



Seattle-King County Continuum of Care Board Application

Please complete the entire form and email to coc.questions@kcrha.org.

CoC Board Member Expectations and Commitment

CoC Board members are expected to attend one regular meeting and participate in one subcommittee or workgroup each month, in addition to any special meetings that require a CoC Board vote. Responsibilities also include reading and responding to emails and phone calls, as well as completing other administrative tasks – up to 15 hours per month. All applicants must be able to commit to a minimum two-year term.

General Information	
Full Name & Pronouns:	Brian Chandler
Phone:	[REDACTED]
Email Address:	[REDACTED]
Zip Code:	98104
Are you able to commit up to 15 hours a month for the 3-year duration?	Yes
Please indicate which seat you are applying for:	Homeless Service Provider
Please indicate the King County region you primarily represent. (Select one).	North King County
Please indicate the sub-population(s) you directly represent.	Veterans, Disability Community, Elders (55+), Youth and Young Adults (up to 24), Families, Domestic Violence or Intimate Partner Violence

Application Questions

1. Please describe how you are a representative of the seat for which you are applying.

I am a strong representative for this COC Board seat because my professional career has been dedicated to addressing homelessness through direct service, system coordination, and public-sector partnership in King County. For more than seventeen years with Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, I have worked across the full continuum of care—from frontline case management and program administration to senior leadership responsible for outreach strategy, intake coordination, advocacy, and external affairs.

In my current role as Director of External Affairs, I work closely with federal, state, and local government agencies, peer homelessness providers, and community stakeholders to align mission-driven services with public policy priorities and system-wide goals. This role requires a deep understanding of how homelessness response systems function, including coordinated entry, provider collaboration, compliance with public funding requirements, and the importance of data-informed decision-making.

I also bring lived experience which has been crucial in working directly with individuals and families experiencing homelessness, as well as overseeing teams that deliver outreach, intake, and housing navigation services. This dual perspective allows me to credibly represent both service providers and the communities they serve, ensuring that policy and system decisions reflect on-the-ground realities.

Because of my long-standing engagement with King County's homelessness response ecosystem—government partners, nonprofit providers, faith-based organizations, and community groups—I am well positioned to serve as a knowledgeable, collaborative, and accountable representative for this seat.

2. Tell us how you use your influence, authority, or relationships within your representative community or sector to effect change. Please include a specific example.

I use my influence primarily through relationship-building, strategic collaboration, and informed advocacy. In my leadership roles, I have consistently brought diverse stakeholders together to improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness while strengthening coordination across systems.

Through my work at Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, I maintain active relationships with city, county, and state officials, partner agencies, neighborhood and business groups, and peer service providers. I leverage these relationships to advocate for practical, client-centered solutions and to ensure that policies and funding strategies are informed by frontline experience and operational realities.

I have led and contributed to cross-agency initiatives that improved system performance, including intake process redesigns that reduced abandonment rates and increased successful program connections, and partnership-building efforts that expanded referral networks and coordinated service delivery. These efforts resulted in measurable improvements such as increased cross-agency referrals, better data tracking, and more efficient access to services.

I also use my authority as a senior leader to ensure responsible advocacy—balancing mission-driven goals with compliance requirements, including 501(c)(3) restrictions—while helping organizations and partners engage constructively with policymakers. By clearly communicating community needs, translating data into actionable insights, and fostering trust among stakeholders, I work to influence decisions that improve both system effectiveness and individual outcomes.

Ultimately, I effect change by serving as a bridge between policy, providers, and people, ensuring that collaboration leads to tangible improvements in how homelessness services are designed, funded, and delivered across King County.

Current example is working with Mayor's administration to help provide more shelter beds through establishing Tiny Villages on Church property that provide the adequate support and services to assist those we serve to move in a life of flourishing.

Working with current Seattle council to redefine success markers to include treatment and mental health support.

Bridged a gap between the City and UW Mental Health Department to bring their expertise to established Tiny Villages for stronger mental health support.



3. Please describe your understanding of the Continuum of Care (CoC).

The King County Continuum of Care (CoC) is a HUD-mandated regional system that coordinates housing and supportive services to prevent and end homelessness. It brings together local governments, nonprofits, and community stakeholders to manage funding, operate a coordinated entry system, and ensure equitable access to housing solutions.

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

Throughout my career, I have worked closely with individuals experiencing homelessness, many of whom face interconnected challenges such as addiction, trauma, and mental health struggles. These experiences have reinforced my belief that lasting change requires a holistic approach rooted in both compassion and accountability.

I am motivated to join the CoC Board because it offers an opportunity to advance systemic solutions that prioritize equity, dignity, and measurable outcomes. My background includes collaborating with service providers, faith-based organizations, and community partners to deliver wraparound support—housing, counseling, recovery services, and workforce development. I understand the barriers that hinder progress and am committed to dismantling them through advocacy and innovative strategies. Serving on this board would allow me to contribute my experience and passion for creating pathways from crisis to stability and ultimately self-sufficiency.



5. Describe your vision or understanding of a successful CoC Board.

To create a homelessness response system where homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring. The CoC Board would lead with equity, transparency, and collaboration, centering the voices of people with lived experience, and ensuring that every decision advances housing stability, dignity, and measurable outcomes for all populations. This would be done through addressing systemic barriers and amplifying the voice of those with lived experience, prioritize a strong support system within transitional and permanent housing, making data-informed decisions, collaboration with all community partners in shared accountability, and done with transparency and accountability.

6. Describe your leadership experiences and style.

My leadership experience spans over 18 years in nonprofit and community engagement, where I have consistently combined vision-driven strategy with collaborative execution. As Director of External Affairs and former Director of Program Ministries and Outreach at Seattle's Union Gospel Mission, I have led multi-year strategic planning, managed diverse teams, and built strong partnerships with government agencies, businesses, and faith-based organizations. My leadership style is rooted in compassionate accountability—empowering teams and individuals through clear expectations, trust, and support—while fostering innovation and measurable outcomes. I thrive in high-pressure environments, adapt quickly to change, and prioritize equity and dignity in every decision.



7. 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 CoC 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.

I incorporate this theory of change into my personal life by intentionally building relationships with individuals who have lived experience of homelessness and inviting their voices into decision-making. Through my work leading outreach and advocacy efforts, I have learned that true solutions emerge when those most impacted help shape them. In my personal interactions—whether mentoring, volunteering, or engaging in community conversations—I prioritize listening and learning from these perspectives to challenge inequities and ensure that responses reflect real needs.

I would operationalize this theory of change by advocating for governance and decision-making processes that center people with lived experience of homelessness, supported by robust data analysis. This means ensuring their voices are represented in policy discussions and pairing those insights with performance metrics, system evaluations, and equity data to identify gaps and measure impact. I would champion strategies that use real-time feedback and data trends to dismantle systemic inequities and shape solutions that respond to actual needs. By leveraging my experience in building partnerships and creating inclusive platforms

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

No

