



# Seattle-King County Continuum of Care Board Application

Please complete the entire form and email to [coc.questions@kcrha.org](mailto:coc.questions@kcrha.org).

## Board Member Expectations and Commitment

Board members are required to attend one regular monthly meeting, as well as one committee or workgroup meeting each month, in addition to any special meetings that necessitate a Board vote. Members are also expected to review and respond to emails and phone correspondence, and to complete other administrative duties as needed, for an estimated commitment of up to 15 hours per month. Applicants must be prepared to serve a minimum term of two years.

General Information	
Full Name & Pronouns:	Valerie Sasson
Phone:	+ [REDACTED] ( [REDACTED] ) [REDACTED] - [REDACTED]
Email Address:	[REDACTED] @ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Zip Code:	98028
Are you able to commit up to 15 hours a month for the 2-year duration?	
Yes	
Please indicate which seat you are applying for:	
Elected Public Official	
Please indicate the King County region you primarily represent.	
North King County	

## Application Questions

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

It is my understanding, based on Seattle-King County Continuum of Care Governance Charter (amended June 2023) that a CoC promotes community collaboration and mutual engagement among stakeholders committed to "make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring". This effort is driven by six stated guiding values and held within a well-articulated "theory of change".

Item IV, page 3

### 2. What motivates you to be on the CoC Board? Please share your specific field of interest related to the CoC.

The short answer is that participation on the CoC Board would be an extension of my service on the Kenmore City Council whereby I participate in the activities of NUHSA and NKCCH.



**3. Describe your vision or understanding of a successful CoC Board.**

A successful CoC Board would stay apprised of National and State regulations and funding opportunities while maintaining rigorous commitment to the stated core values and theory of change in service to the clear mission to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring.

**4. Describe your leadership experiences and style.**

My leadership experience includes having been on the Board of Directors of the Midwives Association of Washington State for 18 years, the last 4 of which I served as President. I served as Chair of the Washington State Joint Underwriting Association for Midwives and Birth Centers for 10 years, appointed by Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler. I co-owned the Puget Sound Midwives & Birth Center for 24 years while in active midwifery practice and co-owning Lake Washington Midwives in Kirkland, WA. I currently serve as Secretary on the NUHSA Board. I am applying in my current capacity as Kenmore City Councilmember and am 2 years into my first term.

As far as leadership style goes, please forgive my cultural references but I have found them useful in answering this question. Think Captain Jean Luc Picard meets Lucille Ball; gather the best crew possible, assemble and assess the best available data, arrive at a best course of action and "make it so"; do good work among good people and don't take myself too seriously.



5. Reflecting on the Theory of Change, please describe one way you incorporate this framework in your professional or personal life. Additionally, explain how you would integrate the Theory of Change into your work on the Board and how you intend to advocate for and support the communities you represent.

**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.

The KCRHA Theory of Change is to people experiencing homelessness as midwifery care is to people experiencing pregnancy, birth and early parenting. This is my entire career in a nutshell; a continuation of my commitment to be in community.  
As I was coming on to Council, Kenmore was enmeshed in the Plymouth Housing debate. I came on too late to impact that unfortunate trajectory, but I have a lot of fuel in the tank for future projects.

6. Do you require any accommodations or support to fully participate as a member of the CoC Board?

**No**

