

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Robert Currie

PERSON

Currie, Robert, 1951-

**Alternative Names:** Robert Currie;

**Life Dates:** June 12, 1951-

**Place of Birth:** Orange, New Jersey, USA

**Residence:** Chicago, IL

**Occupations:** Healthcare Executive

## Biographical Note

Healthcare executive Robert Currie was born on June 12, 1951 in Orange, New Jersey to James Currie and Hazel Shelton. Currie graduated from Orange High School in 1970, and earned his B.A. degree in sociology and urban studies from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin in 1974. Currie went on to receive his M.A. degree in urban planning and policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1978.

After working as director of health systems planning at Chicago Health Systems Agency for several years, Currie became the vice president of strategic planning for Chicago Hospital Council/Compass Health Care Plans. In 1984, Currie joined the Michael Reese - Humana Health Plan, where he was the director of strategic planning from 1984 to 1987, vice president of strategic planning and market research from 1987 to 1993, and associate executive director of administration from 1993 to 1995. Currie went on to become the president and CEO of Unity HMO in Chicago, vice president and COO of Plan Americaid Texas, and COO of Harmony Health of Indiana. From 2001 to 2005, Currie served as the president of Harmony Health Management, Inc. and vice president of external affairs for Harmony/WellCare Health Plans until 2009 when he founded the Managed Care Consulting Group. In 2011, he was named COO of Aetna Better Health Illinois; and in 2014, Currie became the president and CEO of Community Care Alliance of Illinois.

In 2009, Currie was named as one of the Chicago Defender's "50 Men of Excellence." Currie received an Excellence in Health Care Award from the Illinois Black Caucus and the National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE) President's Award, both in 2010. Currie also received a Chapter Leadership Award from the NAHSE Chicago Chapter in 2011. Currie served on the board of numerous organizations including the Black United Fund of Illinois, the Institute for Diversity in Healthcare

Management, and Youth, Vision, & Integrity, Inc. He also served as the president of NAHSE's Chicago chapter from 1989 to 1991, and the national president of NAHSE from 1999 to 2001.

Robert Currie was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on February 23, 2018.

## Related Entries

**University of Illinois at Chicago** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Master's**

**Lawrence University** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**B.A.**

**Orange High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Lincoln Avenue School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Oakwood Avenue Community School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Americaid Texas** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Vice President and COO**

**Unity HMO** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1995 to 1997]

**President and CEO**

**Managed Care Consulting Group** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2009 to 2011]

**President and CEO**

**Aetna Better Health** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2011 to 2014]

**COO**

**Community Care Alliance of Illinois** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2014 to ?]

**President and CEO**

**National Association of Health Services Executives** [MEMBEROF]

[from 1975 to ?]

**National President; Chapter President**

**Institute for Diversity in Healthcare Management** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1999 to 2001]

**Board Member**

**Black United Fund of Illinois** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 2005 to 2017]

**Board Member and Treasurer**

**University of Illinois Board of Visitors** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 2015 to 2017]

**Board Member**