



Stephen Edison Joins the West Michigan Partnership for Children

Team growing - Chief Financial Officer gears up for finances, kids, and community

Stephen Edison, a seasoned financial and operations executive, will join the West Michigan Partnership for Children (WMPC) as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) on July 10, 2017. For over 35 years, Edison has focused on financial, administrative, and technology management, as well as fundraising and business development in a variety of settings, to include small businesses, a start-up, and a nonprofit.

Edison's expertise developing financial policies, procedures, and cost modeling will contribute to the overall impact and mission of the WMPC. As the CFO, Edison will be responsible for all financial functions and oversight to include monitoring of the newly established case rate and ensuring a balance of cost-effective programming and improved child outcomes. Edison is a graduate of the University of Virginia with a degree in Commerce.

"Steve's talents extend far beyond his impressive financial management expertise," said Kristyn Peck, Chief Executive Officer of the WMPC. "His financial acumen combined with his genuine concern for children and enthusiasm for creating something that will bring about positive change in their lives is contagious!"

Edison is deeply rooted in his commitment to serving his community. He served as the City Commissioner and Mayor of East Grand Rapids and as the Vice President, Secretary, and Chair of various committees with the East Grand Rapids Board of Education. Edison currently serves as a Board Member of the John Ball Zoo.

"Steve knows the community well and has a high level of community engagement," said Dr. Sara Magaña Shubel, Superintendent of East Grand Rapids Public Schools. "When he served on the Board, he was always thinking of new ideas and truly looked out for what was in the best interest of the whole organization. I am really excited for Steve to serve in this new role."

The WMPC will partner with Bethany Christian Services, Catholic Charities of West Michigan, D.A. Blodgett—St. Johns, Samaritas, and Wellspring Lutheran Services to provide foster care services to children and families in Kent County through a contract with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services beginning October 1, 2017. The WMPC will pilot a performance-based contract and utilize a case rate that incentivizes permanency and allows for flexibility and creativity in funds to empower and strengthen families and improve outcomes for children.