

**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 4, 2022 4:15:06 PM

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## Board and Commission Application

### Step 1

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Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

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#### Public Statement

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

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Title Mrs.

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First Name Heather

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Last Name Flaherty

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Today's Date 1/4/2022

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Street Address 2225 38th Street

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City Bellingham

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Zip 98229

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Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

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Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

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Primary Telephone 3602247313

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Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

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Email Address heatherflaherty@chuckanutthealthfoundation.org

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### Step 2

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1. Name of Board or Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force/Law &

Committee	Justice Council
Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force Position:	Concerned Citizen
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. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	Yes
If yes, please list dates:	January 2019 - December 2021
8. 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 serve as the Executive Director of the Chuckanut Health Foundation and we are currently contracted as an organization with Whatcom County to develop the Racial Equity Commission.

You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions

Attached

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9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I serve as the Executive Director of the Chuckanut Health Foundation, formerly the St. Luke's Foundation. Before that I worked at the Raptor Group providing operational support and HR services to a variety of restaurants and food manufacturing companies. As part of this role, I also managed the RiverStyx Foundation, administering mission aligned grants and initiatives in Whatcom County. I started my career at PeaceHealth St. Joseph in administration, serving as the Executive Assistant to the CEO. I earned my Bachelors of Science Degree in Community Health and later my Masters in Business Administration from Western Washington University. I count myself as very lucky professionally as I am able to bring all of these experiences together to help further the overall health of our community. I have served as a volunteer and a board member at a number of nonprofits in Whatcom County - I am a former Board President of The Volunteer Center and the Whatcom Alliance for Health Advancement (WAHA), former board member of Western Washington University (appointed as Student Trustee), The Opportunity Council; and am currently on the Board of the Western Washington University Alumni Association and serve as the Treasurer for the Bellingham Bay Rotary Foundation. I have also been very fortunate to have served as a Concerned Citizen on the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Taskforce since January of 2019, a role I would truly like to continue in.

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10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

There are three reasons I am interested in serving on the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Taskforce:

1. I wholeheartedly believe in the work and the model of the taskforce. I think essential solutions and critical discussions have happened in an incredibly constructive and respectful way over the years, and I see this as a model of what's possible when you bring stakeholders together to focus on a shared vision.
2. I believe in doing everything I can to create community health - and I define health broadly, as so much more of what impacts our health happens outside of the walls of healthcare. When someone ends up incarcerated, there are many circumstances and for some, if there had been community health supports in place, they might not have ended up there. I believe in the prevention work that the Taskforce is advancing and I have a skillset to offer to help advance that.
3. I also believe that we are all defined by so much more than our

worst mistake, and I'd like to be a part of our community solutions for diversion, treatment, and re-entry, and ultimately, hopefully rehabilitation for those who have made mistakes and who can safely be a part of society.

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References (please include daytime telephone number):

Rita Jefferson, Chief Operating Officer, Silver Reef Casino, former Lummi Indian Business Council Member, 360-739-8124  
Ken Bell, Port Commissioner, 360-739-1002  
Rachel Lucy, Director of Community Health, PeaceHealth, 360-788-6819  
Malora Christensen, GRACE/LEAD Program Manager, 206-825-0902

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Signature of applicant:

Heather Flaherty

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Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

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(Section Break)

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# Heather Flaherty

2225 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellingham, Washington 98229 \* (360) 224-7313 \* [Heather.Flaherty2@gmail.com](mailto:Heather.Flaherty2@gmail.com)

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## CAREER OBJECTIVE

Foundation Director with 10+ years of experience of working with the community to create and implement initiatives for health, resiliency, palliative care, environment, and criminal justice reform. Aiming to bring my experience in community health, business planning and strategy, people management, and community and coalition building to support the vision of creating a vibrant community of health.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **CHUCKANUT HEALTH FOUNDATION, Bellingham, Washington**

*Executive Director, January 2019 - Present*

- Lead, manage, and implement strategy based on community need to advance issues such as aging well, youth mental health, and diversion and opiate abuse prevention.
- Manage annual operating and grants budget for Foundation.
- Collaborate closely with volunteer board of directors to ensure fidelity to mission and vision.

### **RAPTOR ENTERPRISES, Bellingham, Washington**

*Operations Director, Jan 2017 – Dec 2018*

- Responsibilities included payroll, benefits administration, new hire orientations, safety program, and overall personnel management for approximately 150 employees.
- Led strategy and planning for Rocket Donuts, Zane Burger, and FatPie Pizza and provided oversight and support to restaurant general managers.
- Managed community relations activities for each of the business entities the Raptor Group serves (Rocket Donuts, Acme Ice Cream, Fat Pie Pizza); directed and managed social media and marketing activities.

### **RIVERSTYX FOUNDATION, Bellingham, Washington**

*Foundation Director, Sep 2014 – Dec 2018*

- Worked closely with trustees to formalize and implement the annual grant-making goals and objectives while providing overall direction, support, and recommendations to grant-making initiatives and strategy.
- Facilitated day-to-day operations of the foundation, managing a portfolio of 35-40 grantees annually with an annual grants budget of \$900,000.
- Conducted analysis on grant requests and program areas; managed relationships and outcomes with grantees; administered and executed initiatives on behalf of the foundation.

### **PEACEHEALTH ST. JOSEPH MEDICAL CENTER, Bellingham, Washington**

*Executive Assistant to the CEO, Jan 2011 - Aug 2014*

- Provided professional and collaborative support to the CEO, including developing and reviewing correspondences, reports, and proposals on behalf of CEO and Executive Team
- Supported PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center Governing Board and PeaceHealth Northwest Network Strategy Board, developed agendas, coordinated meetings, maintained minutes and legal records
- Co-authored Patient Experience Business Plan for PeaceHealth System (12 Hospitals in Alaska, Washington, and Oregon) with a budget of approximately \$30 million, approved at PeaceHealth System Board

## EDUCATION

### **WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Bellingham, Washington**

*Master's in Business Administration, Jun 2014*

Named Outstanding Graduate of the MBA Program, 2014

### **WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Bellingham, Washington**

*Bachelor's of Science in Community Health, Aug 2009*

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Appointed Member, Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Taskforce, Whatcom County, January 2019 - Present
- Board Member, Western Washington Alumni Association, September 2019 to Present
- Treasurer, Bellingham Bay Rotary Foundation, September 2020 to Present; Member of Bellingham Bay Rotary