

James Rydingsword

Agency Director, Health and Human Services

Mr. Rydingsword brings over thirty years of experience as a Human Services Executive in California and Oregon including managing small to large organizations for welfare programs, child welfare services, mental health administration, and aging and disability services. He holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration with a focus on organizational change and development from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

He has experience in diverse communities and connections across the Nation and as an expertise in all phases of human services administration. With a focus on matching human services with emerging practices of organizational training and development, he has developed and delivered inter-agency human services programs in child welfare services, mental health, employment services, strategic planning, and succession planning aimed at long term organizational development and stability.

His comprehensive record of success in local government human services executive management, that enables him to bring an intrinsic understanding of the organizational challenges associated with providing a balanced capacity that consistently assesses both risks and opportunities in order to adapt operations and policy to best address service delivery in a changing political, practice, and fiscal environment.

He has been a member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and a charter member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators. He was also involved in the first national discussion of evidence-based practices in local child welfare departments.