



Alex Kontras

Catamaran Senior Project Manager

Position with Firm

2018–present ***Catamaran Senior Project Manager.*** Provides project management support to Catamaran, the Michigan Department of Education’s online system that tracks local school district compliance with federal special education laws and regulations. Coordinates new development, software testing, and help desk management. Ensures timely and successful product delivery.

Previous Professional Experience

- 2017–2018 ***Director of Programs and Planning, Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, Boston, Massachusetts.*** Supervised a team that managed several federal and state housing initiatives—totaling \$8.6 million—aimed at ending homelessness across Massachusetts. Designed tools to evaluate program performance. Ensured compliance with federal and state regulations. Monitored subcontractors for appropriate utilization of resources. Wrote program proposals. Incubated new programs.
- 2014–2017 ***Program Manager, Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, Boston, Massachusetts.***
- 2013 ***Regional Coordinator and Contract Administrator, City of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, Michigan.*** Managed and evaluated local chapter of BetterBuildings for Michigan, a Department of Energy–funded energy-efficiency program for residential properties. Vetted and deployed technology solutions to evaluate and improve program performance. Represented the City of Grand Rapids to state and national parties. Served on the statewide program steering committee.
- 2012–2013 ***Assistant Regional Coordinator, City of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, Michigan.***
- 2011–2012 ***Data Manager, City of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, Michigan.***
- 2009–2012 ***Graduate Research Assistant, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan.*** Provided research and evaluation services within the Johnson Center for Philanthropy, including research design, literature review, survey creation and dissemination, data mining and cleaning, statistical analysis, and report writing.

Education Calvin College, BA in Sociology
Grand Valley State University, MPA

Activities

- Founding board member and current board vice president of 3:11 Youth Housing, 2012 to present
- Chair and member of Easttown Community Association Housing Committee, 2012 to 2013
- Volunteer fair housing tester with the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan, 2012 to 2013

Publications

- *A Cycle of Change: A Brief Profile of the Automotive Industry in West Michigan, 2007–2010*. Prepared for the Community Research Institute. September 2010.
- "Anchor Institutions on the Michigan Street Corridor: An Economic Case Study." 2013. *SPNHA Review* 9 (1): 14–28.