

Elisabeth Buck President



Elisabeth Buck became President of United Way of Central Iowa in May 2017 after serving as Chief Community Impact Officer since January 2011. As United Way of Central Iowa's chief executive, Elisabeth leads strategies to achieve substantive community impact in the priority areas of Education, Income, and Health to improve lives and build a stronger central Iowa.

Prior to joining United Way, she served as Governors Vilsack and Culver's Deputy Chief of Staff from 1999-2007 until her appointment as Governor Culver's Director of Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) in 2007. During her time in this position, Elisabeth transformed IWD into a client-centered environment and integrated the Workforce Centers with partners to provide seamless employment services and up-skilling activities for Iowans. She also led the Governor's Executive Order 8 and 15 Task Force that addressed misclassification of workers and ex-offender reentry.

Elisabeth earned a BA in political science from Iowa State University, where she served as student body president. In addition to this early vote of confidence in her leadership, Elisabeth went on to be named Leader of the Year in Iowa State Government in 2002 and Volunteer of the Year in 2004, received the AFSCME Leadership Award in 2006, and was honored as a Business Record Woman of Influence in 2015.

Elisabeth and her husband, Tim, have two children.

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