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Respondent  
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## 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) \***

For the last 25 years, I have worked tirelessly to innovate creative ways to end homelessness for the most vulnerable members of our community. In the late 1990's, I co-founded First Place for Youth, a nationally recognized organization that created programs and policies to support homeless youth transition into successful interdependence. For the past 5 years, as the CEO of Hope Solutions, I have had daily contact and have developed insight into what works and what could be improved in many aspects of our homeless system of care. We provide permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, intensive support services, housing navigation (now Rapid Exit and Prevention) and HOPWA funded Housing Advocacy services. We also partner with other systems in the county, such as EHSD, OJR, and MHSA. These experiences working across many system partners and operating many service models gives me a unique perspective to bring to the COH.

**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) \***

For over 25 years, I have worked in partnership with people from a wide range of experiences and backgrounds, including many people with lived experience of homelessness, addiction, trauma, mental illness, etc. on a daily basis. My general approach is one of cultural humility and a fundamental belief that we are all dependent on one another to get through this life- that I have as much to learn from those around me as I may have to teach. The work we do at Hope Solutions is firmly rooted in the belief that all folks have the capacity to heal from the effects of poverty and homelessness when given safety and love. The values that drive our work are respect, compassion, humility, integrity and excellence. I adopt a "servant leader" model of leadership in which I see my role as host and to be in service to those I work with. I never ask anyone to do anything that I would not do myself, and always try to operate with transparency and humility. I am also committed to elevating the leadership of others, especially those with lived experience. I created a Resident Empowerment Program (REP) at Hope Solutions to do just that.

**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) \***

I have served as CEO of Hope Solutions (formerly Contra Costa Interfaith Housing) for the last 5 years. We serve all of the above noted populations. Over the last few years, we have grown our agency from a \$2.5M organization to a \$13.5 M organization with over 70 staff people. That growth has all been program expansion. We added a very successful rapid rehousing program for homeless youth, an extensive program for folks exiting the criminal justice system, and a new rapid rehousing program in partnership with STAND!- the County's domestic violence agency. Additionally, we have added Housing Navigation services and supportive services for clients of the Housing Authority- bolstering the success of the programs.

**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) \***

Hope Solutions is a highly collaborative organization and we partner with many agencies that are not represented on the Council on Homelessness, including: County agencies such as EHSD, MHSA, Housing Authority, City of Antioch, City of Walnut Creek, City of Pittsburg, City of Pleasant Hill, City of Concord, City of Richmond, Loaves and Fishes, First 5, Child Abuse Prevention Council, Health Care for the Homeless, White Pony Express, etc. Additionally, we participate in policy/organizing efforts as a member of East Bay Housing Organization (EBHO) and Non Profit Housing of Northern California (NPH), as well as Statewide Advocates at Housing California.

**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) \***

1. I think the most important role of the COH in the community is to hold the big picture of the state of homelessness in our County, identify what our service needs/gaps are, what funding sources we can use to fill those gaps, and to coordinate the work of the various providers working to meet those needs. I am very excited to continue the County's work on using our data and analysis to refine our system's needs and to promote evidence-based practices that ensure homelessness is a rare, brief, and non-recurring situation for our neighbors.
2. I would also continue to urge the COH to formalize roles for people with lived experience in our decision making bodies, standardize how PWLE are recruited, trained, supported and compensated for their time
3. I would also like to see the COH continue to develop equity metrics for our system of care and begin to hold our providers and county partners accountable for measuring equity and achieving agreed upon standards.

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) \*

Please see answers to question #7.

1) Additionally, I would encourage the CoC to assess the efficacy of the new Rapid Exit and Diversion services before we decide if we should invest more.

2) I would continually ask our CoC to identify and streamline access to other services/funding through other systems of care that support our clients (such as the mental health system, AOD, EHSD) and to work on reducing the siloes and redundancies in these systems and to increase care coordination across all these systems

3) Continue to use our data to track our progress against our goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness by 75% in 3 years and stay connected to the Regional efforts toward this goal to bring in learnings/lessons from other communities.

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

Deanne \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ Pearn \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Suite or Apt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address

Moraga \_\_\_\_\_ CA \_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Postal Code

\_\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

### [District Locator Tool](#)

#### Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 2

Hope Solutions (formerly Contra Costa Interfaith Housing) \_\_\_\_\_ CEO \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer Job Title

#### Length of Employment

5 years

#### Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes  No

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

ALL

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

9 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**

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Homeless Service Provider

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

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Yes  No

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

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30

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**Education**

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

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High School Diploma

**College/ University A**

**Name of College Attended**

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Stanford University

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

---

BA Human Biology

**Degree Awarded?**

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Yes  No

**College/ University B**

**Name of College Attended**

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UC Berkeley

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

---

MA Public Policy

**Degree Awarded?**

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Yes  No

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**College/ University C**

**Name of College Attended**

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

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**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

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**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:**

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**Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**

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

As the CEO Director of Hope Solutions, an organization that provides permanent housing and vital support services to highly vulnerable populations in Contra Costa County, I have a unique perspective on how well our homeless service system is functioning and how we can improve it to end homelessness quickly and permanently for our residents. Our organization works in a highly collaborative way with other non-profits, community groups and the County and will be better able to provide impactful services by deepening our partnerships through participation in the COH.

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

See resume

[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:

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

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Yes  No

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

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

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

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I am currently serving on the Contra Costa County Council on Homelessness Board. I served for 6 years on the Housing California Board, another 6 years on the Alameda County EveryoneHome Board (including two years as Board Chair), and served 4 years on my children's preschool Board (including serving as President, Vice President and Secretary.)

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### **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)

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Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

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

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Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

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the non profit for which I am the CEO (Hope Solutions) has contracts with the County.

**Please Agree with the Following Statement**

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**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.**

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I Agree

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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.