DATE: Thursday, October 17, 2019

TO: Countywide Priority Setting Committee

FROM: Molly Kron, Planner
       Jillian Zeiger, Planner
       Leelee Thomas, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Workshop appointing new Priority Setting Committee members and update on the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan and community engagement process

MEETING LOCATION: Marin County Civic Center
                  Board of Supervisors Chambers
                  3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 330
                  San Rafael, CA 94903

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Appoint three Countywide Priority Setting Committee members representing protected classes for: Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo, and adjacent unincorporated communities; Belvedere, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon and adjacent unincorporated communities, including Marin City and Tam Valley; and a Countywide, at large member.


DISCUSSION:

Appoint New PSC Members

Beginning on August 23, 2019 community residents were invited to apply to be members of the Countywide Priority Setting Committee to oversee the distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds in Marin County.

This year there are three (3) openings on the Countywide Priority Setting Committee for community members representing the interests of racial and ethnic minorities and/or people with disabilities. The openings are for community members from the following regions:

- Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo, and adjacent unincorporated communities
- Belvedere, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon and adjacent unincorporated communities, including Marin City and Tam Valley
- Countywide, at large member
Upon selection, community members will sit for a two-year term from October 2019 through September 2021.

The Countywide Priority Setting Committee currently includes a member of the Board of Supervisors, city/town council members, as well as seven (7) community members representing six (6) regions spanning Marin and an at-large member representing the County. The regions include the following:

- Countywide (All Marin County)
- Belvedere, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon, and adjacent unincorporated communities, including Marin City and Tam Valley
- Corte Madera, Larkspur, and adjacent unincorporated communities, including Greenbrae and Kentfield
- Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo, and adjacent unincorporated communities
- Novato and adjacent unincorporated communities
- San Rafael including the Canal neighborhood, and adjacent unincorporated communities
- West Marin consisting entirely of unincorporated communities

The Countywide Priority Setting Committee was expanded in 2012 to include member of the community with the goal of bringing greater diversity to the group that:

1. advises the Board of Supervisors on the CDBG and HOME funding allocation process and
2. provides input on the County’s implementation of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Therefore, the recruitment of community members is specifically for individuals who are members of a racial and ethnic minority and/or people with disabilities, or who represent these interests.

Applications were accepted until 4pm on September 26th, 2019. However, because no applications were received during this time period from the Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo, & adjacent unincorporated communities, applications for this seat were extended until October 11th, 2019 at 4pm. To date, the following applications were received for the three openings on the Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Fairfax, Ross, Ross, Anselmo, &amp; unincorporated communities</th>
<th>Belvedere, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon &amp; unincorporated communities</th>
<th>Countywide Seat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Feffer</td>
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<td>Reid Thaler</td>
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<td>Sylvia Kaye Bynum</td>
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<td>Cathy Cortez (incumbent)</td>
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<td>Ashley Ann Allen</td>
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<td>Edward Denebeim</td>
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<td>Elisabeth Siegel</td>
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Copies of applications and interview questions are attached to this staff report.
Staff recommends that you review the applications, conduct interviews, and select three Committee members to represent members of the protected classes under fair housing law.

**Update on the Consolidated Plan**

Every five years, the County of Marin submits a Five-Year Federal Funding Plan, also known as a Consolidated Plan (Con Plan), to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Con Plan provides a framework for identifying priorities and programs to address affordable housing, community development needs, and public services for extremely low- up to moderate-income families, persons with disabilities, seniors, and youth. Funding is provided through block grant programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).

This year, the Con Plan process timeline overlapped with two (2) other planning processes being conducted by County divisions. This provided a unique opportunity to collaborate on community engagement in order to reach a broader audience and address community concerns and issues in a holistic manner. Together the Community Development Agency (CDA) and the Marin Health and Human Services Department (HHS) collaborated to inform the following plans:

- Housing and Federal Grants Division’s 5-Year Consolidated Plan
- Mental Health Services Act 3-Year Plan
- Substance Use Services 5-Year Plan

The collective community outreach process to engage citizens has included community meetings; a community survey in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese available in both an online and hardcopy format; a service provider survey; and presentations at community and nonprofit partners events.

Since commencing in June, this coalition has hosted six (6) community meetings across the county, including one conducted entirely in Spanish; collected almost 200 community surveys and 23 service provider surveys; and staff have participated in nearly 20 community and nonprofit partner events to facilitate focus groups and distribute surveys.

Over the course of the next two months, staff will conduct interviews with other County departments and neighboring jurisdictions. In addition, staff will analyze data gathered through the community meeting, surveys, and focus groups.

