# Bio – Lori VanAuken

Lori VanAuken has over 32 years of leadership, policy, advocacy and fundraising experience in the non-profit sector. In March 2013 she assumed the role of Executive Director of Catholic Charities Community Services, one of the nine Catholic Charities organizations of the Catholic Dioceses of Rochester, which serves people with developmental disabilities, individuals who have sustained traumatic brain injuries and those living with chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS. She works with the board of directors and staff to strategically advance the mission of the organization, oversees operations, and ensures the fiscal health of the agency. She assumed the role of President and CEO of **Catholic Charities Family and Community Services** on January 1, 2022.

**Catholic Charities Family and Community Services** brings together the services and programs of Catholic Family Center and Catholic Charities Community Services, serving over 28,000 clients annually with an operating budget of nearly $50M.

Before joining Catholic Charities, she served as the Deputy Executive Director of Children’s Institute, affiliated with University of Rochester, where she managed government, corporate and foundation relation, board development, strategic planning and agency communications and fundraising. Prior to her employment with Children’s Institute, Lori spent nearly a decade with the Rochester Area Community Foundation where she oversaw grantmaking in the areas of early childhood. She also advocated for child care subsidies and influenced policy decisions in the field of early care and education. Lori was also instrumental in raising $500,000 in local support which leveraged funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for Health-e-Access – a tele-health program in child care centers developed by the University of Rochester’s Medical Center.

Lori has been recognized by the Rochester Business Journal as a recipient of the Forty Under 40 Award in 2004, and the Women of Excellence Award in 2018. She received her bachelor’s degree from SUNY Geneseo and her master’s in public administration from SUNY Brockport, where she graduated Summa Cum Laude. During her career she has served on a variety of state and local boards of directors including: The Center for Teen Empowerment, Rochester’s Child, The Hunter Institute of SUNY Brockport, NYS Early Childhood Coordinating Council, and she co-chaired the Early Childhood Development Initiative community-wide collaborative for several years. She served on iCircle Managed Long Term Care Board of Directors for 4 years and was an officer on the founding board of directors of a Care Coordination Organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Lori represents NYS Catholic Charities Developmental Disabilities Committee and provides input into statewide policies and practices that are established by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. She also serves on the Finger Lakes COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force to ensure equitable vaccine distribution.

Originally from Queens, NY, Lori lives in Hilton with her husband, Eric, and two sons, Tommy and Michael. She enjoys spending time with her family, and volunteering at her church. Her hobbies include taking long walks, running, Jazzercise classes and retail therapy.