

## BRIEF INTRODUCTION FOR MARY ABLAN

Mary Ablan has been the Executive Director of the Area Agencies on Aging Association since 1985. She has led statewide advocacy efforts garnering hundreds of millions of dollars in funding for home and community-based services. She has played a role in the passage of numerous pieces of legislation including Michigan's first prescription drug program for seniors, specialized transportation, patient rights, Blue Cross Blue Shield regulation, telecommunications regulation, funeral industry oversight, and elder abuse prevention. She has also played a key role in developing and building statewide programs including the Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program, and most recently obtained a \$5 million grant to expand two evidence-based programs to prevent falls and self-manage diabetes.

## EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

M.S.W.	1980	Social Work	Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI
M.A.	1974	Psychology	Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA
B.A.	1973	Psychology	Summa Cum Laude – University of Detroit, Detroit, MI Member of Honors College and Debate Team

### Work History

1985 to present:	Executive Director of Area Agencies on Aging Association
1997 to 2015:	Gerontology Instructor at Lansing Community College
1984 to 1990:	Adjunct faculty member at Western Michigan University
1981 to 1985:	Planning and Research Manager of an Area Agency on Aging
1974 to 1981:	Psychologist & Social Worker at the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek, MI

### Awards:

- 2012 Friend of MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) Award
- 2011 Public Servant of the Year Award from National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter
- 2009 Appointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm as a member of the Long Term Care Supports and Services Advisory Commission
- 2007 Harry J. Kelley Award, Michigan Society of Gerontology
- 2004 Special Recognition Award from The Senior Alliance
- 2002 Champion of Independent Living Award from the Michigan Association of Centers for Independent Living
- Graduate assistantship for Western Michigan University
- Full scholarship and graduate assistantship for Duquesne University
- State of Michigan and Father Hugh Smith scholarships for University of Detroit
- 1973 graduate with highest grade point average (4.0) from University of Detroit
- High School Valedictorian (4.0 g.p.a.)