

**Patty Stricker**Candidate Statement:

It has been an honor to serve on the DignityUSA Board of Directors for the past two years. I would like to continue my work for another term. I have learned much about the past from the inspiring chapter testimonials and witnessing to the growth has taken place up until the current time. I believe understanding these experiences will provide me as a board member with a foundation to even better empower DignityUSA to continue to meet the needs of the future growth of our organization. I am excited about the opportunity to continue to serve as an Ally. I believe that I can help influence religious liberty issues and discussions that support of DignityUSA as we go forth. In addition, as the current chairperson of the DignityUSA Development Committee, I understand the importance of working in unison with the membership, fund raising and member services committees to make sure that we are serving and representing all of the DignityUSA community.

What I have learned and come to understand from the past 50 years of Dignity USA is that we have not gotten here alone. Everyone has a part to play. Regardless of your longevity, your age, what you've experienced or where your life is now you are important for the future. I want to stay on the DignityUSA Board another two years to continue that journey with you. It is important for me to reach out and encourage each of you to be the ambassador or perhaps, emerging leader, that DignityUSA needs as we journey on for our next 50 years.

Education Background: 4 years of post-graduation work: University of Dayton. All degree work was done in the areas of educational leadership, supervision, curriculum and development.

Professional Skills and/or Training: Leadership, Development, Strategic Planning, Communications, Human Resources, and Curriculum Development.

Volunteer Experience: DignityUSA Board of Directors currently in my 2nd year; 100+ Women of Dayton for 2 years; Hospice of Dayton's Grief Education & Volunteer Trainer for 20 years; Federation of Christian Ministries for 6 years: Member and Co-Chair of the 2016 FCM Conference & on the 2018 Conference Committee; Living Beatitudes Community for 20+ years: Past President, Liturgy Chair (current), and Development.



Patrick Journet

Candidate Statement:

I feel that all are called to ministry. We must do all we can to bring equality in the lives of all. NO ONE is EQUAL until ALL are EQUAL. As Dignity Pittsburgh's President, I have embraced the addition of transgender individuals to our community. We have truly been enriched. As my new assignment on the Board, I have found myself being called to address the needs of our AGING population. Hopefully a caucus will soon be formed as I continue to discover the needs of the LGBTQIA elder community.

Current Employment: Scientist

Educational Background: B.S. Chemistry, Divine Word College, Epworth; Certified Chemist, American University of Paris

Professional Skills and/or Training: Former school teacher. Graduate of DIVINE WORD SEMINARY for missionary work

Volunteer Service: I am currently serving as a DignityUSA Board of Directors as of February 2018. I have been involved with Dignity Pittsburgh since 1982 and currently serve as Chapter President. I've also served on the Board of CITI Ministries, currently serve as its Vice President. I volunteer at Shepherd Wellness Community as "COORDINATOR OF SPEAKERS" which is a community that serves all affected by AIDS. I also volunteer to feed the homeless at "FIRST FOOD & FRIENDS" of the First United Methodist Church. I have been on that board for 13+ years, having served as President for 8 years and am currently Secretary of the Board.



Peggy Hayes

Candidate Statement:

My involvement in Dignity Boston and DignityUSA is, and has been for more than two decades, my primary volunteer commitment, and the focus of my passionate commitment to creating visibility, safety, opportunity and welcome for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex community (LGBTQI) in all the places we wish to be visible, safe, welcome and find opportunity – in our church, our communities and our world. But Dignity holds an even deeper place in my heart as the faith community where I meet the divine, where I was married and where I will be buried, it is the faith community where all of my joys and sorrows are held. My weekly experience of gathering for prayer and Eucharist with longtime friends and the person who has just walked through the door that evening shapes my life. I believe that what we do as Dignity – prayer, education, advocacy, and activism – is Spirit-called and Spirit-led. It has required extraordinary effort, vision, ingenuity and inspiration to keep our movement vibrant and relevant for nearly 50 years and I am committed to bringing my energy, professional communications skills, and commitment to continuing that work, especially as our work expands internationally.

The skills I would bring to the DignityUSA board are communications, marketing, public relations, strategic planning, professional writing and speaking, and I am not shy about raising money for the movement that means more to me than any other – DignityUSA.

Current Employment: Director of Communications, Northeastern University College of Professional Studies. Responsible for communications strategy and management for a college of 11,000 students across 5 campuses in North America and online.

Educational Background B.A. English, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY; M.S., Corporate and Organizational Communications, Northeastern University, Boston, MA - concentration: Digital Communities

Professional Skills and/or Training: I have worked as a communications professional for my entire career, in higher education, business and government. The thread running through those experiences -- from science communications at Tufts University, community development and campus expansion at Harvard University and work in the pharma field for public relations agencies in the 1990s -- is an emphasis on clear, effective communications that promote both the goals of the communicator and build trust and relationships. My strengths are in developing communications strategy, media relations strategy and management, writing, social media, producing video and print publications, and coaching individuals for media interviews, speeches, and presentations. My present professional work ranges from editing and publishing an alumni magazine to scripting the commencement ceremony for the College of Professional Studies at Northeastern University.

Volunteer Service: My Dignity Boston Chapter includes president (6 years), vice president 2 years, chair of the Dignity Boston liturgy committee (3 years). I served two terms on the DignityUSA board in the 1990s. I have also supported multiple DignityUSA leaders in preparing for media interviews, reviewed press statements and provided other ad hoc communications support. I served on the Program Committee for the 2017 DignityUSA conference in Boston and am a member of the Program Committee for Chicago 2019. I have been a liturgy volunteer for the last 6 conferences/conventions.



Shawn Miller

Candidate Statement:

Prior to joining DignityUSA, I always had the love of my family, but did not feel accepted by the Church. Now, I am part of a faith community that accepts, supports and loves me for who I am. As a Director, my goal is to continue to bring that type of support to members and to be a public witness against institutional Church injustice against our community when it occurs. I serve on the Development Committee, generating such ideas as the online interactive Advent calendar, online Stations of the Cross, both implemented by our amazing Technology Services Manager, which increased member engagement and donations. In 2017, I joined the Board of Directors. My focus on the Board includes Development, and increasing opportunities for engagement of National Members, who are not affiliated with a local community/chapter, including meetings online via Skype, webcast, or Facebook live and more resources to allow connectedness with our organization. As a National Member myself, I have a good perspective on the needs for more growth in this area.

Educational background: B.A., Psychology, University of Akron, Ohio; M.B.A., Organizational Leadership, University of Findlay, Ohio.

Professional Skills and/or Training: Through my training in organizational leadership, I know how to communicate effectively and to make proper use of group resources and time. I am creative, have excellent attention to detail, Operations Management experience, client relations and account executive experience, perform training and development functions as well as accounting and HR functions. I am organized, creative and goal oriented. I have business writing and advertising experience and am artistic.

Volunteer background: DignityUSA Board of Directors 10/17 to present; DignityUSA Development Committee Member 2015 to present; Choir Member: St. Andrew the Apostle Parish 2010 to present.