

## Jake Logan

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:51 AM  
**To:** Jill Nixon; Jake Logan; Executive; Cathy Halka  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application

### Advisory Group Application

#### Step 1

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Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Advisory Groups

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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.

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Title	Mr.
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First Name	Henry
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Last Name	Fisher
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Today's Date	7/15/2025
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Street Address	
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Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
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Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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Primary Telephone	
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Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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Email Address	
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#### Step 2

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1. Name of Advisory Group	Food System Committee
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Food System Committee position:	Food access
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 1
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	
7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	<p>I currently serve as Executive Director of Foothills Food Bank in Maple Falls, WA, where I lead strategic partnerships, financial management, and community outreach to address food insecurity in underserved East Whatcom County. In this role, I oversee direct client services while also working on broader food systems advocacy to ensure people have dignified access to food. My work spans from day-to-day operations to building community partnerships that strengthen our local food network and increase resilience in underserved areas.</p> <p>I'm an active member of the Foothills Community Food Partnership (FCFP), where I contribute data and insights about food insecurity trends in our region and help develop long-term food access planning. This collaborative work has given me valuable experience in bringing together diverse stakeholders to address complex food system challenges.</p> <p>My background in food systems extends beyond my current</p>

leadership role. I have hands-on experience as a farm worker, compost systems consultant, and local food vendor, giving me a ground-level understanding of how our food system works from production to distribution. My educational foundation includes a Master's in Environmental Studies from Western Washington University, where I conducted research on food systems change and collective action strategies. This combination of practical experience across the food chain, nonprofit leadership, and community partnership work has given me a comprehensive view of both the challenges and opportunities in our local food system.

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

I'm interested in serving on this advisory group because I see firsthand how food system decisions at the county level directly impact the families and communities we serve at Foothills Food Bank. Every day, I work with people who are navigating barriers to food access, and I understand how policy and planning decisions can either support or complicate their ability to feed their families with dignity.

Through my work with the Foothills Community Food Partnership, I've learned the value of bringing together different perspectives to tackle food system challenges. I believe my experience leading a rural food bank gives me important insights into gaps in our current system and practical ideas for solutions that actually work for the people who need them most.

I'm particularly passionate about approaches that build community strength and connection, rather than just addressing immediate needs. At our food bank, we've seen how supporting people in ways that respect their dignity and build relationships can create positive ripple effects throughout the community. I'd like to bring this perspective to county-level food system planning.

I also bring data and on-the-ground experience about food insecurity trends in rural Whatcom County, which would be valuable for informed decision-making. My goal would be to help ensure that county food system initiatives are both practical and responsive to the real needs of our most vulnerable residents.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Aly Robinson, Foothills Food Bank Board President, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dana Bronstein, Foothills Food Bank Interim Board Vice-President, [REDACTED]  
Kate Darby, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at WWU, [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Henry Fisher

Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

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(Section Break)

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

**Henry Fisher**  
(He/Him)  
Bellingham, WA

541-790-9040 | [hmfisher99@gmail.com](mailto:hmfisher99@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)

Food systems practitioner with expertise in rural food security and community-based advocacy. Currently leading Foothills Food Bank, directing operations including strategic partnerships, financial management, and community outreach to address food insecurity in underserved agricultural regions. Holds MA in Environmental Studies with research focus on food systems change and collective action strategies. Combines academic foundation with hands-on experience across the food system as farm worker, compost consultant, and nonprofit coordinator. Proven track record in grant acquisition (\$190,000+ secured), program development, and building community power through dignified food access initiatives.

#### Key Skills

- Nonprofit Leadership & Management
- Financial Management
- Program Design
- Program Implementation
- Community Advocacy
- Research & Data Analysis

#### Education

**Western Washington University** - MA Environmental Studies Spring 2024

- *Thesis: Collective Benefits, Individualized Responsibility: A Q-Method Case Study of Local Food Consumer Subjectivity in Bellingham, WA*: conducted mixed-methods research with Bellingham residents to understand the limitations of ethical consumerism as a dominant theory of change within the local food movement, and to identify alternative strategies for promoting food systems change.

