



Jennifer T. Holmes, MA

Holmes's career in philanthropy began in 2011 and progressed through three small non-profit organizations which provided services to home bound seniors, youth and entrepreneurs. Holmes earned a Bachelor of Science in history from Illinois State University, began graduate school at DePaul University and she completed her Master of Arts degree in liberal studies at University of Detroit Mercy. Holmes currently is serving as member of the Major Gifts team in the Department of Philanthropy at Rush University Medical Center. In her role, Holmes is privileged to collaborate with Rush Medical Team, faculty and non-clinical staff to secure funding for medical research, health equity, physician training and academic scholarships.

In 2021, Holmes co-authored and published two articles, "[Fundraiser Bill of Rights: Creating Equitable Partnerships](#)" and "[Why Hiring Diverse Candidates is Not The First Step](#)" in Advancing Philanthropy. Holmes serves as a conference speaker and actively curates ethics and equity focused panel discussions on Black Philanthropy, Grant Making, and Racism through her leadership with the Philanthropy Club of Chicago. Holmes is serving as a Coach for the Cause Effective Fellows Program: Advancing Leaders of Color in Fundraising. As a Coach, Holmes will guide Fellows through the nuances of fundraising programs, team development, navigation internal DEI matters, and work prioritization.

Holmes is actively involved with the Association of Fundraising Professionals-Chicago Chapter and WOC (Women of Color in Fundraising and Philanthropy). She is a member and active contributor on the local and regional levels of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Holmes enjoys all things relationship building so please connect with her at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/1jenniferholmes/>