Caroline Palmer Gaagige-Mikwendaagoziwag Reward Fund Advisory Group

Caroline Palmer, JD, MPH, is the Safe Harbor Director in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Violence Prevention Programs Unit. In this role, she manages the state's multi-sector response to human trafficking/exploitation (sex and labor), with a focus on youth experiencing sexual exploitation through age 24. Her responsibilities include oversight of grants for service providers, federal grant management, program evaluation, technical assistance, training and policy development.

Before joining MDH, Caroline served as the Public and Legal Affairs Manager at the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault for over a decade. Previous work experience also includes Pro Bono Development Director at the Minnesota State Bar Association and Staff Attorney at the Minnesota AIDS Project.



Palmer is a Bloomberg American Health Initiative Alumni Fellow in the Violence cohort at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Caroline received a 2018 Distinguished Service Award from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Office of Justice Programs. She is also a 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient from the Mitchell Hamline School of Law.