

Jake Logan

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 7:59 AM
To: Jill Nixon; Jake Logan; Executive; Cathy Halka
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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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.
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First Name	Tannis
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Last Name	Peura
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Today's Date	10/20/2025
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City	Bellingham
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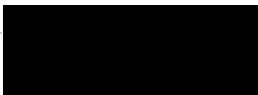
Zip	98225
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Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
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Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Group	Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Position:	Behavioral Health Professional
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 4
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	Field not completed.
8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.	Field not completed.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Jenny Billings, CEO, Lake Whatcom Center Britta Johnson, Programs Director, Lake Whatcom Center - 

Appointment Requirements I understand and agree

Signature of applicant: Tannis Peura

Place Signed / Submitted Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)

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Whatcom County
Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
509 Girard Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Members,

I am honored to express my interest in serving on the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) to support and strengthen behavioral health initiatives in our community. I have over two decades of experience in the behavioral health field, grounded in direct client service, program development, and organizational leadership. My career has been devoted to promoting recovery-oriented care, system collaboration, and equitable access to behavioral health services for individuals with serious mental illness.

My work in behavioral health began in 2002 when I joined Lake Whatcom Center as a Rehabilitation Specialist in the Expanded Community Services program. In this role, I supported the successful transition of individuals from state hospital long-term care settings to community-based outpatient services. This early experience established my deep commitment to advocacy, person-centered care, and the belief that individuals with complex needs can thrive in the least restrictive environments with appropriate support.

Following this, I was promoted to a Case Manager position, where I became a strong advocate for individuals with SMI in outpatient settings. I worked closely with clients to build recovery plans, coordinate services, and promote independence through skill development, resource connection, and clinical collaboration. My next advancement, into the Housing and Payee Department, expanded my experience in systems level coordination. In this capacity, I worked directly with the Bellingham Housing Authority, HUD, and the Social Security Administration to secure and maintain housing stability for vulnerable clients and ensure compliance with federal regulations. These experiences deepened my understanding of the social determinants of health and the structural barriers faced by those living with behavioral health challenges.

For the past seven years, I have served as Operations Director at Lake Whatcom Center, overseeing multiple programs and leading initiatives to enhance service quality, compliance, and efficiency. In this role, I have been responsible for ensuring programs meet both clinical and fiscal performance benchmarks, aligning services with state and federal requirements, and embedding data driven evaluation into daily operations. My leadership emphasizes accountability, staff development, and system level collaboration to improve outcomes for the populations we serve.

As a leader, I value collaboration, adaptability, and solution-focused thinking. I am skilled in managing competing priorities, facilitating multidisciplinary teamwork, and resolving conflict constructively. I would bring to the committee not only professional expertise but also a practical understanding of how policy decisions and funding priorities directly affect service delivery at the ground level.

Serving on the BHAC would be an opportunity to give back to the community that has shaped my professional path, to lend my voice and perspective toward ensuring that behavioral health investments are strategic, equitable, and sustainable. I would be honored to represent the provider sector and to contribute meaningfully to shaping the future of behavioral health in our region.

Best regards,

Tannis Peura
Operations Director
Lake Whatcom Center
3600 Meridian Street
Bellingham, WA 98225