

**Erika Seydel Cheney** is a 17+ year veteran with the Indianapolis Private Industry Council d/b/a EmployIndy. Currently she serves as the Vice President, K-12 Initiatives. She received her Bachelors in Political Science & Journalism from Ball State University as well as a Public Management Certificate from Indiana University.



For the last seventeen years, Ms. Cheney has worked for EmployIndy where she has played numerous roles, mostly centered on community development and providing pathways and opportunities to youth and young adults. In 2008 she took on the mission of growing the Jobs for America's Graduates program in Marion County. What started with one program has grown to eighteen under Erika's guidance, and touches more than 1000+ current high school juniors, seniors and recent graduates annually. As EmployIndy's Vice President, K-12, Ms. Seydel Cheney guides and oversees programs including JAG and Project Indy serving both youth and young adults, providing pathways towards high school completion, post-secondary education and sustainable, thriving careers as well as assisting Marion County schools with the rollout of EmployIndy's Modern Youth Apprenticeship program.

During her tenure at EmployIndy she has served on several steering committees, advisory boards and consortiums in the community to help provide exposure for youth and young adults to careers in high demand occupations and gain access to employability skills training and resources. Her current community involvement includes: JA JobSpark Steering Committee, JA JobSpark Government, Law and Public Service Cluster Co-Chair, Governor's Workforce Cabinet Youth Committee, MICI-AHEC Advisory Board, MSD Pike Township Middle School Counseling Initiative Advisory Team, IPS Future Center Employment Consortium, Learn IndyEast, and Indy My Brother's Keeper Steering Committee.

Erika is the proud mother of two daughters and a son. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, reading, spending time with her family and friends, volunteering with her children's schools, and keeping active with her Yoga practice and running.