

From:
To:
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Saturday, December 9, 2023 1:20:23 PM

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 Dr.

First Name Bertha

Last Name Safford

Today's Date 12/9/2023

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

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

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force/Law & Justice Council

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force Position:	Health and Social Service 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 5
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	Attached

the following questions

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I am a retired family physician who has practiced for 41 years in Ferndale, since 1999 as part of Family Care Network and as a designated rural health center (Ferndale Family Medical Center). I have seen firsthand the impact of mental health disorders and substance abuse on people's lives. I am a licensed suboxone prescriber who has treated Opioid Use Disorder as part of my practice. While I no longer see patients, I continue part-time administrative work at Ferndale Family Medical Center.

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

I am interested because I believe my professional experience can be a resource to the committee. As a primary care physician, I have witnessed young adults become entangled in the legal system through impulsive nonviolent behaviors and/or mental health and substance abuse issues. Frequently their lives become unnecessarily derailed due to numerous unintended consequences of our justice system. Since my retirement, I have followed the Whatcom County Justice Project with great interest, attending most of the Stakeholders Advisory Committee and IPRTF meetings on zoom over the past 2 years. With the recent passage of the Public Health, Safety and Justice Facilities ordinance, I would like to engage in the work ahead to support adequate transparency and public accountability and to encourage involvement of a diverse population to assure ongoing community support of the Implementation Plan.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Jim Hopper MD, Chief Medical Officer, Family Care Network
360-441-2734
Kirsten Barron 360-733-0212

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Bertha Safford MD

Place Signed / Submitted



(Section Break)

CURRICULUM VITAE

DECEMBER 2023

Bertha H. Safford, MD



PERSONAL DATA:

Place of birth: East Orange, New Jersey
Married to John Hruby MD, 2 children

EDUCATION:

BA with Honors, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio 1970.
MD, University of Washington School of Medicine, 1976

POST GRADUATE TRAINING:

Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, 1976-79
Board Certified, American Board of Family Practice, 1980; Recertification 1986, 1992, 1998, 2005, 2012

EMPLOYMENT:

Private family practice at WA State Rural Health Center, Ferndale Washington, part of Family Care Network 1979 – retired 9/2020
Medical Director, North District, Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound 1986 - 1999
Vice president, Family Care Network, Whatcom County, WA – 1999 - retired 12/2018

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS:

University of Washington School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine 1991 - 2020
Currently Clinical Associate Professor Emeritus
American Academy of Family Physicians 1995 – 2017
Faculty Chair, Washington State Medical Home Collaborative, co-sponsored by WA State Department of Health and WA Academy of Family Physicians 2009 - 2012.
Institute for Healthcare Improvement 2003 - 2005

HOSPITAL POSITIONS HELD:

Active medical staff member, St Joseph Hospital, Bellingham, WA, retired December 2020.

HONORS:

Washington State Family Physician of the Year, 2003
St. Joseph Hospital Medical Staff "Making a Difference" Award, 2001