

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department



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JAN 3 2022

President of the Senate

Governor Tim Walz

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Jennifer Ho

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

Commissioner

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

Effective: January 2, 2023

Expires: January 4, 2027

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed January 2, 2023.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Reappointment

Filed on January 2, 2023
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon

Jennifer Leimaile Ho
Minnesota Housing
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651-296-5738

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President of the Senate

Strategic, systems-level leadership in the public, non-profit and for-profit sectors. Track record shaping systems change at the intersection of housing and health. A dynamic group facilitator who inspires people to tackle difficult problems collectively, bringing bold vision to achieve results.

EMPLOYMENT

Commissioner

January 2019 to present

Minnesota Housing, St. Paul, MN

Appointed by Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan to advance Administration priorities related to housing justice, including creating and preserving more housing for people who are low and moderate income, preventing and ending homelessness, and creating integrated housing opportunities for people with disabilities.

- Lead an agency of 260 people on a journey to create an inclusive workplace that has a deep racial analysis of the history of housing and build skills to center racial equity at all levels of decision-making.
- Work with communities most impacted by the cost and shortage of housing to achieve more equitable outcomes.
- Strategically invest over \$1.6 billion per year in housing and work with the Minnesota Legislature to increase investments over time.
- Co-chair of the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness.
- Chair of the Minnesota Olmstead Subcabinet.
- Lead through the COVID-19 pandemic, including shifting to working from home for over one year and directing over \$500 million of federal stimulus for emergency housing assistance.
- Member, One Minnesota Council on Equity and Inclusion, providing strategic direction for enterprise-wide work across state government.

Independent Consultant

August 2017 – December 2018

Provided strategic direction to national and local clients in the areas of homelessness, housing and health. Clients included Council of State Governments Justice Center, US Interagency Council on Homelessness, A Way Home America, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Anthem, Cloudburst, Heading Home Minnesota Funders Collaborative, Greater Minnesota Housing Fund and Minneapolis Public Housing Authority.

Senior Advisor on Housing and Services

February 2013 to January 2017

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington, DC

Worked for Secretaries Shaun Donovan and Julián Castro to advance Obama Administration priorities related to housing and health in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

- Led work on ending homelessness, resulting in a 14% reduction overall between 2010 and 2016, including a 47% reduction for veterans.
- Influenced Medicaid policy on reimbursement for housing-related services and engaged AARP in the future of housing.
- Shaped strategy for how HUD can support state compliance with *Olmstead*.
- Led the creation of a regulation on gender identity and emergency shelter access.

Jennifer Leimaile Ho

Deputy Director

2010 to 2013

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), Washington, DC

USICH coordinates the federal response to reducing and ending homelessness in the nation while leveraging federal resources across nineteen agencies.

- Shepherded the creation of the *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, managing many aspects of its implementation across federal agencies, with states, and in partnership with researchers, consumer advocates, philanthropy, housing developers and community nonprofits.
- In partnership with Health and Human Services, led strategies to build knowledge and momentum, federally and locally, on the use of Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act to achieve national and local goals for ending homelessness.
- In partnership with HHS, HUD, and Education, co-led development and implementation of a new federal framework to end youth homelessness.

Executive Director

1999 to 2010

Hearth Connection, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Hearth Connection is a non-profit intermediary that builds the relationships, resources, infrastructure and public awareness needed to end long-term homelessness.

- Created effective and replicable supportive housing service and financing models that helped over 2,000 Minnesotans with long histories of homelessness achieve housing stability and begin a journey of recovery.
- Built strong collaborative relationships among state, tribal and county government, non-profit supportive housing providers, business and philanthropy.
- Persuaded the Minnesota Legislature to invest \$45 million cumulatively in supportive housing services.
- Fostered dialogue across programs and sectors to resolve historic tensions between proponents of scattered-site and site-based supportive housing, sobriety and harm reduction service models, and providers working with single adult, family and youth populations.
- Honed management skills guiding a small non-profit through a period of start-up and rapid growth through teamwork, communication and public accountability.

Vice President, New Business Development

1997 to 1999

AARP Division, UnitedHealth Group, Minnetonka, Minnesota

Led policy, development and marketing efforts to design new products to meet the needs of older Americans, including a consumer-focused prescription drug program, Medicare supplemental insurance, and a Medicare buy-in product for uninsured individuals who were not yet 65.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Plus of Minnesota

1993 to 1997

Responsible for Medicare and Medicaid products with a membership base of 170,000 enrollees, an annual budget of \$9 million and \$215 million in annual revenue. Assumed responsibility for, restructured and energized 100 staff.

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EDUCATION and COMMUNITY SERVICE

Bryn Mawr College, B.A. cum laude in Philosophy
Corporation for Supportive Housing Board
The Melville Charitable Trust Board
National Council of State Housing Agencies
VA Secretary's Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Chair

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President of the Senate

1983 – 1987
2006 – 2010
2018 – present
2019 – present
2019 – present