

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	Field not completed.
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First Name	Parneet
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Last Name	Kaur
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Today's Date	11/26/2024
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Street Address	
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City	
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Zip	
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Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
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Do you have a different mailing address?	Field not completed.
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Primary Telephone	
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Secondary Telephone	Field not completed.
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Email Address	
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Step 2

1. Name of Advisory	Justice Project Oversight & Planning Committee
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Group

Justice Project
Oversight and Planning
(JPOP) Committee

Young Adult (aged 18-24)

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?

Yes

If yes, please explain


I am currently a full-time employee of Northwest Youth Services, a non-profit organization that receives money from city, county, state, and federal government to maintain our programs and services.

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

Attached

7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I work full-time as the Whatcom Outreach Assistant for Northwest Youth Services and support our food truck and outreach foot routes downtown. We serve youth and young adults experiencing or risking homelessness throughout the county, including young people transitioning in and out of incarceration. I am also compensated member of the state-wide "Youth For Youth Board" hosted by the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) that advises the Washington State Department of Commerce, schools and local service providers on how to improve their homeless youth services. We meet on zoom once a week and often get introduced to other opportunities to work alongside OHY.
8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.	I want to voice my lived experience as a young person that has faced housing instability and systemic failure as well as share the harm I witness as a social worker for Whatcom County. There are complex oppressive intersectionality's in our systems that maintain and worsen crime, homelessness, and poverty and they must be addressed in order to foster successful solutions. Being apart of this board and familiarizing myself with the Justice Project will allow me to interact with other professionals who can help me understand and navigate the criminal legal system in order to prevent the cycle of incarceration.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	1. Liam Reed, Outreach Programs Manager, Northwest Youth Services: (206) 999-1479 2. Eve Smason-Marcus, Sr. Director of Advocacy & Community Action, Northwest Youth Services: (360) 927-5663
Appointment Requirements	I understand and agree
Signature of applicant:	Parneet Kaur
Place Signed / Submitted	
(Section Break)	

PARNEET KAUR

SKILLS

Networking

Panel Facilitation

Coordination

Inventory Management

Youth Advocacy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Whatcom Outreach Assistant,

Northwest Youth Services

Sep 2024 – present

- Support NWYS Outreach Food Truck/Engagement Vehicle operations and foot routes in rural and urban areas within Whatcom County.
- Assist the Outreach Projects Manager with documentation, paperwork, and administrative tasks.

Outreach Intern, Northwest Youth Services

Apr 2024 – Aug 2024

- Supplied our houseless neighbors with hot meals, essential supplies and a sense of community with our Engagement Vehicle.
- Collaborated with local organizations, community members and young leaders aiming to improve youth and community health.

Safety Agent, Risks Solutions Unlimited

Feb 2024 – Apr 2024

- Connected the houseless community of Downtown Bellingham to local resources and programs offering basic needs.
- Interacted with the Bellingham Police Department, EMS, public workers and other security guards to maintain public safety and security.
- Successfully administered Narcan and CPR

LANGUAGES

English

Punjabi

Hindi

Urdu

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

Mockingbird Society, Northern Chapter

Oct 2024 – present

Members develop an annual policy agenda with goals and priorities to reform child welfare and systems addressing youth homelessness through changes in practice, policy, and budgets.

Youth For Youth Board (Y4Y)

May 2024 – present

Members advise the Washington State Department of Commerce, schools, and local service providers on how to improve services for homeless and housing unstable youth.

Youth Action Board (YAB), Whatcom County

Jan 2024 – present

Members foster youth-led solutions that shape the initiatives and actions of the ACI to prevent youth homelessness and housing insecurity in Whatcom.

REFERENCES

Liam Reed, Outreach Programs Manager,

Northwest Youth Services

liamr@nwys.org, (206) 999 - 1479

Eve Smason-Marcus,

Sr. Director of Advocacy & Community Action,

Northwest Youth Services

eves@nwys.org, (360) 927 - 5663

Raven Seven, Outreach Intern,

Northwest Youth Services

(360) 815 - 9443

SPEAKING/FACILITATION EXPERIENCE

Oct 2024

Office of Homeless Youth Grantee Forum

OHY collaborated with young people and grantees to discuss their programs, share best practices, receive updates on funding guidelines, and network with other agencies working to address youth homelessness. I was involved in the facilitation of the following sessions and honored as a Keynote panelist:

- Youth Collaboration/Supporting Local YABs
- Progressive Engagement: Youth Choice in Service Delivery
- Ending Adultism and Centering Youth Lived Experience in the Homeless System

Jun 2024

All Hands Whatcom Opioid Summit,

chuckanutthealthfoundation.org/allhands/summit2024

The Summit highlighted community voices, promoted shared learning around systems of substance use prevention and support, and amplified innovative strategies that support youth into healthy and thriving adulthood. The link above will give you access to these recorded sessions I participated in:

- Session 2: Stories from the Next Generation
- Session 10: Youth Panel - Dreaming into Actualization

May 2024

Youth For Youth Board In-Person Meeting

Worked alongside the Office of Homeless Youth to facilitate the bulleted topics to be presented to other Y4Y Board members:

- Youth and Young Adult Coordinated Entry
- Creating Program Templates for OHY Non-Profit Partners: Grievance Form