

Hello,

My name is Elisha Burton and I am a lived experience person and have been homeless since 2021. I first became homeless because the rent in my 125 sq ft mini apartment expired and I could no longer afford the rent. It jumped from \$900 a month to \$2500 a month over by the University of Washington off campus coed student housing. From there I managed to find a place to stay for a few nights off of Aurora called a Tent City 3. I then had started a new job and someone that I didn't know opened their home to me and my dog and allowed us to stay for a couple weeks in Tacoma while I started a new job. Once I left there I was forced to return to Tent City 3 when they had just moved over to UCUCC over by the University of Washington here in Seattle and stayed there with Tent City 3 for about 6 months and then I found I heard about Nickelsville Tiny House Village and was able to get into Nickelsville Tiny House Village in the Central District I have lived here now for just over a year now and finally feel safe and it feels like home for now. I am a single white female that is disabled and has a Service animal and being homeless or finding somewhere to go even in the Shelters isn't easy and there needs to be more shelters that will take animals indoors and outdoors as well and that can't happen. We rely on our animals to help with loneliness. or to help provide a service.

I want to be a part of this because I have seen first hand what has been happening to the homeless community and the massive deaths for the homeless communities that are sleeping outside in the weather that Seattle experiences also the deaths that are drug related. I think I can bring first hand knowledge to the committee on this and hopefully make it better and come up with things that are better than what they are known for. As you know there isn't anywhere for the homeless people to go when weather is bad or good and we need to change that quickly. I truly hope to be considered for this position and look forward to hopefully making KCRHA and this committee better for the future and coming up with ideas or strategies to make this world a better place for the coming of our future in this world.

Sincerely  
Elisha Burton