagements; acting as a liaison to staff and external stakeholders; and overseeing and/or supporting departments, special projects and initiatives.

For nearly two years prior to becoming the Special Assistant, Maricha served as a Partnership & Volunteer Associate for the district from March 2016 - February 2018. In this role, she helped secure more than \$300,000 in resources for the district, coordinated more than 30 events and led a team of internal and external stakeholders in developing and launching the \$1.3 million MPS C.A.R.E.S. (Community and Recreation Engaging Students) initiative, which has since expanded.

Before coming to MPS, Maricha worked for Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (Silver Spring) where she served for four years in a number of roles. Maricha served as the Healthy Girls Coordinator for Silver Spring from January of 2012 until June 2013. In this role she implemented an evidence-based curriculum in MPS during day school and after school programs. In June of 2013, she was promoted to serve as the Assistant to the Executive Director & Grant Writer. In

this dual role, Maricha was able to help raise more than \$475,000 to help sustain programs and advance Silver Spring's mission.

Maricha is an experienced communicator and published writer. Between 2009 and 2014, she worked as a communications consultant on a number of public health initiatives including, healthy birth outcomes initiatives and tobacco prevention and control initiatives. Her writings have been featured in several local papers including, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Racine Journal Times, Milwaukee Courier and the Milwaukee Community Journal.

With a heart for the community, she actively gives her time to help the community. Maricha has been an active supporter of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County's Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF) Collaborative for several years. She served as Co-chair for the Strengthening African American Families/Fatherhood & Male Engagement Committee and as a LIHF Steering Committee member. In addition, she is a United Way Emerging Leaders Council member. She previously served as a United Way LINC (Lead. Impact. Network. Change.) Committee member. She also serves as an Adult Achiever for the YMCA. Maricha is a Milwaukee native. She earned a Master's of Arts and Bachelor's of Arts from Alverno College.