

View results

Respondent  
26 Anonymous

16:25  
Time to complete

## About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

The following questions will be used by the Council on Homelessness' Nominating Panel to identify diverse applicants that can contribute unique expertise and perspectives to the Council. Answers to these questions will be evaluated in relation to the experience and qualifications desired for available member seats. Please carefully consider how your personal experiences, professional experiences, and values will contribute meaningfully to the Council on Homelessness' and the Contra Costa County Homeless Continuum of Care's efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. Once you submit this application, you will get an response that will include the link to the County Application. You must submit the County application by 5 pm Friday, September 30, 2022 to be considered.

**REMINDER: To be considered for the Council, you must complete BOTH components of the application.**

Please note, this form can be filled out as a Word document and emailed to Council on Homelessness [CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org](mailto:CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org) by the deadline or submitted via this online form.

## Supplemental Questions

### 1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? \*

- Affordable Housing Developer Representative
- Behavioral Health Representative
- City Government Representative
- Educational and Vocational Services Representative
- Emergency Solutions Grant Representative
- Health Care Representative
- Homeless Service Provider Representative
- Lived Experience Advisor (must have lived experience of homelessness)
- Veterans Administration Representative
- Workforce Development Representative
- Youth Representative (must be between the ages of 18-24)

More options for Responses

**2. Please briefly describe any special skills, relationships, or resources you would bring to this specific seat. If applicable, please describe any experiences that demonstrate a past professional or personal commitment to addressing and alleviating homelessness within the topic or field related to the vacant seat. (400 word maximum) \***

As the Education and Vocational representative for the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness, I advocate and bring awareness to the issues relating to children and youth homelessness. I also advise on policies that affect children and youth experiencing homelessness as I am the county Homeless Education Liaison, representing the 18 districts and charter schools in Contra Costa. It is my responsibility to provide support and technical assistance to the school homeless liaisons in our county including districts and charter schools, to ensure they have the capacity, resources, and tools required to support their school sites with the implementation of the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Act. The provisions of this Act are designed to improve the identification, educational stability, access, support, and academic achievement of children and youth experiencing homelessness. I provide resources to council members and stakeholders regarding education rights for youth facing homelessness, youth in foster care and justice involved youth (populations also at high risk for experiencing homeless and housing instability) in order to ensure that homeless students have access to the same free appropriate public education as their peers. Resources include technical assistance, professional development, and school supplies. As a current resident of Antioch and lifelong resident of East Contra Costa County, I am concerned about the lack of affordable housing and resources for families. I am dedicated to serving as a representative for the needs of students experiencing homelessness throughout the county.

**3. Please identify your personal connections with homelessness by selecting one of the options below: \***

- I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 5 years but is currently housed.
- I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 5 years ago but is currently housed.
- I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- I would prefer not to respond

**4. Individuals experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County come from diverse backgrounds (in terms of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds). Please describe your approach and experience working with and in diverse populations. (400 words maximum) \***

Equity is at the core of the Contra Costa County Office of Education's mission. We lead with a focus on equity and value the inclusion of diverse perspectives to promote a learning community where all can succeed. As the County Homeless Education Liaison, I have the opportunity to work with diverse populations and includes working with and for people from across a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. I understand that when my staff and I connect and engage with families (including youth) with different experiences, it is important to value their background and experience so they can be comfortable sharing their unique ideas and perspectives in a safe space regarding their educational needs so they can sense that their differences are genuinely respected, valued and appreciated.

**5. Please describe your affiliations with organizations or agencies who serve various homeless subpopulations such as: persons with chronic substance abuse issues, persons with serious mental illness, persons experiencing chronic homelessness, persons with HIV/AIDS, veterans, families with children, unaccompanied youth, victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and seniors. (400 word maximum) \***

As the Youth Services Director and County Homeless Education Liaison at the Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOE), I work in partnership with the school districts and charter to ensure school stability for children and youth facing homelessness. CCCOE meets monthly with the districts with the highest population of homeless students to coordinate services with the district director of student services and district homeless liaisons. This year, 5 districts are piloting a school site liaison project to build the capacity of teachers and counselors to provide wrap around services to students facing homelessness at their school site. This pilot will also include a partnership with school site mental health wellness centers or team to ensure students facing homelessness are receiving mental health services and referrals.

Additionally, the CCCOE jointly operates the California Homeless Education Technical Assistance Center in collaboration with Los Angeles County Office of Education and San Diego County Office of Education. As the local lead of that work, I coordinate with the California Department of Education's Homeless Education team, homeless education liaisons in 24 other counties, the National Center for Youth Law and Rainbow Community Center, to better identify and support students experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied youth.

**6. If applicable, please describe your affiliations with any government and community-based organizations that are not currently represented on the Council on Homelessness. For a full list of current Council on Homelessness members, please see here: <https://cchealth.org/h3/coc/council.php#Members> . (400 word maximum) \***

I am connected to key stakeholders, all of whom are currently represented on the council. I have positive working relationships and collaborations with the County's Youth Continuum of Care Services, including Calli House, and local community-based organizations including but not limited to HOPE Solution, K to College, White Pony Express, and Rainbow Community Center.