**Colorado College** - BA Environmental Studies, Phi Beta Kappa Winter 2021

- *Outstanding Senior Academic Award in Environmental Studies*: provided to honor that student showing unusual academic excellence as well as a strong commitment to environmental studies
- *Service Award in Environmental Studies*: given to that senior who has given exemplary service to the program and community and who shows unusual promise to go on into the field
- *Dean's List* 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20

#### Professional Experience

**Foothills Food Bank**, Maple Falls, WA January 2025–Present

##### Executive Director

- Responsibilities include leadership of the Food Bank, supporting community visibility and organizational partnerships, contract and financial management, fundraising and outreach, supervising food bank operations, human resources management, and board governance support.

**Small Acres Farm**, Everson, WA April 2024–November 2024

##### Farming Apprenticeship

- Assist with and build proficiency in all day-to-day aspects of farmwork including seed starting, transplanting, installing irrigation systems, field preparation, harvesting, washing, and packing produce, and cover cropping.
- Assist with the production of value-added products (e.g. kimchi, sauerkraut) in a nearby processing facility.
- Prepare CSA boxes for pickup and delivery.

**Western Washington University**, Bellingham, WA September 2022–June 2024

##### Course Instructor, ENVS 467 Power, Privilege, and the Environment

- Design Critical Environmental Justice (CEJ) curriculum for upper-level undergraduate Environmental Studies majors.
- Prepare and facilitate engaging discussions designed to promote self-reflection around course topics (e.g. representation & identity, radical hope, restorative EJ).

- Develop and facilitate undergraduate community-engaged projects in collaboration with community organizations.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, *ESCI 101, ENVS 305, ENVS 401*

- Provide weekly engaging and detail-oriented instruction for undergraduate students.
- Responsible for lesson planning, discussion facilitation, writing assistance, and student evaluation.
- Provide detailed writing feedback.

**Central Oregon Locavore**, Bend, OR

June 2021–March 2022

**Team Member** for nonprofit connecting local food producers and consumers to enhance local food access.

- Share knowledge about the Central Oregon food system.
- Build relationships with local food producers and consumers.
- Assisted in marketplace launch of Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) program

**Anderson-Miner Ranch**, Boonville, CA

February 2021–May 2021

**Food and Agriculture Waste Systems Consultant** supporting a private Northern California ranch to reduce their waste stream.

- Design, build, and maintain a variety of compost systems.
- Create recorded and written educational materials for ranch employees.
- Train ranch employees to run and maintain compost systems.

**Food to Power**, Colorado Springs, CO

May 2020–October 2020

**Student Volunteer Coordinator** for nonprofit focused on cultivating a healthy, equitable food system for the Colorado Springs community.

- Volunteer position to facilitate student engagement in the creation of new Bioreactor compost systems, facilitate weekly community compost processing sessions, educate student volunteers about composting protocols/processes.
- Run student volunteer email list, plan and facilitate student work parties.

### Grants

- WSDA Harvest Against Hunger, Farm to Food Pantry 2025-26, \$13,172 for administrative support and local food purchasing
- WA DOH SNAP-ED, Policy, Systems, and Equipment (PSE) 2025, \$10,000 to purchase food distribution infrastructure
- AgWest, Local Action Committee (LAC) 2025-26, \$50,000, to purchase support food distribution infrastructure and support local food purchasing
- North Sound ACH, Collaborative Action Network Grant 2025-26, \$50,000 to expand home delivery program
- Abram and Ray Kaplan Foundation, Program Grant, 2025-26, \$50,000 to support staffing and local food purchasing at Foothills Food Bank.
- Food Lifeline, RAEP Capacity Grant, 2025-26, \$16,500 to kickstart new staff position at Foothills Food Bank.

**Henry Fisher**  
(He/Him)  
Bellingham, WA

541-790-9040 | [hmfisher99@gmail.com](mailto:hmfisher99@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)

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