

Robert Gordon

Director, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Robert Gordon serves as the director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, where he oversees Medicaid programs, Children's Protective Services, food assistance and many other statewide health and human services programs. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer appointed him to the position effective Jan. 14, 2019.

Director Gordon has a distinguished career in public service that includes positions in the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Most recently, he served as senior vice president of finance and global strategy for the College Board, a non-profit organization that helps more than 7 million students prepare for a successful transition to college.

Prior to joining the College Board, Director Gordon served in the U.S. Department of Education as acting assistant secretary at the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development. He also served as acting deputy director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. He has been described as the quarterback for President Barack Obama administration's evidence-based policymaking initiatives, which closely tied program funding to quality evaluation.

Director Gordon comes to Michigan's health and human services department with much experience working on maternal and early childhood interventions, child welfare, health policy, and more. Earlier in his career, he held a key position at the New York City Department of Education, orchestrating a fair student funding approach that has persisted through multiple school chancellors. He also has served as a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution, a law guardian in abuse and neglect cases at the Legal Aid Society of New York, and a law clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Director Gordon earned his bachelor's degree at Harvard University and his J.D. from Yale University. He has two children.

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