

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2019 10:11 PM
To: Ben Glassett; Jill Nixon; Suzanne Mildner; Kristi Felbinger; Dana Brown-Davis; Executive; NaDean Hanson
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission 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 | Ms. |
| First Name | Debbie |
| Last Name | Ahl |
| Today's Date | 4/21/2019 |
| Street Address | 49 Strawberry Pt |
| City | Bellingham |
| Zip | 98229 |
| Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? | Yes |
| Do you have a different mailing address? | <i>Field not completed.</i> |
| Primary Telephone | 360.393.2599 |
| Secondary Telephone | 360.734.7556 |
| Email Address | d.ahl@edgewateradvising.com |

Step 2

| | |
|---|--|
| 1. Name of Board or Committee | Business and Commerce Advisory Committee |
| Business and Commerce Advisory Committee Position: | Health Care Industry |
| 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 3 |
| 4. Are you a US citizen? | Yes |
| 5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? | Yes |
| 6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? | No |
| 7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission? | No |
| 8. 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 |
| You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions | Debbie Ahl Bio - 2019 Edgewater.pdf |
| 9. Please describe your | President & CEO of Sterling Health Plans; President & CEO of |

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

Olympic Health Management Companies; Senior Advisor, ADVault, Inc., Member, America's Health Insurance Plans Board of Directors; Chair, BTC, Board of Trustees, Chair, NW Innovation Resource Center, Compass Health Board, WWU CBE Advisory Board, Rotary Club of Bellingham.
Undergraduate, Communications; MBA, Healthcare Management

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

My background spans 10 years in healthcare provider industry (hospital administration); 20 years in health plan management including 10 as CEO. Business cannot live outside the health of their community; the health of the community drives business sustainability. Educational pathways, economic development and population health are inextricably connected. I have had the opportunity to lead a great company to \$1.3 billion in revenue here in Whatcom County; I now focus on supporting other businesses to do the same while contributing to the health of the community.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Richard Ravin, Ret. Chairman & CEO of Combined Insurance Company of America (312) 771-0800
richard.ravin@comcast.net Scott Wallace (360) 303-9074 (former US Bank)

Signature of applicant: Debbie J. Ahl

Place Signed / Submitted Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)



Debbie J. Ahl
Founder, Managing Partner
Edgewater Advising, LLC

Debbie Ahl is a strategic leader with background in public, private and not-for-profit organizations, including 20 years in the C-Suite and 10 years as CEO accountable for top line growth and bottom line performance. With a career spanning 30 years in healthcare, both provider and payer industries, she now focuses on improving population health by engaging the individual's voice, addressing social determinants of health, and creating opportunities through education and economic opportunities.

Adept at developing collaborative cultures and teams aligned in purpose and vision, Debbie is skilled in identifying issues impeding performance and mapping solutions for complex situations based on stakeholder perspectives, data analysis, insight and intuition. Debbie's career has focused on strategy development, business growth and development of performance teams. She is proficient in highly regulated environments with a commitment to proactive communication. She is skilled at critical understanding of core competencies, identifying key performance metrics and implementing focused quality and expense improvements. A discerning leader, she has a talent for connecting people, information, organizations and developments within a global picture.

As President & CEO of Sterling Life Insurance Company (2000-2009), Debbie had full P&L responsibility for comprehensive insurance operations in a highly regulated and competitive market. Sterling served 235,000 enrollees in Medicare Advantage, Medicare supplement, prescription drug and employer plans. She was involved in the successful start-up of Olympic Health Management Systems, a consulting company, third party administrator and sales agency acquired by Aon Corporation in 1998 for \$15 million. Following this acquisition, Olympic was matched with Sterling to develop a full Medicare portfolio. Under Debbie's leadership, the company grew from \$48 million (2000 YE) to \$1 Billion in revenue (2008 YE), and was acquired by Munich Re for \$352 million in 2008. She led the successful integration of Sterling into the Munich organization. Debbie is an insightful Director with 30 years' experience on boards including subsidiaries of publicly traded companies, private and not-for profit organizations. She currently chairs the Board of Trustees for Bellingham Technical College, and serves on the Boards of the NW Innovation Resource Center and Compass Health.

Debbie and her husband, Bill Ziels enjoy boating, skiing, and biking. They are partners in a 100-year old barge which navigates inland European waterways, allowing them to "research" the perfect vineyards. They enjoy spending as much time as possible with their family of six adult children and four grandchildren.

Contact Information:

Email: d.ahl@edgewateradvising.com

Cell: 360.393.2599

<http://edgewateradvising.com>
