

## **Margaret Holland McDuff Biography**

Margaret Holland McDuff is CEO of one of the state's oldest and largest human service and education non-profits, Family Service of Rhode Island.



The agency, under Holland McDuff's leadership, has become a leader in creating strategic partnerships to improve services to children and families in crisis. Recently the partnership she fostered between her agency and the Providence Police Department received the national MetLife Foundation Community-Police Partnership Award. In the spring of 2010, she received the national Child Welfare Leadership Award, given annually by the Alliance for Children and Families, an association of nonprofit human service agencies in the United States and Canada. The award recognizes individuals making significant impact on children's issues.

In 2008, she led the successful merger between AIDS Project RI and her agency. In 2007, under her leadership, Lucy's Hearth, a Middletown, Rhode Island shelter for homeless women and children, became an affiliate of Family Service of Rhode Island. She's founder and current president of the Ocean State Network for Children and Families and a founder and the current treasurer of the Quality Care Company, both collaborations of human service providers.

Under her direction, Family Service of Rhode Island has collaborated with Providence, Central Falls, North Kingstown and Westerly school districts to address behavioral health barriers to academic performance. One of her latest undertakings is creating Providence Children's Initiative, a partnership of an array of non-profits, government, businesses and private individuals, to develop a pre-cradle through college system of services for low-income Providence children and families. Providence Children's Initiative is inspired by the celebrated Harlem Children's Zone, profiled by "60 Minutes," and the movie "Waiting for Superman."

Among her various statewide leadership positions, Holland McDuff is a member of Governor Lincoln Chafee's transition team; serves on the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's board of directors; was head of the Mayor's Substance Abuse Prevention Council in Providence, and is former co-chair of the Rhode Island Children's Policy Coalition. She has served on the Rhode Island Kids Count board of directors, the United Way of Rhode Island's advisory board, and the Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island provider council. She is a 2010 Rhode Island Foundation Fellow.

In 2005, her agency received the Excellence in a Nonprofit Organization award from the Providence Business News, the first non-profit to receive the honor; also in 2005, she was recognized as an up and coming community leader by the publication.

She has an MBA from Bryant University, an MA in Developmental Psychology from Rhode Island College, and a BA in Psychology from St. Anselm College.

She and her husband Michael are parents of two boys. They reside in East Providence, Rhode Island.

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