

In September 2023, Denise Reilly-Hughes was appointed to the role of Vermont's Chief Information Officer and Secretary of the Agency of Digital Services. Family is at the heart of Denise's spirit. She became a mother in 1999 at a young age and made a promise to herself and her son that she would always find a way to offer a better life for him. She moved to Vermont in 2007, married her husband and knew they had chosen the right place to raise their family. Now a mother of 4, she spends all of her free time cheering on the sidelines at hockey, lacrosse, or field hockey games her children play in. Her oldest son Ben recently completed the plumbing apprentice program at VTC. Given her personal experiences through raising her children, she knows first hand the value and impact of the youth and workforce programs that empower our youngest residents to thrive in their careers of choice in Vermont. With the new generation coming into the workforce, digital access and technology is tremendously important to Denise.

She brings decades of extensive technology experience with her in this appointment. Her career experience has been in the private sector side supporting nearly every industry through management of technology transformations. With the tech landscape always changing, she has a passion for focusing on the human side of tech. This is one of the reasons Denise was chosen for this role with the State of Vermont. She is leading the Agency of Digital Services in the management of technology systems and services, focusing on improved user experiences and core technology standards of the State's information systems. Denise is dedicated to improving Vermonter's experience, employee enablement, and modernizing government technology services. This also includes Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence.

During the past 24 years, Denise focused her efforts on developing team, leading efficiencies through change, and improving initiatives through the intentional use of technology. During that time, she helped lead numerous U.S. states through their modernization journey and adoption of cloud services. She is most passionate about bridging the gaps between the complexities of technology and the user experience. Denise is committed to ensuring the State of Vermont's technology achieves their intended outcomes and digital services are designed to meet the needs of the Vermonters who access them.