

Seattle-King County Continuum of Care Board

Application Form

Please complete the entire form and email to CoC.Questions@kcrha.org

Full Name and Pronouns:

Amaiya Leonor, She/Her

Preferred Contact Information:

Phone:	+1 (720) 372-8434
Email Address:	aleonorrias@gmail.com
Preferred Method of Contact: (Circle One)	Phone
Zip code:	98105
Are you able to commit up to 15 hours a month for the 2 year duration? (Circle One)	Yes

Question 1: Please describe your understanding of a Continuum of Care (CoC).

The CoC governs the Seattle King County Continuum of Care Governance Charter and upholds the regions theory of change, which states that " If we create a homeless response system that centers people with lived experience, then we will be able to focus on responding to needs and eliminating inequities, in order to end homelessness for all." The job of the CoC is to highlight lived experience individuals voices to end homelessness for all. The CoC board can give feedback to KCRHA about decisions that were made by KCRHA's Implementation Board. The CoC cannot implement changes themselves, but can recommend changes to KCRHA when they have concerns.

Question 2: What motivates you to be on the CoC Board?

Please share your specific field of interest related to the CoC.

I have been a CoC board alternate for Lacee for a while, and I would really love a seat at the table to be a member. I am a part of the YAB, which was formed to end youth homelessness and I think these causes go hand-in-hand.

Question 3: What skills and experiences will you bring or draw upon as a member of the CoC Board?

Please list any experiences or familiarity you have with accessing homeless housing services or program delivery, funding, the Continuum of Care, or other relevant skills.

I have a vast plethora of experience working to end youth homelessness, which includes going to Washington DC twice, once to speak to Joe Biden's Administration about ending youth homelessness, and second was to shadow Congressman Dean Phillips and speak with him about the same issue. I also consistently work with the YAB, Treehouse for Kids and The Mockingbird Society to help implement and improve services for both youth in foster care and youth that have experienced homelessness.

Question 4: Describe your vision or understanding of a successful CoC Board.

A successful CoC Board encompasses many different backgrounds, includes diversity in age, race, ethnicity and origin. It highlights the strengths that each group possesses (homelessness is not easy to navigate) and informs on how decisions that are made can effect people, both good and bad.

Question 5: Describe your leadership experiences.

For example, other boards you have been a part of, community groups or leadership activities.

I am part of The Mockingbird Society's leadership team for two chapters, and have also done peer mentoring for youth currently in foster care. I also was able to speak with Senator Patty Murray, Senator Wilson and Senator Dhingra's office advocating to end youth homelessness.

Question 6: How does systemic racism impact housing and the root causes of homelessness?

Systematic racism drastically impacts people of color, especially men of color, who often go unhoused due to the lack of representation, diversity and accountability within the system that governs housing in the United States. Personally, I think people of color are also being negatively impacted by the changing of external filling of beds in regards to Coordinated Entry; it can be significantly harder for minority populations to secure a case worker or case manager to vouch for them to have a place to stay.

Question 6: Reviewing the Theory of Change what is one way you apply this theory in your everyday life and work? Briefly, describe how you will center the theory of change on the Board and how you plan to uplift the communities you represent and support.

KCRHA Theory of Change:

If we create a homeless response system that centers people with lived experience, then we will be able to focus on responding to needs and eliminating inequities, in order to end homelessness for all.

In my every day life, working with the organizations I work with, I always try to uplift the voices of those with lived experience. It is extremely important to me that, as a lived experience individual myself, I do not let others fall victim to being silenced. I was silenced for many years, and that to me is unacceptable. People of lived experience deserve to be in the rooms where change is being made, especially when it impacts their very lives.

Question 6: Optional: Is there any resource you would need in order to fully participate as a CoC Board Member?

No

Affiliation (please note any that apply):

Lived experience of homelessness (circle)	Yes
Public or Private Funder (circle); If yes, please note organization	No Organization:
Intersecting System – i.e. Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, Criminal Justice, etc. (circle); If yes, please note system & organization	Yes System & Organization: YouthNet, Foster Care / Chi
Faith Based Organization or Partner	No
Homeless Housing and/or Service Provider (circle) If yes, please note organization)	No Organization:
Any other affiliations you'd like to note:	Yes

Sub-Population Representation (please check any areas in which you have specific experience or expertise):

Youth/Young Adults, Chronic Homelessness, Black/African American Communities

Region (please check any areas in which you have specific experience or expertise):

Regional (King County - Non-specific), Seattle

Identity (optional):

How do you identify your race?	
Sexual Orientation	
Age	
Disability Status	

Agreement and Signature

I affirm that my application responses are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Name (<i>typed or signature</i>)	web-form@smartsheet.com
Date	04/25/24 10:42 AM

When you have completed this form, please submit the final to the KCRHA at CoC.Questions@kcrha.org. Thank you!