

## JENIFER BUCKLEY

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### EDUCATION

PhD, Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)—Community, Agriculture, Recreation & Resource Studies; dissertation on field implementation of food safety regulations

MS, Wageningen University (Wageningen, Netherlands)—Ecological Agriculture, *cum laude*

BS, University of Wisconsin—Madison (Madison, WI)—Plant Pathology

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **Chicago Department of Public Health**

**2021–present**

Director of Informatics (2025-present)

Chicago, IL

- Direct the Informatics team of CDPH’s Bureau of Informatics & Information Technology, developing systems to streamline operations and improve operational data.
- Supervise a team of project managers that analyze operational needs and facilitate solutions.
- Manage CDPH’s process of reaccreditation with the Public Health Accreditation Board.
- Manage CDPH Performance Management & Quality Improvement, which focuses on programmatic activities that reduce the life expectancy gap between Black and non-Black Chicagoans, establishing target metrics and facilitating quality improvement initiatives.

Director of Continuous Improvement & Performance Management (2023-2025)

- Directed CDPH’s Continuous Improvement & Performance Management unit, supervising a team of project managers that analyzed and improved administrative and programmatic processes.
- Oversaw over 20 projects to streamline personnel, contracts, and finance processes; partnered with over 20 staff in CDPH, City’s Office of Budget & Management (OBM), and City’s Department of Human Resources (DHR) to develop and launch 6 apps using Microsoft Power Platform.
- Helped programs develop theories of change and logic models to guide performance management.
- Served on City’s Civic Innovation Group with other City department representatives.
- Managed process improvement contractor; published request for proposals, managed proposal review panels; managed hiring and recruitment vendor, renegotiated contract amendment.
- Conducted in-depth analysis of contract agencies’ scopes of work and progress reports; delivered recommendations for improving reporting and accountability to achieve CDPH program goals.
- Detailed to Department of Technology & Innovation to help establish the department, 3 months.

Project Manager (2021-2023)

- Coordinated teams representing CDPH, DHR, and OBM to identify and implement process improvements toward more efficient hiring.
- Led streamlining and automation of a hiring approval form using MS Power Platform.
- Created and managed a complex MS Excel spreadsheet to help leaders set ongoing hiring priorities.
- Served as liaison to hiring and recruitment vendor, resolved service-level agreement issues.

**Chicago Police Department** **2018–2021**  
Project Strategy Manager Chicago, IL

- Developed and managed projects to achieve CPD reforms under consent decree between Illinois Office of the Attorney General and City of Chicago; reported to leadership on progress, challenges.
- Planned and facilitated weekly meetings on MS Teams with internal and external stakeholders.
- Organized and presented complex information clearly and efficiently; routinely used advanced features in MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, and MS Word.
- Updated complex MS Excel model to analyze staffing requirements; presented recommendations to CPD leadership and court-appointed monitor team. Received CPD Honorable Mention for this work.

**American Association for the Advancement of Science – Fellowship Program** **2016–2018**  
Science & Technology Policy Fellow Washington, DC

- Host office: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)–National Homeland Security Research Center
- Identified and addressed bottlenecks in achieving emergency preparedness policy objectives: Designed and conducted interagency performance analysis of EPA radiochemical laboratory analysis program. Interviewed 20+ federal and state incident responders and partners, implemented recommendations to clarify and improve communications about lab analysis methods.

**Jenifer Buckley LLC** **2015–2016**  
Research & Education Consultant Middleton, WI

- Developed and managed projects on contract to public sector clients on issues of food safety policy and food business development; planned and managed budgets; prepared and executed contracts.
- Won USDA North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education grant: distilled US Food Safety Modernization Act into concise flyer for small businesses subject to public health inspection.

**Organic Processing Institute** **2013–2015 (organization closed)**  
Business Development Facilitator Middleton, WI

- Assisted small food businesses to comply with USDA National Organic Program rules, federal and state food safety regulations, and business requirements. Produced workshops and fact sheets.
- Created and led business development training; supervised 3 staff, 20 presenters over 15 sessions.

**Michigan State University** **2008–2013**  
University Distinguished Fellow and Doctoral Student East Lansing, MI

- Designed and conducted social science research on food safety regulation of small food processors.
- Led cross-functional advisory team of state agency leadership and food businesses.
- Served on Michigan Department of Agriculture working groups to review administrative rules.
- Delivered invited lectures at state and national trainings for food safety professionals; published 5 peer-reviewed publications as lead or sole author.
- Wrote successful grants to National Science Foundation and USDA North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program. Managed budgets, analysis, and reporting.