Recommendations for the 2020-24 Con Plan will be informed by the outcomes of the community engagement process detailed above, updated county demographics and trends, the Voluntary Compliance Agreement established between the County and HUD in May of 2019, and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, which is currently being completed.

The draft Con Plan is expected to be available for review by the Countywide Priority Setting Committee in February of 2020. The 2020-24 Con Plan will go into effect on July 1, 2020.
Update on the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), one of the documents informing the 2020-24 Con Plan, is designed to identify barriers to fair housing choice and provide recommendations to overcome those barriers. The AI achieves this by:

- Assessing conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice for all protected classes
- Reviewing the jurisdictions laws, regulation, and administrative policies, procedures and practices
- Assessing of how those laws, etc. affect the location, availability and accessibility of housing
- Assessing the availability of affordable, accessible housing

The County's last completed AI was approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 28, 2011.

Beginning in 2016 County staff began working on an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), which was intended to replace the AI. However, since commencing this work, HUD suspended the AFH process until no sooner than October 31, 2020. In the interim, local governments and other federal grant participants are required to prepare and submit an AI by January of 2020.

Because of this change and at the direction of HUD, staff are utilizing research and community engagement data compiled for the AFH and have spent the past several months identifying supplemental information to write the AI and ensure it meets federal rules.

The full report identifying barriers to fair housing choice and providing recommendations to overcome those barriers will be provided to the Countywide Priority Setting Committee in December, prior to going to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

**ACTIONS REQUIRED:**

1. Select community members for appointment to the Countywide Priority Setting Committee.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Countywide Priority Setting Committee Applications
Attachment 2: Countywide Priority Setting Committee Interview Questions
APPLICATION FOR THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE

Name: Philip Feffer
Email: [redacted]

Primary Address: [redacted]
Street: [redacted]
City: Fairfax
Telephone: [redacted]
Zip: 94930

Protected Class(es): African-American and Jewish

Present Occupation: Attorney
Are You Over 18 Years of Age: Yes

Employer's Name: McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Location: San Francisco

If you represent an organization, please list it:

County Region to Represent: 
- Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo
- Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon
- Countywide

Reasons for Applying:

Growing up in New York City in a bi-racial (black) Jewish household, community representation has always been important to me. Having visited Fairfax and Marin county regularly for the past 11 years (my wife was born and raised in Fairfax) and after having moved here almost a year ago with my now-15-month-old daughter, I would like to do what I can to make sure Marin is a representative and supportive community for her and for all others like her to grow up in. Supporting our underserved and low-income populations is an important way to make sure people coming from diverse backgrounds receive the aid needed to overcome a long history of oppression and live better and happier lives.

Free and subsidized child-care is critical as is housing. Marin County should be increasing the number of housing units, in addition to supporting rent control programs and programs to help low-income individuals and families purchase their own homes. Public transportation is also very important, commuting costs are burdensome and Marin County needs to have expansive public transportation options within the county and to other nearby parts of the bay area where many Marin County residents may work (i.e. Novato, San Francisco and the east bay).

Access to information will also be key as we need to make sure everyone we are trying to help with these programs would know about them and know how best to take advantage of these support systems. This means making free or low cost information providers available (we can't rely solely on the internet, phone services and in person services will be needed), and making sure such services are available at a variety of times of day so people working outside standard business hours or working long hours or multiple jobs can access key information as well.

Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.

1 Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:
Attorney - Admitted to practice in New York and California.

I practice transactional/corporate law at a major international law firm and am accustomed to reading and analyzing complex documents which will be very helpful in reviewing grant applications and proposals.

Additional pages and information may be attached. Please indicate number of pages: ____________________________

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:

\[N/A\]

Signature ______________ Date 9/26/19

Please return completed applications by Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 4pm to:

Housing and Federal Grants Division
Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
OR
Fax: (415) 473-7880
OR
Email: federalgrants@marincounty.org

Please note that an applicant who is an employee or an officer of an organization that receives CDBG or HOME funding may not be eligible to serve as a committee member due to a potential conflict of interest. For more information about the full scope of the conflict of interest regulations, see http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title24-vol3-sec570-611.xml.

NOTE: This application will remain valid for a period of one year. If you would like information on conflict of interest or other eligibility requirements for positions, or want to check on the status of your application, please contact the Federal Grants office at federalgrants@marincounty.org or 415-473-6279. Committee members may be required to file a financial disclosure form (listing sources of income, interests in real property, investments, and business positions) with the County which will be a public document.
I have been a tester for Marin County’s Fair Housing Program. Posing as a prospective tenant, I would assume an identity and an employment history and apply for rental housing units. Whether I was offered a rental unit compared to other testers helped determine whether an owner or property manager was discriminating based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or familial status. It became evident to me that discrimination could be either intentional or not, or blatant or subtle.

