

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS



## **Twanisha Glass**

**Director of DVS Contracts and Grants  
State of Michigan Division of Victim Services**

### **Background**

I have dedicated my career to strengthening public systems through compliance, accountability, and relationship-centered grant stewardship. I hold a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in project management and a bachelor of science in industrial management, complemented by Six Sigma training and a corporate certification in diversity, equity and inclusion.

My career spans more than two decades across state and local government, corporate compliance, and nonprofit financial oversight. Currently, I serve as the director of grants and contracts for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Victim Services, where I oversee statewide compliance, financial systems, audits, risk assessment and multimillion-dollar federal and state-funded portfolios supporting over 800 victim service programs. I am also trained in emergency management, having served as ICS finance section chief during the COVID-19 pandemic. My path reflects a commitment to operational excellence, equitable funding, and ensuring government resources truly reach communities in need.

### **Candidate Profile: Local Government**

I have represented the local and state government sectors with extensive experience partnering with nonprofits and educational systems. As director of grants and contracts for a statewide division supporting over 800 community-based victim service organizations, I bring first-hand knowledge of nonprofit needs, operational challenges, subrecipient capacity and the realities of implementing federal requirements at the local and state level.

My leadership in government, both city and state, offers NGMA a practical, grounded perspective on how national policies translate to service delivery in communities. I also bring experience developing funding formulas, managing federal compliance, supporting nonprofit sustainability, and guiding agencies through audits and risk assessments. My perspective will help NGMA ensure its decisions remain relevant, equitable, and responsive to the organizations most directly impacted by grants management standards.

### **Board Experience**

I currently serve on multiple nonprofit and community boards, including the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA), Wayne County Healthy Communities, and was a founding board member of Birth Detroit. These roles reinforce my governance experience in reviewing budgets, shaping strategic priorities, strengthening policies, and supporting executive leadership.

My approach to governance emphasizes accountability, equity, community voice, and long-term sustainability. These are values I would happily bring to NGMA's board committees.

### **NGMA Experience/Volunteering**

I am an active NGMA member and was recently selected to present at the 2026 Annual Grants Training (AGT). My presentation, "Grants Management: More Than Just Money, It's Relationships," highlights Michigan's relationship-based model for supporting subrecipients. I regularly engage in NGMA training and integrate best practices into statewide systems and staff development.

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## Goal of NGMA's Strategic Framework That Most Resonates with Me

Strategic Goal #1: Elevating the vital role of grants management professionals. In my role as director of grants and contracts at MDHHS Division of Victim Services, I see every day how essential it is to communicate the value, skillset and expertise required of grants professionals, especially in government systems where grants are often misunderstood as purely administrative rather than strategic, compliance-driven, and mission-critical.

Goal #1 speaks directly to the work I do in Michigan to educate colleagues, subrecipients, and statewide partners on the importance of strong stewardship, compliance and the unique competencies needed in grants management. Many individuals in state agencies and nonprofit organizations perform grant duties without fully identifying as "grants managers," which leads to gaps in understanding federal expectations, internal controls, risk assessments and Uniform Guidance requirements. The goal's focus on raising awareness, defining professional standards, and developing tools to educate others aligns perfectly with the leadership approach I bring to DVS.

I also strongly value Strategic Goals #2 and #3, which aim to strengthen workforce competency and help practitioners navigate rapidly changing federal guidance. In a landscape where funding uncertainty and compliance changes create anxiety for both state agencies and subrecipients, NGMA's commitment to accessible education, expanded best-practices sharing, and timely updates is essential for the long-term health of our field.

Overall, Strategic Goal #1 resonates most because elevating and clearly defining the profession ensures that all other goals education, competency, compliance, partnerships, and credentialing can flourish. Strengthening recognition of grants management as a true profession is the foundation for improving service delivery, compliance, and equitable funding across the country.

## Top Two Challenges Over the Next 3-5 Years for the Profession

### 1. Unpredictable Federal Funding and Increased Subrecipient Anxiety

State agencies face fluctuating federal appropriations, funds reductions, delayed guidance and evolving policies. This creates significant challenges for nonprofits reliant on stable funding to sustain victim-service programs. Managing expectations, maintaining transparency, and supporting agencies through uncertainty are growing responsibilities for government grant administrators.

### 2. Expanding Compliance Demands Without Proportionate Administrative Funding

While federal requirements for documentation, internal controls, and audit readiness continue to increase, administrative funding often remains stagnant. This places pressure on both state agencies and local nonprofits, threatening service stability. Strengthening professional standards, advocating for realistic administrative resources, and providing practical training will be essential.