

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.
First Name	Rachel
Last Name	McGarrity
Today's Date	12/29/2025
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Public Health Advisory Board

Group

Public Health Advisory Board	I have expertise, career experience, or lived experience in one of the areas listed above., I am a consumer of public health services.
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2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
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3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 2
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4. Have you ever been a member of this Advisory Group	Yes
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If yes, please list dates:	Jan 2025-present, partial term
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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
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6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
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You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	Attached
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7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired),	I am a nurse, family caregiver, advocate for palliative care, and community engager. I have a Master's degree in Nursing from George Washington University, my original Bachelor's in Nursing is from Johns Hopkins University, and I did my first
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qualifications,
professional and/or
community activities,
and education

undergraduate work at the University of Washington. I currently work for Sound Physicians, a group of providers that see 70% of the patients at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center while they are hospitalized. I am also on the Cornwall Park Neighborhood Association and I coach recreational youth soccer.

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

I have proudly served on this Board for the last year, and while we have accomplished some deep thinking and crucial foundational planning, I am very motivated to continue to build on that work to action in supporting strong public health services in Whatcom County. I also recognize that our healthcare system is vulnerable nationally to changing funding and social landscapes, and I want to be part of the local solution that bolsters Whatcom County residents against that challenge.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Dr. Meg Lelonek [REDACTED] Whatcom County Health Officer, Yarrow Greer [REDACTED] Cornwall Park Neighborhood Association board president

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Rachel McGarrity

Place Signed / Submitted

[REDACTED]

(Section Break)

Rachel McGarrity

Nurse Leader



Summary

Experienced performance nurse seeking an enduring position within my home community health system to support excellent patient and caregiver care experience, maximizing my leadership passion and depth of population- and systems-based improvement perspective to bring better to bedside.

Education

George Washington University / Master's of Science in Nursing Leadership and Management

AUGUST 2016 - MAY 2019, WASHINGTON DC

Emphasis on strategic planning and communication, leader coaching, and nursing education with certification potential.

Johns Hopkins University / Bachelor's of Science in Nursing, Accelerated

MAY 2011 - DECEMBER 2012, BALTIMORE, MD

Second-degree program with focus on community health, Coverdell Returned Peace Corps Fellow

University of Washington / Bachelor's of Science in Molecular, Cellular, Developmental Biology

AUGUST 2002 - DECEMBER 2006, SEATTLE, WA

Concentration on laboratory-based research and medical ethics. Studied abroad in Nantes, France gaining fluency.

Experience

Sound Physicians / Clinical Performance Nurse

JUNE 2023 - PRESENT, BELLINGHAM, WA

Ensuring adequate system processes and support for hospitalist providers to meet performance metrics in measures of quality, performance, and safety
Focus on stakeholder engagement, goal alignment, culture-focused change

PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center / Palliative Care Nurse

AUGUST 2022 - MAY 2023, BELLINGHAM, WA

Core member of an interdisciplinary team managing symptoms and supporting care planning. Enhanced critical care rounds, nurse residency education initiatives.

Alameda Health System / Serious Illness Care Coordinator

JANUARY 2020 - JANUARY 2023, BELLINGHAM, WA

Established scope, documentation, training curriculum for new PC RN role
Implemented \$2 million grant-funded palliative care expansion across system including budget management, data collection and analysis, and leadership communication

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**Experience
(continued)**

Samuel Merritt University / Clinical Instructor Adjunct Faculty Pool

MARCH 2018 - JUNE 2021, BAY AREA, CA

Provided safe, effective hands-on clinical supervision for accelerated BSN program.
Engaged students with learner-centered community health focus

Wilma Chan Highland Hospital / Critical Care Clinical Nurse II

DECEMBER 2017 - DECEMBER 2019, OAKLAND, CA

Trauma, surgical, and medical care at public safety net institution with substantial indigent patient population. SAART Certified Advocate.

Notre Dame of Maryland University / Clinical Adjunct Faculty Member

AUGUST 2013 - DECEMBER 2017, BALTIMORE, MD

Clinical curriculum development, frequent structured feedback, performance recovery
Close coordination with didactic instruction subjects, tailored plans for each learner

Stella Maris Home and Hospice Care / Admissions Nurse

AUGUST 2014 - APRIL 2015, TIMONIUM, MD

Home health and home hospice care establishment with hospice introduction, assessment and coordination of initial DME/medication/support needs.

Mercy Medical Center / Clinical Nurse II, Intensive Care Unit

JANUARY 2013 - APRIL 2018, BALTIMORE, MD

Management of high acuity interventions, preceptor, relief charge nurse role including unit-based council leadership, Chair of Nursing Practice Council governing nursing practice hospital-wide during Magnet recertification

University of Alaska Wildlife Toxicology Lab / Laboratory Technician

AUGUST 2010 - MAY 2011, FAIRBANKS, AK

Validation of novel methylmercury extraction technique using wildlife tissues, abstract and research group presentations. INBRE program.

Bower's Ambulance Service / Emergency Medical Technician I

AUGUST 2009 - MAY 2010, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA

Formerly nationally certified EMT-I, fulfilled contracts with local fire departments and hospitals for emergency calls and critical care transports.

United States Peace Corps / Education Volunteer

MAY 2007 - JUNE 2009, EBOLOWA, CAMEROON

Taught biology and English (as a second language) to students at bilingual high school in provincial capital. Girls empowerment, library construction, dance projects. Focus on teacher training.

University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital / Research assistant

MAY 2003 - JUNE 2006, SEATTLE, WA

Student researcher, Mary Gates Scholarship Foundation scholar. Conducted experiments related to gene modification in tissue and murine cell lines. Within Department of Immunology lab evaluating pediatric genetic disease: X-linked agammaglobulinemia.

Licensure and Certification

Registered Nurse

RN61296235, expiration 11/01/2026, Washington State Board of Nursing
95127551, expiration 12/31/2026, California Board of Registered Nursing
R204749, inactive, Maryland State Board of Nursing

Certifications

ACLS/BLS Initial certification 2013, allowed expiration 2024 (will renew upon request)
CCRN Initial certification 2015, allowed expiration 2021 (will renew upon request)
Nationally Registered EMT-I initial certification 2009, allowed expiration 2011

Community Involvement

Public Health Advisory Board / Vice Chair

JANUARY 2025 - PRESENT, WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Cornwall Park Neighborhood Association / Board Member

JANUARY 2024 - PRESENT, BELLINGHAM, WA

Ethics Board / Board Member

JANUARY 2020 - JANUARY 2023, OAKLAND, CA

Médecins du Monde Outreach Unit / Anglophone Street Van Volunteer

AUGUST 2006 - DECEMBER 2006, NANTES, FRANCE

Recognition

2015 Mercy Spirit Award

2014,15 Daisy Award Nominations (multiple)

2011-12 Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow

2011 France-Merrick Foundation Scholar

2005 Mary Gates Foundation Research Scholar

Skills

Fluent in written and spoken French. Typing Speed 75 WPM. Advanced proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, Forms, Teams). Strong command of data integration and supported interpretation based in Tableau, Power BI.

Subject:

Re: FW: Additional Info requested for your application to the Public Health Advisory Board

Date:

Monday, January 19, 2026 4:32:02 PM

I have expertise in parts i and iii and experience in c and vi.
Rachel