Education of property owners and managers is critical to identifying approaches and behaviors that are discriminatory, and legal actions if discrimination continues. Outreach to tenants is also needed to educate tenants that housing discrimination is illegal and there are community resources, like fair housing programs that will advocate for their rights.

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**APPLICATION FOR THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE**

Name: Reid J. Thaler

Primary Address: San Anselmo, 94960

Street: 

City: 

Telephone: 

Protected Class(es): Member or Representative of Religion

Present Occupation: Photography Educator

Are You Over 18 Years of Age? Yes

Employer’s Name: College of Marin

Location: Kentfield

City: 

If you represent an organization, please list it: 

County Region to Represent [check one]: Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo

Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon

Countywide

Reasons for Applying:
Community engagement has almost always been the basis for my career choices and volunteer efforts. Starting when I was 12, I volunteered for national and state-wide candidates to impact public policy.

In high school, I chose to enroll in a community service program where I volunteered each school at either a skilled nursing facility or a school for severely emotionally disabled children. Later, I worked at a camp for the blind in Napa where I taught photography and served as a camp counselor. In college, I organized political actions groups that created educational events concerning nuclear power and other environmental issues.

Currently, I’m a photography educator teaching at a variety of venues including colleges and universities, photography stores, and other community educational organizations. I’ve learned that creativity and self expression are as essential and important to personal fulfillment as volunteerism with community organizations. As rewarding as teaching is, I still miss the sense of community engagement that comes from working with non profit organizations striving to improve the lives of those less fortunate than others.

As a member of a religious minority, I’m particularly sensitive and aware of the current political climate that has legitimized religious and minority discrimination and scapegoating. I feel that we must all actively work to protect and support those that targeted and not tolerate hate. Serving on the PSC Committee would fulfill my desire to more actively give back to my community.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

I have been a tester for Marin County’s Fair Housing Program. Posing as a prospective tenant, I would assume an identity and an employment history and apply for rental housing units. Whether I was offered a rental unit compared to other testers helped determine whether an owner or property manager was discriminating based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or familial status. It became evident to me that discrimination could be either intentional or not, or blatant or subtle.

Education of property owners and managers is critical to identifying approaches and behaviors that are discriminatory, and legal actions if discrimination continues. Outreach to tenants is also needed to educate tenants that housing discrimination is illegal and there are community resources, like fair housing programs that will advocate for their rights.

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1. Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:
For 26 years, between 1986 and 2012, I served on the staff of Marin County’s Federal Grants Division. I was involved in all aspects of administering the CDBG, HOME, and Emergency Shelters Grants programs. I reviewed, assessed, and analyzed affordable housing, capital improvement, and human service applications and determined eligibility with national objectives and local goals. I maintained long-term relationships with members of non profit organizations, local elected officials, and staff of the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development (HUD). I co-authored written staff reports and presented them at public hearings. As a project administrator, I was responsible for complying with a myriad of federal environmental, labor, and grant program regulations. I co-authored documents required for federal funding to address affordable housing needs in Marin County including the Consolidated Plan, Comprehensive Housing Assistance Strategy (CHAS), Comprehensive Homeless Assistance Plan (CHAP), the Housing Assistance Plan (HAP), and annual plans.

Additional pages and information may be attached. Please indicate number of pages: 0

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:
I am not an officer of an employee of and organization receiving or may request CDBG or HOME program funding.

Signature ___________________________ Date 10/11/19

Please return completed applications by Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 4pm to:

Housing and Federal Grants Division
Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
OR
Fax: (415) 473-7880
OR
Email: federalgrants@marincounty.org

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APPLICATION FOR THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE

Name: Sylvia Kaye Bynum

Primary Address: 
Marin City Street 94965
City Zip

Telephone: 

Protected Class(es): Member or Representative of Community Member of Marin City/African American/Disabled

Present Occupation: Retired Are You Over 18 Years of Age: yes

Employer’s Name: Location: City

If you represent an organization, please list it

County Region to Represent [check one]: Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon Countywide

