

# Sarah Esty

## Senior Deputy Director of the Policy and Planning Administration Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Sarah Esty is the senior deputy director for Policy and Planning Administration at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

In that role, Esty oversees the development of major crosscutting policies, such as the departmental opioids strategy, behavioral health system transformation, and community-based health and social services continuums of care. She also leads work around improving health information technology and data interoperability; reducing health disparities; regulatory oversight for major health procedures, equipment, and facility construction; and workforce planning and supports.

Previously, Esty worked as a consultant focusing on healthcare and state/local government projects. In this role, she advised state health, budget and tax agencies, city executives and state university leaders on topics including Medicaid payment innovation, organizational design, organizational health and culture, lean process redesign and national best practices in healthcare, workforce development and other areas.

She began her career as an advocate and policy researcher for low-income children and families in Connecticut, where she worked with the state legislature and state agencies to improve policies and fund critical programs related to early childhood care and education, healthcare, juvenile justice and workforce development. She has worked on retirement security, local and tribal economic development and the school lunch program at the White House National Economic Council, and has coordinated voter protection efforts in several states as part of a presidential campaign. She earned her bachelor's degree at Harvard University and her J.D. and MBA from Yale University.

---

### Contact Information:

Jackie Boyd  
517-284-4040

[BoydJ@michigan.gov](mailto:BoydJ@michigan.gov)

