

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Georgia Pharmacy Association

Contact: Joe Ed Holt, Board Chair

Contact Phone: 229-223-9262

Contact Email: jholt@pruitthealth.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAWN A. RANDOLPH, MPA, JOINS GEORGIA PHARMACY ASSOCIATION AS FIRST FEMALE CEO

Sandy Springs, Georgia – January 8, 2024 – The Georgia Pharmacy Association (GPhA) announced today Dawn A. Randolph, MPA, will be joining the organization as chief executive officer. Randolph comes to GPhA from her long career in public administration and policy in the fields of healthcare, disability, mental health, and substance use disorders. In her new role, Randolph will lead GPhA into a new era to tackle emerging healthcare challenges.

Joe Ed Holt, chairman of the board, is excited to bring in a new CEO, “GPhA welcomes Dawn, whose breadth and depth of experience comes at an important time for GPhA. The healthcare environment is still being reshaped by the pandemic. Pharmacists experience stress inducing demands from all aspects of their work, and we want to ensure they have the support and advocacy to advance their practice while living a healthy life.”

Randolph comes to GPhA from the Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network where she has been the CFO, providing contract management and financial skills after the untimely loss of their former CEO. Randolph stepped in to stabilize the financial standing of the organization in 2022 and took it through a complete overhaul in financial practices.

Prior to her role as a CFO and during the pandemic, she was the subject-matter expert and principal researcher to convert in-person curricula to online self-led courses for the Columbo Plan Global Centre for Credentialing and Certification through a multi-year multi-million-dollar grant from the US Department of State. She supported the project from RFP development to launch. Johnathan Hamrick , chair of the CPE Advisory Committee noted; “In addition to Dawn’s leadership and policy skills, we have the added bonus of her passion for continuing education and hands-on experience building and delivering curricula.”

Randolph got her start in public policy and administration as a congressional aide to US Senator Sam Nunn. It was with the senator that she developed her deep love of Georgia and the commitment to ensure all Georgians have access to quality healthcare. During her time as a congressional aide, she managed cases for veterans and military service members then moved into policy facilitation for large regulatory projects such as the East-West Connector and the Sydney Lanier Bridge construction.

“Dawn’s long career working with government at all levels allows her to bring a strong policy and regulatory perspective to our organization, which every association needs but few have at this level,” said Dawn Sasine, chair of GPhA’s Legislative Policy Committee. She is also trained in fundraising and highly knowledgeable in project and financial management. She came along at the perfect time.”.

Randolph also built a consulting practice specializing in public policy, project management and strategic development for government and nonprofit clients. In this capacity she has worked with more than 41 clients over the past 20 years. She has assisted her clients in more than \$360 million in state appropriations while also managing projects underwritten by \$18 million in grant and donor funds. Prior to her consulting work she was the chief operating officer of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse (now the Georgia Council 4 Recovery), where she helped develop the structure for a new business model to support modern advocacy and administer the merger of two existing organizations into a new 501(c)3 non-profit.

“Dawn’s vast experience in membership development and public policy will help grow GPhA. Her knowledge of Georgia and the foundation world will provide access to new resources to support both the work of our association and our foundation,” said Interim Executive Director Mahlon Davidson. He went on to say “Pharmacists care deeply about their patients, and we want to ensure Georgians have good access across the state to a pharmacist, who is vital in their healthcare journey. I know Dawn will help facilitate filling the gaps in Georgia’s healthcare landscape.”

Maintaining ties to research and continuing education resources is critical to the Georgia Pharmacy Association. Randolph will remain an adjunct professor in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University, designing and leading courses for undergraduate and graduate students around leadership, organizational behavior, digital citizenship, project evaluation, and management.

Randolph holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Georgia State University (summa cum laude) with a concentration in management, budget, and finance, and a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Service and International Politics from the Pennsylvania State University. She is a member of the Georgia Society of Association Executives, serves as a trustee of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority Foundation, and is the vice chair of the Henry County Zoning Advisory Board. She lives in Stockbridge, Georgia with her husband Chris and their three cats: Bentley, Ferrari, and Lamborghini.

ABOUT GPhA: *The Georgia Pharmacy Association represents Georgia’s pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and their patients. Our members encompass pharmacists and technicians who practice in retail space, clinical and health systems, independent pharmacies, and academic institutions. The association provides advocacy, continuing education, networking, and support to pharmacists across Georgia and extends to students studying the practice of pharmacy through scholarships and networking.*