



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO WHATCOM COUNTY ADVISORY GROUPS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY and COMPLETE ALL ITEMS

Name: Amelia Vader

Date: 12/30/2025

- 1a. Name of advisory group: **See next page** Public Health Advisory Board
- 1b. Which position are you applying for? **Refer to vacancy list** 3-year full term
2. Do you meet the requirements of the position for which you're applying?
(If applicable, please refer to vacancy list.) ----- ☒ yes () no
3. Which Council district do you live in? ----- () One () Two ☒ Three () Four () Five () Not Applicable
4. Have you ever been a member of this advisory group? ----- () yes ☒ no
If yes, dates: _____
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 () no
If yes, please explain: Yes, I am employed by the Bellingham School District which contracts with County.
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.005(8)) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? ----- () yes ☒ no

You may attach a résumé 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.

See attached resume. I have worked in health services programming since 2006. I currently serve as a special projects manager and grant writer for the Bellingham School District. In this role I have worked on COVID reponse, Lead remediation, vaccine and sports physicals clinics, native family committee, mental health services and I managed the implementation of the district's first school based health center, which opened in March 2025.

8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this advisory group: _____
I am interested in elevating the needs of families and children and increasing the effectiveness of the systems that serve them. Schools are trusted spaces, and having a representative from the district in the room where conversations and planning are happening will help support action and collaboration. I am passionate about public health services meeting children and families where they are at by removing barriers to health care and healthy environments.

References (please include daytime telephone number): Supervisors: Jessica Sankey [REDACTED] Greg Baker [REDACTED]
Colleague: Aly Robinson, Health Dept. [REDACTED] Christian Caro, Sea Mar [REDACTED] Elizabeth Boyle, CHF [REDACTED]

My signature affirms that the information provided in this application is true and correct. If appointed, I will comply with the Council & Executive Expectations of Advisory Group Members and complete Open Government Training as required by RCW 42.30.205.

Signature of applicant: Amelia Vader See next page for additional instructions.

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the above information 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.

Amelia C. Vader, MPA

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

Equity-minded professional, seeking public service opportunities to support children and families in our community.

- 18+ years working on health programming including school-based health services and mental health, COVID-19 vaccine clinics, HIV/AIDS, faith community nursing, and global health
- 9+ years in supervisory roles
- 8+ years program management

EXPERIENCE

BELLINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BELLINGHAM, WA GRANT WRITER and SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER*

SEPT 2018 – present

- Draft and submit 40-60 grants annually as part of a two-person, part-time grant writing team, winning \$1-2 million in competitive grants each school year (since August 2018)
- Manage planning process and implementation for first school-based health center in Bellingham Public Schools including Task Force, needs assessment, communications, and contracting.
- Support various projects as needed including grants management, lead remediation, vaccine clinics, and health-related community partnerships

HEALTH MINISTRIES NETWORK, BELLINGHAM, WA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUL 2018 – OCT 2020

- Managed program including educational opportunities for nurses, outreach and support for faith communities across Whatcom, Skagit and Island counties
- Worked with board to ensure budget supported mission of organization
- Supervised Communications Coordinator

BELLINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BELLINGHAM, WA COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT – OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

FEB 2018 – JUN 2018

- Planned, researched, wrote and edited a variety of content including online stories and social media
- Coordinated public records requests, working with district staff and legal council as needed
- Assisted with video production including writing scripts, editing and filming

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL HEALTH, SEATTLE, WA COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

JAN 2015 – JUN 2017

- Led Department's communications and marketing efforts for department within school of public health and school of medicine
- Wrote and edited content related to nine academic programs and research covering 12 focus areas
- Partnered with web specialist to launch new website, train content editors, and resolve issues and bugs
- Supervised communications specialist
- Developed and maintained strong relationships with communicators at various levels
- Established and implemented crisis communications procedures
- Produced recruitment videos for degree programs

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

OCT 2013 – JAN 2015

- Served as sole communications staff person including web, print and social media content production
- Supported the communications needs of academic programs, alumni initiative, and centers
- Managed and grew social media presence: Twitter followers increased by 186% (from 2,300 to 6,588)

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, SEATTLE, WA COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT

JAN 2013 – OCT 2013

- Created online content promoting Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Guide to Long Term Care leading to and sustaining a 200% increase in website traffic

SEATTLE CHILDREN'S, SEATTLE, WA

STUDENT CONSULTANT – DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DEC 2012 – MAY 2013

- Researched health coverage for medically based obesity treatments for children by conducting online surveys for health insurers and employers, analyzing billing data, and interviewing key informants

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WA

RESEARCH ASSISTANT – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

JAN – SEPT 2012

- Designed surveys and collected qualitative data via interviews with Veterans and their caregivers
- Designed SharePoint site for VA staff and created social media plan and recommendations

BABES NETWORK – YWCA, SEATTLE, WA*BABES Network, a sisterhood of women living with HIV, provides peer support, education and advocacy.*

PROGRAM MANAGER

JUN 2009 – JUL 2011

- Managed psychosocial support services for more than 300 HIV positive clients and their children
- Supervised, trained, and supported five peer staff and an Advocacy Coordinator
- Prepared successful grant proposals and reports for government and private funders
- Launched first-ever gala fundraiser event, netting \$21,000 (in 2009)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES COORDINATOR

MAY 2006 – JAN 2009

- Coordinated activities associated with community relations, and fundraising
- Recruited, oriented and managed volunteers
- Developed and implemented marketing campaign to reduce HIV stigma and encourage testing

EDUCATION**University of Washington, Seattle, WA**

Master of Public Administration, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs

2013

William Shelton Fellowship Recipient

Daniel J. Evans Fellowship Recipient

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

Bachelor of Arts

2006

PUBLICATIONS

Dani Fitts and Amelia Vader. The effect of state-level soda taxes on adult obesity. The Evans School Review, Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, JUN 2013

AWARDS, BOARDS, LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

- One Schoolhouse Award - Health Services Team, 2022 Bellingham Public Schools Promise Awards
- Honorable Mention for Video - Storytelling, 2022, Washington Public School Relations Association
- Award of Excellence for Writing, 2021, Washington Public School Relations Association
- Senior Warden, 2021, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Stewardship Campaign Co-Chair, 2020, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Co-Chair of Community Action Board Steering Committee, 2010-2013, Center for AIDS Research, University of Washington
- Stella Steps Out Gala Fundraising Committee, 2009-2012, BABES Network - YWCA
- Selected Presenter and Recipient of Certificate of Excellence, Evans School of Public Affairs Research Symposium, University of Washington
- Founder of Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Committee, YWCA of Seattle-King County
- 2008 Trainee in Go Run, NY!, The White House Project