



Mayor of Providence

Brett P. Smiley

January 3, 2023

Honorable Members
Providence City Council
City Hall

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 701 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 3 passed 1987, I am this day appointing Carolina Roberts-Santana of 86 Alvin Street, Providence, RI 02907, as a member of the Providence School Board for a term to expire on January 31, 2024, and respectfully submit the same for your approval. Ms. Roberts-Santana will replace Ms. Garcia who has resigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "BPS", with a large flourish extending to the right.

Brett P. Smiley
Mayor

IN CITY COUNCIL
JAN 19 2023

READ
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED AND APPROVED

Timothy Masterson CLERK

CAROLINA ROBERTS-SANTANA MHA, DHS (She / Her / Hers)
86 Alvin Street Providence, RI 02907 carolinaeroberts@gmail.com 401-365-9837
DELIBERATIVE / LEARNER / INTELLECTION / RELATOR / ANALYTICAL
www.linkedin.com/in/carolinarobertssantana

Professional Mission

"To encourage diversity, to stimulate the inquisitive mind to act on their knowledge, to inspire trust, to incorporate lifelong experiences, to influence the atmosphere in which we collaborate by fostering commonality that promotes intellectual commitment. It is with excellence, passion, dedication, and cooperation that I hope to work and learn."

OBJECTIVE: To obtain a position where I can utilize my strategic, programmatic, and personnel management skills in public health and academic settings.

COMPETENCIES / SKILLS

- Bilingual Communicator – Fluent in English and Spanish
- Knowledgeable in the use of Microsoft Office Suite – Windows and Mac
- Mental Health First Aid Instruct – Adult – Fire / EMS – Spanish

RELEVANT PUBLIC HEALTH/HEALTH SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Administrator and Program Developer

Women & Infants Hospital Department of Pediatrics – 101 Plain Street Providence, RI
September 2022 – Present Hours per week: 40

- Responsible for the overall planning, administration, and implementation of healthcare research programs within the Division of Perinatal – Neonatal Medicine.
- Coordinate proposal submission to federal and non-federal agencies by acting as liaison between Principal investigators, research administrators and the Office of Sponsored Projects Office
- Supervise staff that performs contract and grant administration, including the processing of noncompeting continuations, supplements, other award/agreement amendments, and sub award initiation, monitoring and modification.
- Plan and execute the grantmaking process by working with the finance team to work within the annual budget, support program staff in researching funding opportunities, and manage documents and deadlines.
- Provides team leadership in the development of policies and procedures; solicits recommendations from within and outside of the administrative unit to improve the structure and functions of the administrative unit as well as the relationship(s) between the administrative unit and other units;

Health Science Instructor - Remote

University of the People 595 E Colorado Blvd Suite 623 Pasadena, CA
July 2021 – Present Hours per week: 5

- Teach course subject matter to ensure every student can master learning outcomes.
- Model sensitivity to a diverse student population, representing the full spectrum of cultural, political, socio-economic, and religious backgrounds.
- Teach classes of up to 35 students in an online community.
- Courses include Health Research Methods; Community and Public Health 1: Health Education and Behavior; Community and Public Health 2: Preventative Medicine & Social Determinants of Health; Community Health; Health Policy & Management; Health Systems and Structures and Online Education strategies

Health Program Administrator – Deputy Chief of Emergency Medical Services

Rhode Island Department of Health Center for EMS – 3 Capitol Hill Providence, RI
April 2013 – September 2022 Hours per week: 35

- Responsible for the overall planning, organization, direction, coordination, and administration of a health program: HRSA EMS for Children Program (\$130,000 annually, Y8), SAMHSA First Responder's Grant

(\$800,000 annually; Y3), RIDOH Center for EMS (\$312,000, annually), SAMHSA-MHAT (\$125,000), DOT Data (\$90,000), Mobile Integrated Healthcare (\$380,000).

- Responsible for the development and implementation of a health program budget and monitor the fiscal activities of the program to ensure maximum efficiency of services to the public.
- Responsible for the formulation and implementation of standards, policies, and procedures of a health program to monitor the progress and productivity of a program.
- Responsible for coordinating the overall activities of a health program with those of the Department of Health to improve the health of citizens of the state.
- Led the Center for EMS and EMS practitioners across Rhode Island through the first 3 months of the COVID-19 Public Health Pandemic.

Full-Service Community School Program Director

Dorcas International Institute of RI 220 Elmwood Avenue Providence, RI
August 2011 – December 2013 Hours per week: 40

- Warranted completion of program goals, objectives, activities, and data collection.
- Communicated with the program evaluator, assured program data collection, and prepare a quarterly analysis of all data to make program recommendations for improvement.
- Worked with Fund Development staff to sustain funding, manage the FSCS program budget, and work with the accounting department to prepare grantor reports.

