



**Melissa Poretz Riddy**

Melissa Poretz Riddy is the Director of Government & Community Relations and Strategic Communications for Inova Health System's East Region, including Alexandria and the southern portion of Fairfax County. In this role, she fosters and develops relationships with local governments and partners served by Inova Alexandria Hospital and Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. She also leads strategic communications and media relations initiatives for Inova's Eastern Region development plans, including the new Landmark Mall redevelopment.

The City Council appointed Melissa Riddy to be an Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission member. She serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Center for Alexandria's Children and an Advisory Board member of the Governor's Health Sciences Academy. Melissa Riddy represents Inova on the Alexandria and Mount Vernon Lee Chambers of Commerce, where she serves on the government relations and legislative committees. She is a member of the City of Alexandria's Opioid Task Force and serves on committees for the Alexandria Health Department's Community Health Assessment and Improvement plan.

Melissa Riddy has extensive experience in the community as a native of Alexandria (and Titan) and has worked for the City of Alexandria for more than a decade. Most recently, she served as Senior Communications Manager for the Office of Communication and Public Information, where she managed communications, outreach, and relationship development with numerous internal and external stakeholders across a wide variety of issue areas. She also worked with elected officials, community partners, and a cross-section of City departments and staff.

Melissa Riddy holds a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University, a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Elon University, and is a graduate of the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service Leadership program. In 2021, she graduated from Leadership Alexandria. She is a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the Global Honor Society for Public Affairs & Administration.