

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 *Field not completed.*

First Name Jennifer

Last Name Zander

Today's Date 3/27/2026

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Do you live in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Justice Project Oversight & Planning Committee

Group

Justice Project Oversight and Planning (JPOP) Committee	Behavioral health provider, Substance use disorder treatment provider
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 2
4. Have you ever been a member of this Advisory Group	No
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?	No
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	Attached
7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or	I have a Masters degree in Social Work and am currently employed as the Social Work Manager at PeaceHealth St Joseph Hospital. I have worked here for 20+ years in various capacities including the Emergency Department and inpatient psych unit. I have also previously worked in private practice and

community activities,
and education

as a court evaluator for the Whatcom County Public Defenders
Office.

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

I have already been involved in some discussions related to the
Justice Project and the vision for a new behavioral health
treatment campus and I desire an ongoing voice in shaping the
behavioral health landscape in Whatcom County for the future. At
the hospital, one of the primary focuses of the social workers is
connecting patients with behavioral health issues to resources in
the community. The intersection of behavioral health, SUD and
the justice system is vitally important.

References (please
include daytime
telephone number):

Karla Hall, Director of Care Management at PeaceHealth St
Joseph Hospital [REDACTED]
Rachel Lucy, Director of Community Health at PeaceHealth St
Joseph Hospital [REDACTED]

Appointment
Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Jennifer Zander

Place Signed /
Submitted

[REDACTED]

(Section Break)

Jennifer Zander, LICSW



EDUCATION

1994 Bachelor of Science, Psychology, University of California at Davis, Davis, CA

2000 Masters in Social Work, Boston University, Boston, MA

2011 Completion of Aspiring Leader Program, St Joseph Medical Center, Bellingham, WA

EXPERIENCE

Peacehealth Northwest Network including St Joseph Medical Center, United General Medical Center and Peace Island Medical Center; Bellingham, WA, Social Work Manager 8/2017-present (360-788-6300)

- Provide clinical oversight to a team of about 30 social workers in the Emergency Department, inpatient medical units and inpatient psychiatric unit across three hospitals in northwest WA.
- Provide weekly individual and group supervision for unlicensed social workers working toward licensure.
- Collaborate with community providers for process improvement and patient care.
- Provide leadership and guidance within the Care Management department regarding long lengths of stay, community collaboration, legislative agenda, clinical expertise and other initiatives.
- Perform policy updates, manage scheduling, conduct annual performance evaluations. Responsible for hiring, orientation, mentoring and ongoing performance management of staff.

Peacehealth St Joseph Medical Center, Bellingham, WA, Social Worker; 8/2003-8/2017

- Worked in the Emergency Department, inpatient psychiatric unit and on inpatient medical units.
- Provided mental health evaluations, suicide risk assessments and crisis intervention, as well as worked with a variety of other social service needs, including domestic violence, nursing home placements, child protective services and homelessness.
- Provided discharge planning, care coordination, family support and various medical social work services for patients on inpatient medical units and in the childbirth center.
- Worked as part of a multidisciplinary team, including doctors, psychiatrists, nurses, rehabilitation specialists, outpatient providers and insurance representatives to ensure best care for patients.

Trinity Counseling, Bellingham, WA, Therapist; 1/2004-1/2006

- Worked in a private practice office providing individual and family therapy for children, adolescents and adults with primary specialties of trauma, substance abuse, depression and anxiety.

Center for Family Development, Beverly, MA, Therapist; 6/2000-6/2003

- Provided individual and family therapy for children, adolescents and adults with a variety of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Provided specialized evaluation and treatment services in the areas of substance abuse and trauma, including comprehensive and extensive sexual abuse evaluations.
- Facilitated psycho-educational substance abuse groups for adolescents.
- Provided therapy services for clients with a range of issues and diagnoses, including behavior disorders, mood disorders, eating disorders, learning disabilities, adult children of alcoholics and adjudicated adolescents.
- Participated in an ongoing Policy Committee which made policy and training recommendations.

Childrens Hospital, Boston, MA, MSW Intern for Sexual Abuse Evaluation Team and Outpatient Psychiatry; 9/1999-5/2000

- Conducted comprehensive sexual abuse evaluations for children and their families as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Coordinated with other professionals, including Department of Social Services, schools, primary care physicians, attorneys and other providers in addressing the question of sexual abuse.
- Received extensive didactic training regarding sexual abuse assessment and treatment.
- Provided individual and family therapy for children, adolescents and families, including diagnostic assessments, treatment planning and discharge summaries.
- Performed mental health evaluations, crisis intervention and recommendations for children and adolescents in an emergency room setting.

Center for Addictive Behaviors Health & Recovery Services Inc, Salem, MA, MSW Intern for Intensive Outpatient Chemical Dependency Program; 9/1998-5/1999

- Provided individual and group therapy services for this Day Treatment Program which focused on women in early recovery for Substance Use Disorder.
- Facilitated weekly psycho-educational and therapeutic process groups.
- Developed curriculum for and facilitated a Womens Brief Treatment group.
- Completed client intake evaluations and initial assessments.
- Participated in weekly clinical case reviews.