



AMERICA'S ESSENTIAL HOSPITALS

Darlene Burgess

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Darlene Burgess is vice president of corporate government affairs for the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Michigan. As senior legislative policy executive for two of the nation's premier health systems, she has been instrumental in developing a strong presence for integrated health care at federal and state levels.

Burgess has served on legislative committees of the American Medical Group Association, American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, Premier, and the American Association of Medical Colleges.

Burgess is a native of Washington State. Before joining the Henry Ford Health System, she served as director of government affairs for Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound, one of the nation's earliest hospital-based managed health care systems, located in Seattle, Washington.

Burgess was government relations director for the Washington State Department of Revenue and established the first public affairs program for Harborview Medical Center, a large inner-city teaching and research hospital affiliated with the University of Washington in Seattle. She was legislative staff to the revenue and taxation and social service committees of the Washington State Legislature, and did grant management at the California Council on Criminal Justice.

Burgess completed her BA degree at the University of Washington in Seattle, where she also did graduate work in Russian Language and Literature. She has a post-graduate degree in Early Childhood Education. She attended the University of San Jose, Costa Rica (Central America), and completed the Harvard University Executive Program, Harvard Medical School & School of Public Health.



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Burgess was an invited presenter for the World Economic Forum, 1996 Industry Summit, University of Chicago, and presenter for the 1997 Medicaid Workshop conducted by the federal Agency for Health Care Policy & Research. She is co-author with Gail L. Warden on government relations programs for non-profits in the textbook, "Government Relations in the Health Care Industry" (2003), and has frequently been an invited speaker on various health policy issues. In recognition of her work with physicians, Burgess is an elected life-time member of the American Medical Association.