Reasons for Applying:
I am a concerned and active citizen of Marin City. I would like to be an asset to my community and be more aware of the activities that will affect us. I feel that I can bring to the table my ideas about funding public services such as child care scholarships, community facilities, affordable housing, and services for individuals with disabilities. I consider myself as a servant for my community. My family is well rooted in the community and are using the available services. I am also an individual with a disability and have received services from the county at a non-profit organization called Empowerment Clubhouse. I feel that being on the Countywide Priority Setting Committee I can bring diversity and energy.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

Affordable Housing- Offer classes to improve Credit Services for people with disabilities- Provide transportation, meals and housekeeping support Public Housing- Improve the quality through renovations

1 Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:
Member of the Empowerment Advisory Board
Served on the Nominating Committee for Elections for Board Members (CDC) in Marin City

Additional pages and information may be attached. Please indicate number of pages: ____________________________

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:

Signature: ____________________________ Date: 9-23-19

Please return completed applications by Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 4pm to:

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Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
OR
Fax: (415) 473-7880
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Name Cathy Cortez

Primary Address  
Tiburon  Street  94920  Telephone:  
City  Zip  

Protected Class(es)† Member or Representative of  Ethnic Minority/Disability  

Present Occupation  Are You Over 18 Years of Age? Yes  

Employer’s Name  Location:  City  
I do not represent an organization.

County Region to Represent [check one]:  
Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo  Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon  Countywide  

Reasons for Applying:  
I am a sitting member of the CDBG Priority Setting Committee. It has been rewarding and a privilege to serve and I would like to continue.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

One of the greatest impediments for members of the protected classes to live where they choose is housing affordability. Marin, along with San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, has the highest housing costs in the country along with some of the highest incomes. Affordable Housing based on the AMI is often out of reach for lower income workers and seniors or those living with disabilities. Layering Project Based Vouchers with LIHTC developments and others, or with existing market rate housing is one way that would provide an equal opportunity for people of all income levels in Marin to have opportunity and options to live where they choose.

Fair Housing of Northern California provides services to those who have experienced housing discrimination as well as education of the Fair Housing Laws. Services that expand the public's awareness of Fair Housing of Northern California and the services they provide would be of benefit.

† Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:

Former Housing Commissioner.

Member of the National Low Income Housing Coalition/prior attendance at NLIHC policy conferences in Washington D.C.

Affordable housing advocate.

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:

I am not an officer or employee of any organization funded by or requesting funding from the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

Signature  Cathy Cortez  Date 09/20/2019

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Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
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APPLICATION FOR THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE

Name: ASHLEY AND ALLEN

Primary Address: SRETURNAL
City: SAN RAFAEL
Street: 94901
Zip: 94901

Protected Class(es): RACIAL ETHNIC MINORITY WOMAN WITH A DISABILITY

Present Occupation: GYMNASTICS COACH

Employer’s Name: MARIN ELITE GYMNASTICS ACADEMY
Location: SAN RAFAEL

If you represent an organization, please list it: N/A

County Region to Represent [check one]:
- Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo
- Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon
- Countywide

Reasons for Applying:
I’m passionate about creating a better community than I was given as a young child growing up in Marin. I felt as though I fell through the cracks of society because my mother was on welfare. I am also multi-racial and faced a lot of discrimination from different communities in Marin.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

We do not have a database other than CRAGSLIST. It’s disgusting how the county puts CRAGSLIST down as a resource for housing when it is a breeding ground for scams.

1 Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:

I VOLUNTEERED WITH THE M.I. Y.O. TEENCENTER AND HUCKLEBERRY YOUTH CLINIC, AS WELL AS INTERNED WITH THE MARIN COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPT. IN HIGH SCHOOL. I'M THE SOLE ACTIVIST THAT CONVINCED THE CURRENT PRINCIPLE OF MARIN COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL TO BECOME ACCREDITED, GIVING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ACCESS TO CALGRANTS FOR COLLEGE. I TEACH IN MY COMMUNITY AS WELL AS ASSET LOCAL FAMILIES WITH EXTRA HELP & INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL NEEDS OVERCOME ANXIETY.

