

# GABRIELA PRUDENCIO (MBA '16)

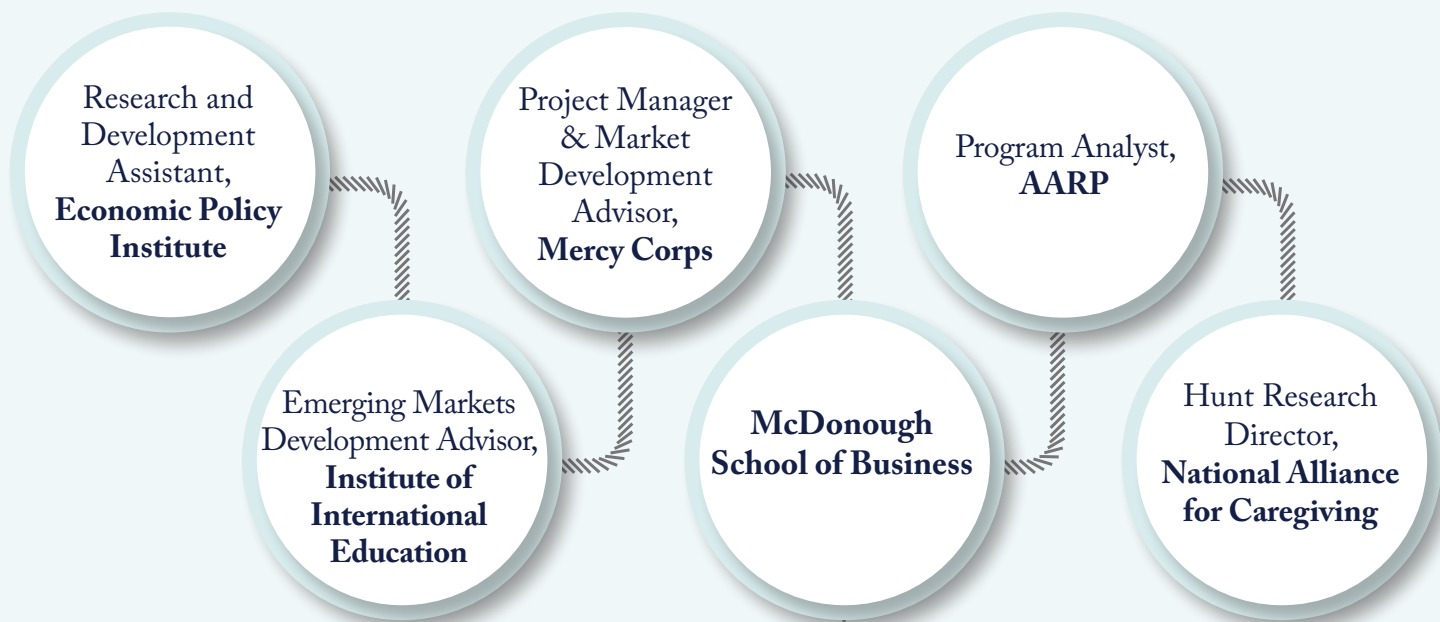
**Industry:** Nonprofit Management & Healthcare  
**Where she works:** National Alliance for Caregiving  
**Job Title:** Hunt Research Director



One in five Americans are “family caregivers” – meaning they provide assistance to an adult or a child with special needs. Prudencio works at the National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC), a nonprofit coalition of national organizations focused on family caregiving, where she leads a research portfolio that informs policies and programs to improve the lives of caregivers and those under their care. Her work spans research on healthcare, disability, aging, and long-term care sectors.

**Job Functions:** Management // Research

## PRUDENCIO’S CAREER PATHWAY



“After I completed my first master’s degree, I moved internationally and worked in different countries for almost a decade. While I was making my living abroad, I realized it was the small farmers and entrepreneurs that were most interesting to me. I decided to pursue an MBA to be more effective in engaging the private sector in developing products and services that can improve the lives of vulnerable people.”

### Useful classes:

Impact Investing, Social Entrepreneurship, Accelerating Innovation  
*(Melissa Bradley, adjunct professor);*

Global Supply Chain Management  
*(Ricardo Ernst, Baratta Chair in Global Business)*

“When I finished my MBA, it took me almost a year to find a job because all of the possibilities can make finding a job very confusing. I’ve always known that it would be impossible for me to wake up, motivated and ready for the day, if I were not doing something that was socially-oriented.”

## CAREER ADVICE FOR MBAS:

**Do your homework. Prioritize the interview.** “Business school is busy! When I was interviewing, I was often trying to do too much. I thought I could prepare for a meeting, do work with my classmates, and finish an application; but that doesn’t always work. I remember one classmate and I were going for the same position and she went way farther than I did because she actually spent hours reading the company’s papers and was then able to make that human connection in the interview room. I wish I had done more for each of the interviews I truly cared about.”

**School connections will keep finding a way back into your life.** “Georgetown offers some hands-on consulting projects, and the one I worked on was with AARP. Unfortunately, the project we worked on was cancelled, but one year later I interviewed at AARP for a full-time position and the interviewer remembered me from the internship. I ended up getting a position, possibly because of that prior exposure.”

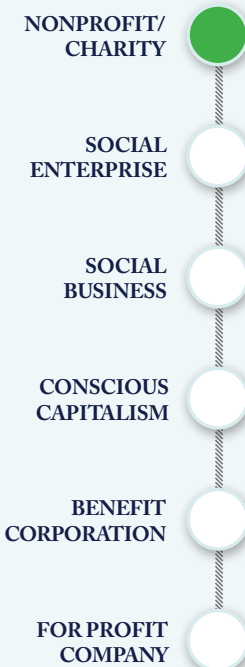
**This path requires inward searching.** “There are plenty of jobs that make a social impact at Starbucks or Walmart or other large companies, but they aren’t always obvious. If your goal is to find a social impact job, you need to carve your own path. My work with Net Impact gave me a network I still rely on to this day; it helped me consider what I wanted my path to look like, even if I had to carve it myself. Otherwise, I could’ve gotten ‘over-excited’ and ended up in a job I didn’t want.”

## IN HER WORDS:

“I manage a research collaborative of about 40 top-notch researchers whose focus is family caregiving. The other aspect of my work is leading and managing NAC’s research studies.

I still talk to my friends at Georgetown McDonough in the impact space about how larger and smaller institutions operate very differently. At a larger organization, there are bureaucratic setbacks but there is also consistency. Smaller organizations are more nimble, but they may lack processes in place. Both have pros and cons, but it’s certainly something to think about.”

### THE IMPACT SPECTRUM: National Alliance for Caregiving



#### Nonprofit/Charity

As a nonprofit coalition, NAC focuses on advancing family caregiving through research, innovation, and advocacy. One of their major goals is to increase public awareness of family caregiving issues. They support a network of more than 80 state and local caregiving coalitions.

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