

**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 22, 2025 12:45:32 PM

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## 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	Mrs.
First Name	Kristy
Last Name	Backer
Today's Date	1/22/2025
Street Address	[REDACTED]
City	[REDACTED]
Zip	[REDACTED]
Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	[REDACTED]
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	[REDACTED]

### Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force/Law &

Group	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 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?	Yes
If yes, please explain	I work at the YWCA Bellingham that receives funding from Whatcom County.
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
7. Please describe your	I am currently the Housing Program Director of the YWCA

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

Bellingham which offers permanent supportive housing and emergency shelters in a total of 5 different programs accessible for those under 30% AMI. The experiences that I've gained while working with the clients of the YWCA offers me a unique perspective that I believe will be beneficial to this group. Other than my work experience, I am currently working to complete a BA in Human Services.

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

My interest in this Advisory Group stems from working with clients that have been justice involved. The barriers that they have struggled with are similar to the barriers that I see in many of my clients lives and if I can be a part of helping lower those barriers by finding ways to prevent incarceration or minimize involvement in the justice system, that is going to greatly benefit our community as a whole.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Alle Schene, YWCA Bellingham CEO, 360-734-4820 x 107  
Cathy Lehman, YWCA Board of Directors, 360-224-8877  
Christopher D'Onofrio, Whatcom County Health and Community Services Housing & Homeless Services Supervisor, 360-778-6049

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Kristy Backer

Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)