

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	Miss
First Name	Vesla
Last Name	Tonnessen
Today's Date	12/6/2024
Street Address	
City	
Zip	
Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	Field not completed.
Primary Telephone	
Secondary Telephone	Field not completed.
Email Address	

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory	Child & Family Well-Being Task Force
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Group

Child & Family Well-Being Task Force

Yes

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

Yes

If yes, please list dates:

Spring 2021-current

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 for Washington Family Engagement: a non-profit that occasionally gets funding from Whatcom County philanthropy, but we do not receive funding from the Whatcom County Government.

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

Field not completed.

7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I have been an involved community member as a parent for many years. I worked for the Whatcom Early Learning Alliance (that was a seat I had formerly on the task force), and now I work in the field of community engagement and civic education. We support family leadership and develop skills for families in to participate in civic matters. We have had at least 3 graduates of our leadership programs as members of this task force. They are well prepared to do this work. I teach classes on joining boards and commissions for parents/caregivers who wish to participate, but do not have the experience. I was also an original drafter of the Healthy Children's Fund ordinance.
8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.	I am passionate about community engagement and will work hard to improve the ways in which this advisory board functions. I have the institutional history helpful in our efforts to make the HCF more effective, transparent, and accountable to Whatcom County residents. I am a current co-chair to this advisory board, and my previous application was for a partial term seat. This appointment would allow me to complete the second year of my responsibilities.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Adie Simmons- 425-273-1595, Jed Holmes- 360-778-5209, Councilmember Jon Scanlon 360-935-1523
Appointment Requirements	I understand and agree
Signature of applicant:	Vesla Tonnessen
Place Signed / Submitted	
(Section Break)	