

## Secretary Candidate

### Chara Stewart Abrams

Ms. Stewart Abrams is Director of Community Health Development at CHRISTUS Health. She has been a member and in service of NAHSE since 2012. She currently serves as the NAHSE National Secretary.

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Chara has served in the following capacity over the years:

National Secretary (2019-Present)

NAHSE Memphis Chapter President (2018-2019)

NAHSE Memphis Chapter President-Elect (2016-2017)

NAHSE Memphis Chapter Treasurer (2014-2015)

NAHSE Memphis Chapter Secretary (2012-2013)

### **Statement of Personal Goals for NAHSE:**

Because I currently serve as the National Secretary and have served in other local NAHSE leadership positions, I am very aware of the commitment this role requires in terms of travel, communication, and knowledge of issues relevant to NAHSE. The support that I receive from my supervisor and institutional investment in my professional development allows me to attend the meetings required of the Secretary to support the board and executive committees.

As the 2019-2021 Secretary, I have assisted the current administration with several transitions. As NAHSE prepared for the new governance transformation, the organization did not foresee the pandemic and the racial reckoning but adapted well to meet the needs of our membership. In addition to the routine responsibilities, my role was important to support the board's efforts for the following:

- Working with the current administration and national headquarters to transition to the new governance structure which included more executive committee and board meetings and the change of two executive directors.
- Work with WittKieffer to coordinate the interviews and selection of new Executive Director
- Organize the data repository with the meeting material that are not confidential
- Serve on the committee to formalize the Korn Ferry Leadership U for Humanity partnership. I recommended that our committee become a cohort to be ambassadors of the partnership before it officially launched in September 2021
- Secured support of my current employer to sponsor the 2022 Women's History Session in March (\$30,000)

While taking care of the details of the board and executive committee's proceedings is undeniably important, it is not my only reason for running for the position. Beyond dotting the I's and crossing

the Ts of meeting minutes, I see the position of the Secretary as a position of facilitation. At its best, I believe that NAHSE has the unique ability to continue to increase visibility and foster more strategic partnerships that mirror the mission. My interest in serving as Secretary has much to do with my professional and personal goals. Specifically, the issues I am concerned about within my role as National Secretary are inextricably tied to ***Confronting our History, Capturing the Present and Creating our Future*** which contributes to the success of NAHSE.

#### **Confronting our History**

- Build on the infrastructure to continue to improve the communication and transition to the new governance model
- **Capturing the Present**
- Follow-up with individuals regarding items on which they need to act on
- **Creating the Future**
- Plan for and adopt relevant technology advancements to improve board operations and communication and provide new features and functions for members

Please know if I am selected, I am committed to representing NAHSE by serving as National Secretary and staying informed on the crucial issues facing the organization.