



Lauri Andress, MPH, J.D., Ph.D

Lauri Andress is the Managing Partner for *Andress & Associates, LLC*, an advisory firm on health inequities serving local and state health departments. Dr. Andress received her doctorate in Community Health Science with a concentration in management and policy sciences from the University of Texas. She also received her master's in public health from the University of Texas and holds a law degree from South Texas College of Law where she received the Vinson & Elkins Public Interest Fellowship.

Dr. Andress lectures on the public policy process, public health laws and policies, social determinants of health, policy framing, and community organizing. Her research interests have included: the study of state-level policies on the organization of public health services; the affects of power on marginalized communities; a comparison and analysis of social capital and community building as levers for improved population health; framing public health policies and agenda setting for the social determinants of health in the United Sates and Britain.

Most recently, Dr. Andress served as the Director of the *Center for Health Equity at the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness*. The Center is the first of its kind at the local public health level in the United States. She also served as an Assistant Professor of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences, at the University Of Louisville School Of Public Health and Information Sciences.

Dr. Andress previously worked for the *Texas Program for Society and Health at the Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University*. As the Director of Operations & Strategic Political Action, her work focused on research and policy initiatives related to the social determinants of health.

For more than twenty years Dr. Andress has provided community, media, and government relations to various non-profit organizations, government agencies and elected officials. Her areas of expertise include evaluation, program implementation, needs assessment, community organizing, project planning and implementation, and message framing.

She has served as public information officer for Houston's Department of Health and Human Services; a legislative aide and press secretary in the United States House of Representatives (Texas 18th Congressional District); special projects coordinator for State District 25, Texas House of Representatives; and, Chief of Staff in Houston's City Council. In 1997 she served as executive director for a non-profit community-based organization whose mission was to raise awareness about and advocate for the needs of a marginalized community in Galveston, Texas.

Dr. Andress has worked as a journalist for The Houston Chronicle's weekly neighborhood newspaper and she was the first community liaison to serve on the editorial board for the Galveston County Daily News.