**7. Using your personal experiences and/or professional experiences, please describe up to three (3) ways you would encourage the Contra Costa Continuum of Care to address or set priorities for addressing homelessness. Feel free to draw from current events and other sources of information. (400 word maximum) \***

I would like the CoC to initiate and facilitate a focus group discussion that involves the Homeless District Liaisons, including but not limited to the largest three districts with the greatest number of homeless children in youth, homeless service providers and the new Youth CORE staff. Ideally, during this facilitated discussion, we would hear from the different agencies and their perspective, identify barriers, potential solutions, and innovative ways of delivering services.

8. Please state how many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings you have previously attended. \*

- 3 or more meetings
- 1-2 meetings
- 0 meetings

9. Please provide up to three (3) recommendations or thoughts you had from CoC, CoH, or YAC meetings. If you have not attended a CoC, CoH, or YAC meetings, please briefly describe any recent relevant participation in similar meetings and your recommendations or thoughts. (400 word maximum) \*

I would like to see more of a youth focus and work to bring solutions to critical issues such youth transitional housing and unaccompanied youth services, youth drop-in center; it would be helpful to bring in school district staff working directly with homeless students to directly hear their suggestions and recommendations

10. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach (meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing) and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.* Are you in support of the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above? \*

- Yes
- No

11. Please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below: \*

- I can be available for **2 or more meetings per month**, including the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- I can be available **only for the standing monthly COH meeting** the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting, **but can make other meetings 2 or more times** per month.
- I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting and **may not be able to make other meetings** more than once per month.

12. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? \*

- Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

### Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

13. What are your pronouns (for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.)?

██████████

14. What is your gender identity (for example: female/male/transgender/non-binary/gender non-conforming, etc.)?

15. What is your sexual orientation (for example: bisexual/straight/gay/pansexual, etc)?

16. What best describes your age? (Check one)

- Transition aged youth (18-24)
- Adult (25-61)
- Older adult (62+)

17. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

- African American/Black
- Arab/Middle Eastern
- Asian
- Caucasian/White
- East Indian/South Asian
- Latine/a/o/x
- Mixed Race
- Native American
- Pacific Islander
- South/Central American
- Choose not to answer
- Other

18. Is there any other information you would like to share, including anything that would help us understand how you would contribute to the diverse representation of people and experiences on the Council (for example: lived experience of homelessness, abilities, immigration status, ethnic background, or cultural background)?

### Contact Information

19. Name \*

20. Email \*



# Application Form

## Profile

Alejandra

First Name

Chamberlain

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Pleasant Hill

City

CA

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

[Redacted]

Email Address

## [District Locator Tool](#)

### Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 3

Contra Costa County Office of Education

Employer

Director, Youth Services

Job Title

### Length of Employment

8 year

### Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes  No

### If Yes, in which District do you work?

Districts 4

### How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

30 years

### Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes  No

## Board and Interest

### Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Submitted

**Seat Name**

---

Educational and Vocational Services

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?**

---

Yes  No

**If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?**

---

Attending board meeting since appointed

---

**Education**

**Select the option that applies to your high school education \***

---

High School Diploma

**College/ University A**

**Name of College Attended**

---

California State University, Sacramento

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

---

Master of Science in Counseling

**Degree Awarded?**

---

Yes  No

**College/ University B**

**Name of College Attended**

---

California State University, Sacramento

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

---

Child Development BA

**Degree Awarded?**

---

Yes  No

---

**College/ University C**

**Name of College Attended**

---

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

---

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

---

**Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**

**Other Training A**

---

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

---

Yes  No

**Other Training B**

---

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

---

Yes  No

**Occupational Licenses Completed:**

---

---

**Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**

**Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.**

---

The COE Youth Services department provides support and resources to the 18 school districts in the county, CCCOE-operated school sites, and charter schools to implement foster youth services. Technical assistance and trainings are available to District Homeless Youth Liaisons and other staff who are working with children and youth facing housing and stability. As the County Office of Education County Homeless Liaison, my team and I coordinate with the 18 school districts to ensure that students have access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschools, as provided to other children and youths. Furthermore, COE Youth Services gathers a network of District Homeless liaisons quarterly for the Homeless and Foster Youth Collaborative meetings, facilitated by the County Homeless Liaison. These collaborative meetings provide an opportunity for LEAs to work together to develop policies and protocols for services. Other functions of the quarterly meetings are for Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) staff to provide legislated updates, inform LEAs about homeless activities, provide guest speakers on relevant topics and community services, review data, and to provide a venue for districts to share concerns, case studies and best practices from their experience working with students in foster care. As the County Homeless Liaison to the 18 districts and charters, I will do my best to represent the county's district collective perspective.

**Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)**

---

I will advocate and bring awareness to the issues relating to children and youth facing housing instability as it relates to education. I will advise on policies, coordinate, and collaborate with community stakeholders relating to children and youth facing homelessness representing our 18 districts. As previously mentioned, as the County Office of Education County Homeless Liaison, my team and I provide support, resource, TA and PD to the 18 school districts in order to ensure that students have access to the same free appropriate public education as their peers.

Alejandra Chamberlain



---

Upload a Resume

**Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?**

Yes  No

**Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?**

Yes  No

**If Yes, please explain:**

---

**Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?**

Yes  No

**If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:**

---

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

**If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:**

**List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.**

---

---

## **Conflict of Interest and Certification**

**Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)**

Yes  No

**If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:**

---

**Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?**

Yes  No

**If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:**

---

As the director of the CCCOE Youth Services, Youth Services receives contracts to provide services for foster youth through EHSD and services for WIOA through the WDB.

**Please Agree with the Following Statement**

---

**I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.**

---

I Agree

---

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
  - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
  - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
  - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
  - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
  - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
  - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.