

John Igliazzi
Council President
Councilman - Ward 7

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BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Providence Housing Authority

Board of Park Commissioners

Board of Investment Commissioners

Retirement Board of the Employees' Retirement System

October 28, 2021

Shawn Selleck
City Clerk
City Hall
25 Dorrance Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Selleck,

Please be advised that I am hereby, on this day, appointing Ines Merchan to the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Sincerely,

John J. Igliazzi
City Council President

NOV 04 2021
IN CITY COUNCIL
RESOLVED THAT
IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE RESOLUTION
Shawn Selleck CLERK
Jm

Inés Merchán

25 Holden Street • Providence, Rhode Island 02908
(401) 524-8427 • InesGMerchan@GMail.com

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Solid understanding of philanthropic sector. Highly-developed analytical skills and oral and written communication abilities. Excellent interpersonal and time management skills. Team player; facilitation skills; and bilingual and bicultural.

EXPERIENCE

2009-Current Program Officer, Strategy & Community Investments Department The Rhode Island Foundation, One Union Station, Providence, RI 02903

The Rhode Island Foundation is one of the nation's largest and oldest community foundations with assets over a billion dollars. The Foundation stewards over 1,100 endowments and granted \$52 Million in 2018. Strategic Grant investments are focused in the education, health and economic security sectors and Responsive Grant investments primarily support arts and culture, housing, health and human services, and environment sectors.

Responsibilities in Grantmaking

Analyze community needs and issues and respond by recommending grants in response to community needs. Manage portfolio of over \$2 million including sector, emergency, capacity-building, general operating, programmatic and multi-year grants programs. Primary contact for most grants programs, review applications, perform site visits, make funding recommendations, and analyze evaluations. Document decision-making for grant decisions, and make annual recommendations to improve programs.

- Responsive Grants: team of four awarding over \$3M to a diverse pool of nonprofits including health and human services, environment, arts and culture, and youth serving organizations.
- Food & Housing Security Grants: led the development, implementation and grant making for this new program piloted in 2018 awarding \$1.2M.
- Basic Human Needs Grants: manage \$300,000+ grants program.
- Special funds and committee-advised funds: facilitate meetings, assist with committee deliberations.

Other Responsibilities

Play an active leadership role within the State of Rhode Island by participating in coalitions and advisory boards. Support strategic collaborations through grant making. Maintain contact with program officers from other foundations. Internally, work closely with Development staff to support donors' interests.

Inés Merchan

2006-2008 Community Philanthropy Associate, Rhode Island Foundation

Manage a \$1 million+ portfolio for grants in Organizational Development, Basic Human Needs, Professional/Leadership Development, Newport County, and Program for Animal Welfare and various committee-advised funds. Primary contact for regional funders collaboration formed by Hispanics in Philanthropy: review applications and make multi-year recommendations, conduct site visits and collaborate with massachusetts funders through training and conferences to assess and lead the program's development.

2000-2005 Program Assistant, Rhode Island Foundation

Provide general support to Vice President for Grantmaking, Senior Program Officer, and the Program Department, as needed. Instituted monthly meetings to ensure communication and coordination among support staff for department; served on in-house panel that reviews and recommends grants of up to \$10,000; and participated in special grants program focusing on women and girls. Provide administrative support to the Fellows Program, a major Foundation effort to support long-standing nonprofit leaders through sabbatical fellowships.

1999-2000 Office Manager

AIDS Care Ocean State, Providence, Rhode Island

Rhode Island's largest provider of direct-care services to persons affected by HIV and AIDS, including housing, case management, medical and nursing care, and prevention to adults, families, adolescents and children. Maintained variety of activities for organization and related organization Rhode Island Free Clinic including: managing medical building; receiving confidential test results; and telephone operator for the two agencies.

1995-1999 Project Coordinator

DARE - Direct Action for Rights & Equality, Providence, Rhode Island

DARE is a grass-roots, direct action, community-based organization focused on issues of low-income residents, primarily in communities of color. Liaison to Spanish-speaking community, troubleshooting for individual students/families; community organizing; special events coordinator; general office duties; and simultaneous interpreter..

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Rhode Island's Children's Cabinet: appointed by the Governor in 2016.
- Rhode Island Early Learning Council member
- Juvenile Justice Detention Initiative member
- Former Providence Juvenile Hearing Board Member
- Former Board Member of the Providence External Review Authority
- Former Simultaneous Interpreter/Translator for universities, foundations, and nonprofit agencies.
- Community Grant Reader, Making Connections Providence (2006 and 2007), New Roots Providence (2008-2011) and RI Service Alliance (2009), United Way of RI (2013), New Roots Providence (2010-2012), Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI (2014)

EDUCATION

- University of Rhode Island, B.A., English 2006
- Community College of Rhode Island, Associates Degree, Legal Administrative Assistant, 1996