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 Performance Management & Quality Improvement (2023-present) Chicago, IL

- Establish and manage Performance Management & Quality Improvement system to track performance and facilitate improvement in public health programs and departmental administration; develop broad culture of quality and ensure PMQI achieves results for programs and staff.
- Ensure alignment among departmental planning activities; coordinate development of Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Manage CDPH's ongoing accreditation with the Public Health Accreditation Board.
- Led team that developed and launched 6 apps using Microsoft Power Platform to streamline personnel, contracts, and finance processes; partnered with City's Office of Budget & Management and Department of Human Resources.
- 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.
- Directed the Informatics team of CDPH's Bureau of Data Infrastructure & Informatics (2025-2026), developing systems to streamline operations and improve operational data; supervised a team of project managers that analyzed operational needs and facilitated solutions.
- Detailed to City's Department of Technology & Innovation to help with reorganization (2024).
- Participate in City's interdepartmental Innovation Group.

Project Manager (2021-2023)

- Coordinated teams representing CDPH, Office of Budget & Management, and Department of Human Resources 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.
- 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 on 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.