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Respondent
23 Anonymous

22:48
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 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) *

I work for the County's Department of Conservation and Development and I oversee the division that administers HUD funds that are too primarily benefit low-income households/residents and to address various housing and community development activities.

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) *

I interact with various non-profit agencies and cities throughout the County. Contra Costa County is very diverse in terms of its demographics, economics, and overall environment. I have worked with local representatives, city staff, non-profit organizations, and various community members representing various parts of the County. Knowing the key issues, concerns, and needs of a community and area is important ahead of time, but allowing residents or stakeholders representing those communities to express the issues, concerns, and needs are equally important. It not only affirms any information you may have collected from other sources, but it gives you an opportunity to actually listen to those who are from the community.

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 work for the County's Department of Conservation and Development and I oversee the division that administers HUD funds and local programs that are to primarily benefit low-income households/residents and to address various housing and community development activities and needs.

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) *

N/A

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) *

Given that I help administer the ESG Program for the County, I'm directly involved with funding recommendations of various services/programs that address homelessness. I would also continue to assist in providing my thoughts/opinions in CoH meeting or CoH committee meetings on policy/procedural recommendations.

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 have participated in various recommendations throughout my years serving on the CoH. I typically present recommendations related on ESG/State ESG funds. I have also participated on the CoC NOFO process in previous years. Lastly, I've participated on making recommendations on various policies sand procedure documents for the CoC/CoH.

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 *

21. Phone Number



Application Form

Profile

Gabriel

First Name

Lemus

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted] Home Address

Suite or Apt

Martinez

City

CA

State

[Redacted] Postal Code

[Redacted] Primary Phone

[Redacted] Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 5

Contra Costa County

Employer

Assistant Deputy Director

Job Title

Length of Employment

20 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

District 5

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

20 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

Emergency Solutions Grant Representative

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?

50-60

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

UCLA

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

B.A. - History and Chicana/o Studies

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Cornell University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

M.R.P. - City and Regional Planning

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.

I've served on this Council for 7 years now sitting in the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Representative seat. Homelessness is a growing issue in the County and those who are experiencing homelessness in our community deserve to have access to services and affordable housing. Serving on this council assists in preserving the services and housing that currently exist but also expanding them.

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

I have worked with Contra Costa County for 20 years, primarily working on administering various programs that serve low-income populations, including those who are experiencing homelessness. My role as the administrator of the the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program has led me to cultivate working partnerships with various public agencies and service providers that assist in providing resources, access to services, and access to affordable housing to low-income residents and those experiencing homelessness throughout the County. I have served on the Council on Homelessness for 7 years and have enjoyed the experience to collaborate with other stakeholders to provide the necessary services and affordable permanent housing to those experiencing homelessness or those at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

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:

Council on Homelessness; Countywide Oversight Board

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.

I have served on the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness since 2015. I have also served as on the Planning Commission as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Martinez from October 2014 to March 2019.

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:

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 undersand 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.