



## Deeann Burtch Puffert

### Qualifications Summary

Deaann brings more than thirty-five years of nonprofit management experience, most of which she has spent focused on the mission of improving the quality and accessibility of childcare programs. She has managed multi-million-dollar agencies with federal and state funding sources, including subrecipient monitoring, and has intimate familiarity with program development and new initiatives. Deeann ran a four-center licensed childcare business and managed all aspects of the business and administration functions. She is also skilled at interpreting the realities of the field to policymakers and vice versa.

### Professional History

Valtas Group	Consultant	2026 – Present
Child Care Aware of Washington	Chief Executive Officer	2019 – 2025
Child Care Resources (now BrightSpark Early Learning Services)	Chief Executive Officer	2009 – 2019
Child Care Resources (now BrightSpark Early Learning Services)	Chief Program Officer	1993 – 2009
Child Care Resources (now BrightSpark Early Learning Services)	East County Director	1990 – 1993
Neighborhood House	Program Director	1987 – 1990

### Accomplishments

- Expanded organizational visibility and partnerships at Child Care Aware of Washington, increasing private foundation investment by over 200% to create a focused multi-year initiative called Child Care for Washington.
- Partnered in the development of Holding Hope, a unique statewide program that partners Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants with childcare providers and early learning coaches to promote the social emotional development and well-being of young children in childcare.
- Provided local and statewide leadership throughout the development and implementation of services for Early Achievers, Washington State’s quality recognition and improvement system.
- Served on the founding leadership team that built King County Child Care Resource and Referral services. Over the course of 29 years, the organization grew from 19 to over 180 staff through the addition of newly developed community responsive services and the expansion of existing services.
- Served as Lead Instructor for Certification Course in Non-Profit Management at the University of Washington. The course focused on key management and operational issues in nonprofit organizations as well as key legal requirements for maintaining tax-exempt status.
- Served on the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank Community Advisory Council providing feedback and advice to the Board on issues affecting communities particularly with a focus on the concerns of low and moderate-income consumers and communities.

**Licenses / Education**

- Master's In Public Administration, University of Washington Evans School
- B.A. in Applied Sociology, Western Washington University

**Board / Volunteer Experience**

- Board Member, Cooper House 2026 – Present
- Council Member, Seattle First Covenant Church, 2018 – 2025