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Respondent

42

Anonymous

64:20

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)

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 a native San Franciscan, I have always had a passion for people and community building. As an adolescent, I contributed to my community by connecting and volunteering in community centers and churches. After receiving my M.P.A., I pursued a career in local government and have spent the last 12 years focused on affordable housing in San Francisco and Contra Costa counties. Affordable housing looks for every household and cannot be seen as a one size fits all approach given that the housing ladder varies for us all. In my role as the Housing Manager, I have been fortunate to work with many non-profit partners (developers and CBOs) to help support our communities by developing, enhancing, and implementing sustainable affordable housing policies and programs. Lack of permanent housing impacts so many lives daily as having access to safe, sanitary, and decent living conditions is vital for all. The housing market in the last decade alone has changed dramatically added with the COVID-19 pandemic has amplified our needs now more than ever. Through this platform, I/we will be able to continue building and collaborating with our peers by working together to ensure that all individuals of Contra Costa County have a safe place to sleep every night.

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) *

As a minority woman, I have experience in working with people of all backgrounds. In San Francisco, I participated in the Government Alliance on Race and Equity Program. I am constantly working with numerous community members, stakeholders, elected officials and more to work collaboratively and equitably. Through my lens, we are all human and we should all work to support one another as hard times/challenges can appear in a blink. It is important to stay connected and to always remain a resource to the community with culturally competence. In the Bay Area, we are so fortunate to have a broad range of services/providers to work with populations of all backgrounds but there is always room to reevaluate and make things even stronger.

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) *

Here in El Cerrito, I work with the County CORE team to provide support to our unhoused residents. I also partner with housing counseling agencies to ensure that our housed residents can remain in their homes. Additionally, connecting our special needs populations to the appropriate resources such as meal services, legal aid, etc. is another component of serving the community.

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) *

As a County and region, we need to produce, protect and preserve housing opportunities for all. With current/new resources, I look forward to the potential of new Project Roomkey sites, partnering with property owners and the faith based community.

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) *

Not at this moment.

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)?

To effectively communicate, it requires cultivating relationships while maintaining flexibility as our work in the public sector is driven by the many different needs of our community members. Listening is a very important characteristic to possess to ensure that our decision-making skills result in the best possible outcomes.

Contact Information

19. Name *

Aissia Ashoori

20. Email *

21. Phone Number

Application Form

Profile

Aissia R Ashoori
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted] Suite or Apt
Home Address
Oakland CA [Redacted]
City State Postal Code

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

[Redacted]
Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 1

City of El Cerrito Housing Manager
Employer Job Title

Length of Employment

4.10

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

1

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

4.10 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

City/Government

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?

2

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

CSU Hayward

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

MPA

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

CSU Hayward

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BA Sociology

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 am interested in serving on the Council of Homelessness to ensure that individuals have access to safe, sanitary and decent housing. Housing creates community investment by allowing households to plant local roots with access to regional employment opportunities with linkages to education/workforce resources. Securing an affordable place to call home provides stability to households for this generation and beyond.

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

I have had the privilege to spend the last 12+years advancing affordable housing policies while working with the community to improve access to housing programs, especially for our disadvantaged communities.

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:

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:

In 2022, the City of El Cerrito and BRIDGE Housing applied for and received funding through DCD as it pertains to new affordable housing at Mayfair - 11690 San Pablo Avenue.