

# Alicia Guevara Warren



**Alicia Guevara Warren** joined the Michigan League for Public Policy in 2014 as the Tax Policy Analyst, and became the Kids Count in Michigan Project Director in June 2015. She oversees the project, which includes the collection and analysis of data to make informed policy recommendations to improve child well-being. Alicia has an extensive background advocating for improved outcomes for children and families through her work in the nonprofit sector with Michigan's Children, Community Economic Development Association of Michigan, and School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan. Additionally, as Democratic Central Staff for the Michigan House of Representatives, she served as the lead analyst on issues affecting children, families, and seniors, along with immigration, women's health, and regulatory reform. Prior to joining the League, Alicia was with the Office of Economic Development at the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Alicia holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Sociology with a specialization in law, criminology, and deviance from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor and a master's of public affairs with a specialization in social and economic policy from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

# Deborah Drennan



**Deborah Drennan**, CEO Freedom House – a Detroit-based nonprofit that provides services for political refugees

Drennan, program director for the agency since 2006, had served as interim director, succeeding Pegg Roberts who resigned for personal reasons in January 2009, said Pamela Marcil, vice chair of Freedom House and director of public relations for the **Detroit Institute of Arts**.

Drennan has more than 30 years' nonprofit experience.

Prior to joining Freedom House in 2006, she was coordinator of intake and outreach services at **Women ARISE** and transitional housing program director and community relations/intake coordinator at the **Coalition on Temporary Shelter**.

Freedom House was founded in 1983 as a temporary shelter for those seeking legal asylum in the U.S. from political persecution in other countries.

# Nicole A. Brown



**Nicole A. Brown** serves as Councilwoman for Ward 1 in the City of Ypsilanti. She is also a supervisor at Starfish Family Services where she manages several programs including Wraparound, Case Management and Supports Coordination. Nicole is a graduate of Eastern

Michigan University and has always been heavily involved on campus as well as in the greater Ypsilanti community. Nicole continues to be a mentor in her community, including serving as graduate advisor for YBBW – You Beautiful Black Woman. She also serves as the Chair of the Black Lives Matter Task Force for the City of Ypsilanti. Nicole is committed to being a catalyst for the change that she would like to see in this world.

## State Rep. Abdullah Hammoud



**State Rep. Abdullah Hammoud** is serving his first term in the Michigan House of Representatives, emerging as a strong voice for civil rights and a leading mind for health policy. He represents the 15th House District, comprised of his hometown city, Dearborn. As a proud son of immigrant parents, Hammoud has been unwavering in his commitment to Michigan and Dearborn for more than a decade. From volunteering at community cleanups with organizations like ACCESS to advocating to raise awareness for mental health conditions with the SAFE Substance Abuse Coalition, Hammoud has consistently given back to the community that fostered his growth and success.

Hammoud earned his bachelor's in science from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and his master's in public health from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. After working for three years as a health care consultant at the Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation, he felt a profound need to utilize his skills and knowledge to serve as a volunteer with the United Nations Relief and Work Agency in Jordan. During his months there, he led a successful initiative to reduce obesity among diabetic refugees throughout the Middle East.

In 2014, Hammoud was nominated and elected as the youngest board member for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters. For more than two years, he was on the forefront fighting to protect Michigan's land, air and water by educating legislators and communities on the need for environmentally conscious policy. Recently, Hammoud returned to the University of Michigan in pursuit of a master's in business administration at the Ross School

of Business. Expanding his business acumen will help him craft economic policy to address the issue of income inequality, and to better support the hardworking middle class. In his spare time, he enjoys competing in obstacle courses, spending time with friends and family, and engaging in dialogue that fosters social benefit and growth.

## Susan E. Reed



**Susan E. Reed** is Managing Attorney with the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center. Susan is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and Marquette University. Susan has practiced immigration and immigrant rights law since 2003. Susan has also served as a staff attorney at Farmworker Legal Services of Michigan and as a regional attorney for Justice for Our Neighbors, the immigration legal services program of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Her particular interests include the intersection of family and immigration law, the rights of unaccompanied immigrant children, immigrant eligibility for public benefits and programs, and civil rights matters. Susan is Secretary of the Steering Committee for the Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (MCIRR) and a member of the Michigan Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). In 2013, Susan was appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to the Foreign Language Board of Review as the LEP Populations Advocate and served as a committee member of the Court's Limited English Proficiency Implementation Advisory Committee. Susan is also a member of the Detroit City Council Immigration Task Force. Susan is a proud member of the first class of W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Leadership Network Fellows. She is fluent in Spanish.