

DEIRDRE SCHLUNEGGER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

With over twenty-five years of nonprofit and leadership experience, Deirdre joined Stop Foodborne Illness in August 2010. She serves as an advisory member of the Joint Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition (JIFSAN) and is a participating member of the Safe Food Coalition and the Make Our Food Safe Coalition. She serves as Commissioner of the International Food Science Certification Commission.

Before joining Stop Foodborne Illness, she held the position of President & CEO of Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oklahoma. Prior to this, she was Vice-President of Chapter Relations at Breast Cancer Network of Strength. Deirdre has served as the Executive Director of a Chicago organization addressing issues of domestic violence, and led a national organization related to children and physical challenges. She has been the Director of Child Life Programs in a number of Children's Hospitals during which time she served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Georgia. Additionally she was the Director of a Head Start Program and started a program for mothers who resided at the former Chicago Cabrini Green housing development. Deirdre has also worked as a consultant for various organizations.

Deirdre graduated from Colorado State University with a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies, completed a Child Life Internship at Johns Hopkins Children's Hospital, and completed a program in Nonprofit Management at the Kellogg School of Business. Numerous leadership courses she has attended include the Wharton School of Business and the University of Chicago. She has completed a certificate program in conflict resolution and she previously served on the Advisory Committee of the Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence.

Additionally, she has participated as a member of the Illinois Juvenile Court Domestic Violence Committee, and was a Board Member of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Deirdre is fluent in Spanish and has worked on multiple translation projects over the year

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