



Biography for Gayla Brockman

Gayla Brockman was born and raised in Kansas City. After graduating from the University of Michigan with a combined liberal arts and business degree, Gayla moved to Boston, Massachusetts. Gayla's career began at Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Gayla's role was to design and implement preventive health programs and services that would reduce hospital employee health care costs and utilization and teach employees how they can better manage their own health risks. Her work proved that health education and health risk screenings can reduce overall health care costs and utilization.

In 1995, Gayla completed her master's degree in health care administration at Simmons College and went to work for Tufts Health Plan (THP), a million-member, regional managed care organization. Her eight years at THP provided Gayla with a variety of significant health care business and leadership opportunities in program development, process and system reengineering and strategic planning.

In the summer of 2003, Gayla returned to Kansas City and assumed the role of Executive Director of the Menorah Legacy Foundation, previously known as the Menorah Medical Center Foundation. From 2003-2005, Gayla worked closely with the Board of Directors to transition the Foundation from a hospital-based supporting organization to an established, community health promotion partner. In addition to funding the health care needs of the Kansas City community, the Menorah Legacy Foundation seeks to incubate or support those initiatives that foster transformational change in individual or community behaviors.

In 2010, Gayla worked with community leaders to launch the Kansas City Beans&Greens program which makes locally grown, fresh produce sold at farmers markets, market stands and a mobile market accessible and affordable for persons receiving food assistance.