

# ARYN SCHOUNCE

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR** || February 2024 - present

**DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES** || May 2023 – February 2024  
**City of Indianapolis – Mayor's Office**

- Lead special projects and initiatives for the Department(s), with a special focus on projects that impact multiple departments.
- Develop and implement BNS and DMD advocacy and public policy strategies with supporting documents and materials.
- Develop and maintain relationships with key legislative and government officials, allied organizations, and issue-oriented coalitions.
- Monitor legislative/governmental activities, federal and state grant and funding opportunities, and public policy trends and developments, with the goal of proactive organizational response to opportunities and issues.
- Obtain, analyze, and prepare summaries of pertinent bills that could impact BNS and DMD while regularly tracking status of bills, committee work, and other legislative actions.
- Work with internal departments to coordinate and prepare policy positions and policy alternatives.

### **CHIEF POLICY OFFICER**

City of Indianapolis – Depts. of Metropolitan Development and Business and Neighborhood Services || July 2021 – April 2023

- Represented DMD and BNS on the City's Racial Equity Core Team.
- Managed multiple, multi-million dollar projects utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funds.
- Built and managed coalitions comprised of both internal and external stakeholders to advance key policy initiatives, including serving as the Regional Economic Competitiveness Officer for the Build Back Central Indiana Coalition, which was a national finalist.
- Developed and implemented BNS and DMD advocacy and public policy strategies with supporting documents and materials.
- Monitor legislative/governmental activities, federal and state grant and funding opportunities, and public policy trends and developments, with the goal of proactive organizational response to opportunities and issues.
- Obtain, analyze and prepare summaries of pertinent bills that could impact BNS and DMD while tracking status of bills, committee work, and other legislative actions.

### **PRINCIPAL PROGRAM MANAGER – ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

City of Indianapolis – Department of Metropolitan Development || March 2018 – June 2021

- Collaborated with other DMD staff to create project management system including piloting a software program, creating standard operating procedures, and templates to standardize project management across divisions.
- In partnership with the Mayor's Office and Indy Chamber, developed inclusive economic growth policy as a key member of the Real Estate and Economic Development Division.
- Managed large scale redevelopment projects involving brownfield sites, complex public finance tools, and diverse stakeholders.
- Engaged economic and workforce development opportunities within the Indy Eastside Promise Zone by interfacing with community stakeholders and coordinating the City's strategy for investment and economic development with Eastside residents and neighborhood partners.
- Built Economic Recovery team, growing it from 1 member to 4 staff in 3 years.

### **DIRECTOR – ORGANIZATIONAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Thomas P. Miller & Associates** || Indianapolis || November 2016 – October 2017

- Provided consulting services to nonprofit and education clients on:

- Strategic planning | Fund development | Community development | Policies and Procedures | Grant writing | Change management | Board development
- Facilitated focus groups, key informant interviews, and board engagements.
- Supervised professional consulting team and monitored practice area deliverables.
- Led and managed projects to ensure on-time and in-budget project completion.
- Developed proposals, including detailed methodology and project budgets.

#### **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

**Big Car Collaborative** || Indianapolis || January – November 2016

- Primary liaison with South Indy Quality of Life Plan, Southeast Neighborhood Congress, and community development-related partners and programs.
- Collaborated with Riley Area Development Corporation to rehabilitate vacant homes for affordable artist housing featuring a shared equity model that preserves affordability for the community and generates wealth for artists.
- Supervised the work of professional staff and managed between six – ten projects simultaneously.
- Oversaw organizational operations, including the preparation and oversight of all program and organizational budgets as well as program evaluation.
- Led human resource management including development and implementation of policies as well as recruitment and retention activities.
- Primarily responsible for fund development activities including 40+ grant proposals annually, individual giving program, and earned income revenue.
- Served as a liaison to Board of Directors on matters of finance, fund development, and organizational operations.
- Created and oversaw contracts, memorandums of understanding, and grant reporting for all programs.

#### **DIRECTOR – NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVES**

**Big Car Collaborative** || Indianapolis || June 2013 – December 2015

- Served as a liaison between five neighborhoods and the community at large for community projects and programs.
- Directed strategy and implementation of program evaluation tools.
- Led human resource management.
- Developed and prepared 40+ grant proposals annually to support neighborhood-based projects and community art programs.
- Took a leadership role in a multi-million-dollar capital campaign to renovate multiple, vacant commercial buildings and transform them into an art gallery, community gathering space, event center, and radio station headquarters.
- Served as a liaison between two neighborhoods and Big Car for community projects, including Better Block and strategic planning.
- Piloted 22 new systems and business processes for measuring Big Car's impact on people and communities.

## **EDUCATION**

MASTER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS || 2013  
Nonprofit Management || Policy Analysis  
Indiana University – Indianapolis

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP || 2013  
Graduate Certificate  
Indiana University – Indianapolis

IU - OXFORD STUDY ABROAD || 2012  
University of Oxford – Oxford, England

BACHELOR OF ARTS || 2007  
Political Science || Women's Studies  
Indiana University – South Bend

## **COMMUNITY**

Garfield Park Neighbors Association  
President, 2018 || Member, 2014 - present