AmeriCorps Museum Educator

Providence Children Museum 100 South Street Providence, RI
August 2010 – August 2011 Hours per week: 40

- AmeriCorps State and National
- Encouraged and facilitated learning through active play with children and families
- Planned, prepared, and implemented science-based curricula for groups served by the museum
- Provided one-on-one training for new and existing volunteers

Medical Clerkship - Primary Care Physician

Clinica Rural Los Mulos La Romana Dominican Republic
June 2008 – July 2009 Hours per week: 20

- Primarily positioned in the emergency room and administered treatment to chronic patients with illnesses such as Diabetes and Hypertension, conducted home visits, and remained on call as needed
- Provided health education and information on sexually transmitted diseases, contraception, and overall women’s health

EDUCATION

- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science – MCPHS Boston, MA
Doctor of Health Science – Academic Health Leadership 2016 – 2019
 Summa Cum Laude - 4.0 – Alpha Eta Society
- Saint Joseph’s University Philadelphia, PA
Master’s in healthcare administration – Ethics 2013 – 2015
 Summa Cum Laude - 4.0 – Alpha Epsilon Lambda Honor Society – Omega Chapter
- Universidad Central del Este SPM, Dom. Rep.
Undergraduate - Doctor in Medicine 2003 – 2008

AFFILIATIONS/VOLUNTEER:

- American College of Healthcare Executive Member National October 2018
- Society of Public Health Education (SOPHE) Member National November 2020

- National Association of EMS Officials
Pediatric Emergency Council Officer
 - Rhode Island Welcome Back Center
Board Vice President
 - EMS National Resource Center
New England Regional Lead
- National
Oct 2014 – Present
Providence, RI
2015 – 2020
National
April 2014 – Sept 2015

PUBLIC SPEAKING / PRESENTATIONS

- Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
[Commencement Speaker](#) Worcester, MA
May 2022
- EMS Innovation and Improvement Center
[RI EMS Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator – Program Evaluation](#) Online
August 2021

PUBLICATIONS:

Manish I. Shah, M. I, Alter, R., Roberts-Santana, C., Poorman, A. M., Knepelkamp, M. A., Hewes, H. A., O'Donnell, S., & Vance, S. (2018). Qualitative Assessment of Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinators and Skills Competency Verification in EMS Agencies. [Poster Abstract]. Retrieved

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10903127.2018.1521488?af=R&journalCode=ipec20>

Wills, H. E, Genovese, T., Roberts-Santana, C. (2020). Pediatric Trauma Readiness: A Trauma-Specific Assessment to Complement the National Pediatric Readiness Project. Retrieved from

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33170570/>

Millar, M. M., Hewes H. A., Genovesi, M. E., Ely, M., Green, B., Schmuhl, P., Polzin, K., Roberts-Santana, C., Minkler, M., Olson, L. M. (2021). The Effect of the Familiarity of a Survey Sender on Response Outcomes in a Large-Scale Survey of Emergency Medical Services Agencies. Retrieved from

<https://doi.org/10.1177/01632787211030635>

Public Health Scholar Advisor

Sehlorst, Olivia G., "Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC) Program Evaluation and Impact on Pediatric Prehospital Care" (2020). Public Health Theses and Dissertations. Brown Digital Repository. Brown University Library. <https://doi.org/10.26300/8zr2-qn35>

Name

Carolina Roberts-Santana

Address

86 Alvin Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02907
United States
[Map It](#)

How many years have you been a Providence resident?

11

Phone

(401) 365-9837

Work Address

101 Plain Street, Providence, RI 02905

Work Phone

(401) 430-7475

Email

carolinaeroberts@gmail.com

Where and how would you prefer to be contacted?

Email

General Questions

What do you consider to be three of the most critical issues currently facing the Providence Public School district? Please be as specific as possible.

a. Teaching to the Test – I went to school in New York City. My school was considered an alternative school where we had a nontraditional curriculum and were taught with a diverse range of teaching methods. I benefit from this model primarily because despite being an A student, I was not a good test taker. Instead of taking science tests I was at NYU learning about baby's intelligence with researchers. Instead of answering essay questions, I was writing my own novel. Instead of doing the right math work, I was learning math for the real world. By teaching to the test, Providence continues to ignore the evolution of education. It ignores the reality that we all learn differently. Alternative learning allows for catering to individual students' skillsets, integrate cultures, encourage creativity, and uses integrated educational approaches. The top 100 high schools in the nation match the population of the high schools in Providence. However, only one of our high schools is thriving. Where is the gap?

b. Special Education - I have a child with autism. There are many challenges and gaps in terms of the equity for children with developmental and learning disabilities. I sort of school hopped with my son who has a reading disability because his needs were not being addressed. Developing local Special Education Parent Advisory Councils and partnering with Organizations like Rhode Island Parent Information Network can bring value to the district.

c. Lack of extracurricular activities – through diverse efforts and partnerships, some providence schools have worked with community partners to host sports or different clubs but its not equitable across the district. The National Association of Secondary Schools Principals expressed in 2017 that "Participation in extracurricular activities can boost schools in key areas—academic performance, behavior, attendance, student and parent satisfaction—even in things like the levels of curiosity among students or the likelihood that students will get excited about STEM careers."

