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Respondent  
41 Anonymous

66:11  
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) \***

I have been an appointed representative on the Contra Costa Homeless Continuum of Care since it was formed about 25 years ago, with a couple of years off when my husband was terminally ill. Over the past 35 years, I spent a decade providing transitional and permanent housing for homeless and extremely low-income households including battered spouses and their children, and 25 years as a CDBG funder for the cities of Pittsburg, Concord, and Antioch. As a formerly homeless teen and military dependent that moved 27 times in 14 years, I am acutely aware of the importance of a stable home in the development of children and cohesion of families. The majority of my life's work has been dedicated to providing housing and helping to find solutions to homelessness.

**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) \***

My experience in serving diverse populations is informed by an MS in Counseling Psychology with an emphasis in multicultural counseling, experience living in Turkey, Greece and Africa as a youth, as well as extensive travel to countries where my race and culture was not dominant. My own family migrated to the US three generations ago. Throughout my life I have been taught to be very aware of the privileges that come with the color of my skin, as well as the experiences of different economic classes and levels of educational attainment in this country and abroad. My parents grew up extremely poor in rural Kansas, and I am the first of our family to achieve education above the high school level. Always I was taught to value and learn from the contributions of every individual.

**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) \***

Currently I manage the funds that provide support for, and have by-name familiarity with the executive directors of these agencies. My job as a funder requires me to read their annual reports, audits, and board minutes and to work with the Executive Director, Finance Director, and program staff. I presently sit on the CoC, the Healthcare for the Homeless Board and the United Way/FEMA Local Board for Contra Costa County, but am not permitted to sit on funded nonprofit boards in my current position. I was a public speaker for AIDS Project Los Angeles during the AIDS epidemic, and my Master's thesis was on senior mental health and peer counseling services. Just yesterday I was the emcee for our local domestic violence agency's big fundraiser, and I personally contribute to many of the types of agencies mentioned.

**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) \***

As a City funder that is part of the Contra Costa HOME/CDBG Consortium, I work closely with the County ESG seat who is part of the Consortium. The Health Care seat is held by the County Healthcare for the Homeless representative, and I also sit on that Board. I work closely with Tony Ucciferri who holds the Public Housing Authority seat, and have evaluated funding requests submitted to the City by Trinity Center (CoC/ESG agency seat), Hume Center (Behavioral Health seat), and HOPE Solutions (Homeless service provider seat).

**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. Regional analysis to determine accessibility of services to East and Far East County residents compared to Central and West County, and the impact that reduced access has on obtaining housing and supportive housing. 2. Commitment to developing infrastructure needed to ensure equity in both access to and provision of services. 3. Applause and support for lifting up the voices and experiences of unhoused residents, and moving toward a Board that better reflects the racial and ethnic characteristics of the unhoused population.

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) \*

See answers in question 7 to start. From my work on various CoC Committees such as the PATH Innovations Committee and the Data Committee - continue to emphasize and support the analysis of data to guide decisions, and the development of dashboards such as the Unsheltered Dashboard to better understand inflow and outflow and causes of first-time homelessness to better develop upstream solutions. Support quicker analysis by adding additional personnel or consultants as needed so that we can achieve goals. Continue and increase regional efforts to promote housing support for extremely low-income households to keep them from falling into homelessness and becoming displaced to Contra Costa and points eastward, where rents are lower. Expand funding for homeless prevention and intervention efforts and increase access to the referral system to keep households out of the homeless system.

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)?

Although I may look like your average white-haired older white woman, the incredible diversity of my life experiences brings an acute awareness of the struggles experienced by many of those who are unhoused. I will never, ever forget my experiences of food insecurity, of rummaging in trash cans and in the back of grocery stores for something to eat, of eating food filled with ants and being grateful for the extra protein, of being hungry and thirsty, of trying to stay clean by "bathing" and washing clothes in public restrooms, of the scarcity of toilets and having to find bushes instead, of the dangers of being a young woman on the streets, of the violence all around me, of what I had to do to survive. Those memories will never leave me, and they keep me fighting, keep me advocating, keep me working to create solutions for a better life to other folks who are struggling as I once did.

## Contact Information

19. Name \*

20. Email \*

21. Phone Number

# Application Form

## Profile

Teri \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ House \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

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

Pittsburg \_\_\_\_\_ CA \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Postal Code

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

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

### [District Locator Tool](#)

#### Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 5

City of Antioch \_\_\_\_\_ CDBG/Housing Consultant \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer Job Title

#### Length of Employment

12 years

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

Yes  No

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

3 and 5

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

26 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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City Government

**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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Almost every meeting since 1997, including most committee meetings

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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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CSUEB

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

---

MS Counseling Psychology, Multicultural emphasis

**Degree Awarded?**

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Yes  No

**College/ University B**

**Name of College Attended**

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CSUEB

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

---

BS Psychology

**Degree Awarded?**

---

Yes  No

---

**College/ University C**

**Name of College Attended**

---

Bassist College

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

---

BA Apparel Design

**Degree Awarded?**

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Yes  No

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**Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**

**Other Training A**

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USF - Development Director Cert.

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

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Yes  No

**Other Training B**

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Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP)

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

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Yes  No

**Occupational Licenses Completed:**

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Various certifications related to being an auto mechanic in the 1970s including brakes and front end, fuel injection, etc.

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**Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**

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

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My life experiences as a homeless teen compel me to be a part of the solution to homelessness in my community. My profession as a City government funder and member of the Contra Costa HOME/CDBG Consortium for the City of Antioch afford me great familiarity with the agencies providing services to this population, and my work gathering data and writing the latest 5-Year Consolidated Plan for the Consortium informs me of the tremendous need for housing and homeless prevention services for the vast numbers of extremely low-income residents in Contra Costa County. I was appointed to this Board shortly after its inception in 1997, and have served with only a one-term absence when my husband became terminally ill. The Contra Costa Homeless Continuum of Care has been a wonderful Board to serve with and the staffing is beyond exceptional. They are working hard to find innovative solutions to preventing and serving those who are unhoused. For 35 years of my career I have helped to provide housing and homeless services, and fund such services. I would like to continue this work in my existing seat for another term before I retire.

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

I have personal experience in homelessness, and presently serve on three homeless boards that award funding in the County, which include the CoH, Healthcare for the Homeless Board and the United Way/FEMA board. My work at the City of Antioch is to fund many of the agencies that provide homeless services disbursing over \$250k annually for this purpose, as well as developing deeply affordable housing for homeless and extremely low-income residents. I am deeply involved in the Contra Costa CoC and Council on Homelessness, serving on the Oversight Committee, the PATH Innovations Committee, the ESG Committee, and attending most meetings of the Data Committee. My educational attainments in multicultural counseling and experience counseling battered women and seniors offers a unique perspective in working with board members and the homeless population in general. I have great empathy for unhoused residents, having come from a low-income family and experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty in my 20s and 30s.

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, Healthcare for the Homeless

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

Council on Homelessness

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

United Way/FEMA local advisory board - current member My position as a funder does not permit me to serve on nonprofit boards until 1 year after leaving this position.

**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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**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  
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.**

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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.