

## Advisory Group Application

### Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Advisory Groups

#### Public Statement

**THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT:** As a candidate for a public advisory group, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All advisory group members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title	Mr.
First Name	Mike
Last Name	Cohen
Today's Date	12/2/2025
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Public Health Advisory Board

Group

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Public Health Advisory Board

I have expertise, career experience, or lived experience in one of the areas listed above., I am a consumer of public health services. , I represent a stakeholder, such as a nonprofit organization, the business community, or those regulated by public health.

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2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?

Yes

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3. Which Council district do you live in?

District 2

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4. Have you ever been a member of this Advisory Group

No

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5. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?

Yes

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If yes, please explain

I am the director of Bellingham Food Bank which currently holds contracts with Whatcom County,

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6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?

No

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You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions

*Field not completed.*

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7. Please describe your

I have been executive director of Bellingham Food Bank for

occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

about 20 years. I believe there is a strong connection between food insecurity and public health. I also believe the health disparities that exist in Whatcom County should be discussed and addressed and are also linked to food access.

8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.

I believe there are social determinants of health that impact a community's health. Also, I believe that food insecurity is a public health issue and think this needs more attention from the public health advisory board, the County Council and the Executive's office.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Ashley Thomasson- [REDACTED]  
Mauri Ingram [REDACTED]  
Kristi Birkeland [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Mike Cohen

Place Signed / Submitted

[REDACTED]

(Section Break)

**Subject:**

Re: Additional Info requested for your application to the Public Health Advisory Board

**Date:**

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 1:44:59 PM

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Thanks for the email. I believe I have experience in health care access, social and economic sectors, business and philanthropy, communities that experience health inequities, and government. I have the most experience in social and economic sectors, business and philanthropy, and communities that experience health inequities.

Please let me know if there are any further questions.

Best,

Mike Cohen