What is the role of the School Board in addressing these critical issues?

The School Board's mission is to ensure the district provides high quality education for all providence students. Its core beliefs align with the critical issues expressed above. The first issue presented aligns with the belief that all students should reach their full potential. The second issue aligns with the belief that Providence families can and must support our students success. The third issue aligns with the belief that Providence schools must be a good place to learn. Therefore, I believe there is a role for the board to address this and all critical issues of the district.

Are you able and willing to commit to a three year term beginning in 2023 which requires an average of four meetings per month? In a typical month there are business meetings which provide management oversight of the School Department, workshops which educate the Board, and disciplinary hearings which require full Board attendance.

Yes

Questions for First-Time Applicants

How do you view the role of a School Board member? What are the strengths and experiences that you would bring to this position?

In my opinion the school board member serves as a conduit to push forward the mission of the school board and the school district. Furthermore, serves as the subject matter expert to be able to develop policies that support the superintendent and other district leaders. I believe I bring my personal experience as a PPSD previous and future parent. Furthermore, my experience as a Full Service Community School Community Director from 2011 – 2013. I have a Doctorate in Health Science and worked in Public Health address children's emergencies and ensuring hospital readiness for 10 years. According to my Clifton Strengths, I lead with strategic thinking. My top five strengths are Deliberative, Learner, Intellection, Relator and Analytic. These five strengths combined mean that: "I am described by the serious care I take in making decisions or choices. I anticipate obstacles. I have a great desire to learn and want to continuously improve. The process of learning, rather than the outcome, excites me. I am characterized by my intellectual activity. I am introspective and appreciate intellectual discussions. I enjoy close relationships with others. I find deep satisfaction in working hard with friends to achieve a goal. I search for reasons and causes. I have the ability to think about all of the factors that might affect a situation."

What non-profit board and community leadership positions have you held or do you hold now? How has this work informed your understanding of the role of a School Board member?

I was the Rhode Island Welcome Back Board Vice President from 2014 – 2020. I have also represented the state of Rhode Island at National Non-Profits Organization. I was the Chair elect, Chair and Past Chair of the Pediatric Emergency Care Council of the National Association of State EMS Officials from 2014 – 2020. in the state I served as a board member for the Governor Appointed Board Ambulance Service Advisory board 2016 - 2018 and as the Chair of the First Responders Workgroup of the Governors Overdose Taskforce from 2021 - 2022. Regarding a community leadership position, I was part of the Parent Teacher Association of Leviton Dual Language School from 2015 – 2016. I was part of the PTO at Reservoir Avenue School. I am the Treasurer of the Parent Association at Hope Academy of RI since 2021. All of these positions paved the way to help me feel ready for a position as a school board member.

How, at present, do you keep informed about education policy in general and issues facing the Providence Public Schools in particular? How, as a School Board member, would you educate yourself more fully? What resources would be helpful to you in gaining the background and information you would wish to acquire?

I follow the PPSD social media and read the reports issues about the district. Furthermore, I read the agendas and minutes of the past meetings. Also, the current YouTube recordings since 2020. As a school board member I hope to be able to speak to existing board members, past members, visit the schools, talk to the principals and the superintended so that I can learn more about the opportunities for improvement, what has been attempted in the past and what has been achieved.

Please submit names of and contact information for two references.

Diagneris Garcia
401-301-6379
Diagneris.garcia@gmail.com

Jason Rhodes
401-222-5916
Jason.Rhodes@health.ri.gov

Did you attend the Providence Public Schools? If so, please list the schools and the years you attended each school.

No

Do you have or have you had children attending the Providence Public Schools? If so, please list the schools your children have attended and the years they attended each school.

Yes I have two children. One is in Seventh Grade. He started at Leviton Dual Language School - (2015 - 2017). Due to challenges in his learning we transitioned to Reservoir Avenue School (2017 - 2019) and he is now at the Hope Academy of RI Charter School (2020 - current). The other is in 4th grade. He was at Charles Fortes Elementary (2016 - 2018) where he did 2 years of Pre-K. Then, he was accepted in the Kindergarten lottery for the Hope Academy of RI Charter School (2018 - current).

How did you learn about this application process?

I saw it on a Facebook and also on the PPSD website.

Attach your current resume here, including your education, employment history, and any other info you deem relevant.

- [CRS-Resume-2023.pdf](#)

Would you object to the disclosure of any information on this application?

No

Certify

- I hereby certify that the information that I have presented in this application is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge, and I hereby authorize the School Board Nominating Commission to verify this information as may be required.

By entering your name you are hereby certifying that the information that you have presented in this application is complete, accurate, and true to the best of your knowledge.

Carolina Roberts-Santana

Date

12/16/2022