

Aleece Smith

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Community development specialist with experience in process improvement and community change, complemented by formal education in urban planning and foundational business subjects. Enthusiastic about improving the built environment in the public realm. Competencies include:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| - Community engagement | - Assessment | - Data collection |
| - Built environment planning | - Training | - Data analysis |
| - Active transportation strategies | - Public participation | - Survey design |
| - Evaluation planning | - Plan development | |

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA), 2010-2013

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Project Coordinator, Program Development/Process Improvement Team, 2011-2013

Prepared local YMCAs and collaborating community leaders to change health outcomes through policy and environmental change strategies.

- Provided technical assistance on community change strategy to leaders from more than 200 communities that had received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant programs
- Organized and hosted conference presentations and monthly webinars that introduced the functions of web-based mapping and reporting tools
- Reviewed and provided recommendations for community action plan objectives
- Monitored and assessed more than 1,000 policy or environmental changes that promote active transportation and healthy eating as implemented by community coalitions

Intern, Activate America, 2010

- Analyzed health data so department managers could demonstrate the need for a nationwide diabetes prevention program
- Identified YMCA user needs to expedite the delivery of an ArcGIS-based custom mapping tool
- Developed a work schedule for implementing a custom mapping platform

Metropolitan Planning Council

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Research Assistant, 2009 – 2010

- Updated best practices publications on urban policy topics (e.g. housing) by gathering secondary data
- Coordinated two community workshops and helped participating residents and business owners understand the feasibility of economic development scenarios using modeling tools
- Wrote reports on community building initiatives introduced to various Chicago area communities based on research of neighborhood and municipal conditions

Andersonville Development Corporation

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Intern, 2009

- Provided administrative support for the neighborhood sustainability program
- Determined compliance of proposed street fixtures with municipal right-of-way regulations
- Identified optimal locations for recycling receptacles using mapping (ArcGIS) and vector graphics (Adobe Illustrator) software

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OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Hub International Midwest, Limited

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Programs Department, 2005 – 2008

LGT Gaston Berger

Lille, France

Foreign Language Assistant, 2004-2005

EDUCATION

The University of Illinois at Chicago

Chicago, Illinois, USA

Master of Urban Planning and Policy (MUPP), 2010

- Specialization: Physical Planning
- Master's Project: *Health Routes - Introducing Pathways for Active Transportation in Springboro*
- Coursework in sustainable development, development finance, land use planning, urban design, housing planning, geographic information systems for planning, and public participation
- GPA 3.71

The University of Toledo

Toledo, Ohio, USA

Bachelor of Business Administration, 2004

- Specializations: Marketing and International Business
- Coursework in French language and translation
- GPA 3.6

SKILLS

- Advanced understanding of Microsoft Products (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)
- Basic familiarity with Adobe Creative suite applications, ArcGIS and SketchUp
- Foreign Language Skills:
 - French (Intermediate)
 - Arabic (Basic)

INTERESTS

Iqra'a Arabic Language Teaching Centre

Language School

- 2013 – Present
- Arabic Language (Classical) Student

Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago

Non-profit home rehabilitation group

- 2009 – 2013
- Logistics Committee Member

Women in Planning and Development, Chicago-based Professional Organization

- 2010 – Present
- Board member
- Chicago Cares, Inc.**
Volunteer organization
- 2007 – 2014
- Volunteer Leader