**Vernetta Edwards**

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**Program Manager**

Innovative Program Manager offering 15+ years of success steering full lifecycle projects and programs, leading high-performing teams, and delivering technical solutions. Builds positive relationships with stakeholders, senior leaders, and professionals at all levels while formulating strategies to ensure seamless transformations, improve processes, and boost sustainable success of organizations. Adept at driving requirements definition, determining resource needs, managing multimillion-dollar budgets, monitoring progress, and identifying and resolving issues in all project phases. Continuously meets and exceeds expectations, leading in fast-paced, high-pressure environments to deliver results on time, on budget, and in alignment with predefined goals.

**Areas of Expertise & Technical Skills**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| * Enterprise Program Management * Metrics/Reporting/KPIs (Excel/SQL/Report Tools) * Process Improvements | * Full Lifecycle Project Management * Roadmaps & Scope Planning * Agile, Waterfall, Hybrid Delivery & Tools (Jira, Rally, Jama) * Team Building & Leadership | * Stakeholder Communication * Solutions Delivery * Budget Management * Strategic Planning & Execution |

**Professional Experience**

**COGNIZANT TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS,** Chicago, IL 12/2006 – 10/2018

**Project Coordinator | Takeda Pharmaceuticals (**3/2018 - 7/2018)

* Improved PMO processes while supporting seamless implementation of an ADP Payroll system.
* Applied project management expertise to assist client project manager in ensuring all PMO deliverables are on time, under budget, and in alignment with goals and expectations.

**Program and Project Manager | AT&T** (6/2016 - 8/2017)

* Established and grew a PMO from one to five individuals to spearhead a largescale, multi-phased offers program providing cross-product promotions to incent AT&T customers to purchase products.
* Steered two full lifecycle releases of integrated offers and controlled a $24M budget, tactfully controlling costs and allocating funds.
* Boosted team performance by leading onboarding, training, and coaching of team members.
* Achieved quality deliverables by gathering requirements and designing lockdown sessions for over 40 application teams; coordinated tests and evaluated deployment readiness.
* Streamlined processes by creating a change control board and leading transition from Waterfall to Agile with an emphasis on improving team collaborations in focused sessions and daily standups.

**Business Project Manager and Product Owner | AT&T** (6/2015 - 5/2016)

* Steered deployments, drove effective turnarounds of projects, and triggered improvements by coordinating User Acceptance Testing (UAT) on releases.
* Produced timely project deliverables through effective project stewardship; directed teams of up to 25 individuals, formulated strategic plans, tracked progress, and overcame barriers to completion.
* Enhanced knowledge and skills of business users by training them on the HiPro application through virtual training webinars; provided post deployment application support.

**Account Manager | AT&T** (1/2014 - 11/2014)

* Facilitated successful deployments and projects by managing relationships between mobility business client and IT partners; collaborated with clients to outline requirements and scope.
* Streamlined communication on project and program risks to business unit leadership.
* Influenced strategic decision by assisting with initiation of joint network quality metrics used to provide vital data to IT and business clients.

**Business Support | AT&T** (10/2010 - 8/2013)

* Delivered support for a customized Proliance implementation enabling project management solutions for construction and engineering across wireline and mobility; gathered requirements, owned BRD, wrote UAT cases, and led testing for all product releases.
* Trained users and led demonstrations of the Proliance system, communicating effectively to showcase features and benefits.

**Lead IT Project Manager | AT&T** (6/2009 - 10/2010)

* Led a team of 15 individuals to deliver the Unified Credit project, a consolidated approach to selling products across Wireless, Wireline, and U-verse product lines; controlling the entire Software Development Life Cycle, completing project on time and in alignment with expectations.

**Project Manager | AT&T** (12/2006 - 6/2009)

* Led releases and facilitated requirements sessions for the U-verse product.

**Previous Employers:**

**ITAGROUP | Senior Business Analyst**

* Led development team which created employee recognition websites.
* Drove requirements and reporting for Account Managers and stakeholders.

**SOFTWARE SPECTUM | Senior Developer**

* Developer of VB and MS Access applications for multiple industries.

**ACCENTURE | Senior Developer**

* Developer of DCS/Logistics software for the Supply Chain Industry.

**Core Competencies**

Program Management, Project Management, Budget Management, Stakeholder Management, Schedule Planning and Management, Communications, Risk Management, Change Management, Agile, SAFe, Waterfall, SDLC, PMLC, Executive Reporting, Presentations, Team Leadership, Training, Mentoring, Release Planning, Roadmaps, Test Planning, Operations, MS Office, MS Powerpoint, MS Excel, Word, MS Project, Jira, Jama, Requisite Pro, RallyDev

**Education & Certifications**

**Juris Doctorate** | Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

**Bachelor of Arts in Economics** | University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

**SAFe 4 Agilist** | Scaled Agile, Inc.

**Scrum Master Accredited Certification** | International Scrum Institute