Additional pages and information may be attached. Please indicate number of pages: 0

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:

N/A

Signature: [Signature]
Date: 9/9/2019

Please return completed applications by Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 4pm to:

Housing and Federal Grants Division
Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
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Fax: (415) 473-7880
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Email: federalgrants@ marincounty.org

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NOTE: This application will remain valid for a period of one year. If you would like information on conflict of interest or other eligibility requirements for positions, or want to check on the status of your application, please contact the Federal Grants office at federalgrants@ marincounty.org or 415-473-6279. Committee members may be required to file a financial disclosure form (listing sources of income, interests in real property, investments, and business positions) with the County which will be a public document.
APPLICATION FOR THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE

Name Edward C Denebeim

Primary Address

Mill Valley 94941

Telephone:

Protected Class(es)\(^1\) Member or Representative of  

Present Occupation self employed Are You Over 18 Years of Age? yes

Employer's Name self employed Location: CA unincorporated Marin City

If you represent an organization, please list it

County Region to Represent [check one]: Fairfax, Ross, San Anselmo Belvedere, Marin City, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Tiburon Countywide

Reasons for Applying:

Have been a member of political club representing seniors and people with disabilities, volunteer with adult autism support group, former caregiver, advocate and so on.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

Focus group testing for public and specific communities on: length of time to access, effectiveness of internet and other media, and usefulness of resources, supports and remedies. Additional funding for community outreach including speaking to community groups directly. Organize community information events in each district across the county. Collaboratives with other social service organizations in county and across region to compare what works, what doesn't and why to implement improvements. Particular focus to transitional age youth, foster youth. Investigate and program for persons released from jail or prison. Build community partnerships and increase outreach to landlords to improve rental environment. Participate in community specific events like the special needs resource fair that the school district puts on, that impact a vulnerable population directly.

\(^1\) Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:
Board member of FDR Democrats, a chartered political club of San Francisco Democratic Party, supported the Dignity Fund initiative that set aside 2% of city budget for senior and disability funding.

Additional pages and information may be attached. Please indicate number of pages: ______________________

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:
None

Signature Edward C. Distelrath Date September 23, 2019

Please return completed applications by Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at 4pm to:

Housing and Federal Grants Division
Marin County Community Development Agency
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
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Email: federalgrants@marincounty.org

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NOTE: This application will remain valid for a period of one year. If you would like information on conflict of interest or other eligibility requirements for positions, or want to check on the status of your application, please contact the Federal Grants office at federalgrants@marincounty.org or 415-473-6279. Committee members may be required to file a financial disclosure form (listing sources of income, interests in real property, investments, and business positions) with the County which will be a public document.
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNTYWIDE PRIORITY SETTING COMMITTEE

Name  Elisabeth Siegel

Home Address

San Rafael                    Street  94901

City                             Zip

Telephone:                      Telephone: 415-785-7899

Protected Class(es)1 Member or Representative of

Present Occupation  Co Founder & Educator Are You Over 18 Years of Age? Yes

Employer's Name  ForWords Literacy Lab Telephone: 415-785-7899

If you represent an organization, please list it ForWords

County Region to Represent [check one]:  ☑ San Rafael

Reasons for Applying:
I'm very passionate about my community and am looking to be more involved. My organization ForWords Literacy Lab has been working with the underserved minority youth in Marin County for over 10 years, therefore I feel I have an impeccable understanding of the needs of the community. I'm also willing to do more research and identify the further needs of our community. My father is an Attorney for deaf & disabled in Marin County, nationally, and internationally. He is one of the best sources to understand the dynamics of our disabled citizens in Marin County and how their resources had evolved throughout the past 40 years.

Under fair housing laws, it is illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental, and financing in housing-related transactions based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status (including households with children under the age of 18, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18). What services, if any, do you see are needed in Marin County for members of the protected classes to access information, opportunity, and options to live where they choose without discrimination?

There is always room for improvement in these demographics and every class deserves a fair exploration of its needs and urgency. Personally, I have found a lack of resources for homeless youth in Marin County. I have found the only youth homeless shelter has been closed for a few years so we must bring youth to neighboring cities and counties. This is one of the many reasons I would like to join I would like to join this committee.

1 Under federal laws protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status.
Other Relevant Experience:
I have done a leadership course with CVNL where in addition to learning the ins & outs of a nonprofits CEO’s responsibilities, I got to know many other people who are leaders and CEOs of local nonprofits.

List any organizations of which you are an officer or an employee that are funded by, or may request funding from, the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs:

None

Signature ________________________________ Date 9/24/2019

Please return to: Federal Grants Office
                  Housing and Federal Grants Division
                  Marin County Community Development Agency
                  3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 308
                  San Rafael, CA 94903-4157
                  Phone: (415) 473-6279
                  Fax: (415) 473-7880
                  Email: federalgrants@marincounty.org

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Countywide Priority Setting Committee Applicant Interview Questions:

(1) Describe your interest in joining the Committee?

(2) How do you represent the protected classes defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development? These are race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status?

(3) What unique perspective do you bring to the Committee?

(4) What are the greatest needs you see in the community?

(5) What are the biggest obstacles to addressing these needs?