

SNOHOMISH COUNTY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS APPLICATION FORM

NOMINEE: Please fill in this section

Name of Board/Commission: Council On Aging

New Appointment

Snohomish County Council District (Please choose one): 1

Name Gul Subaykan

Home Address 932 200th PL SW

Mailing Address (if different) *Field not completed.*

City Lynnwood

State WA

Zip Code 98036

Telephone (Home) 206-769-6317

Telephone (Work) 425-818-2744

Email gsubaykan@voaww.org

Current Employer Volunteers of America Western Washington Carl Gipson Center

Occupation Operations Manager

Education Bachelors Degree Sociology

Licenses held (if applicable) *Field not completed.*

Why would you like to serve on this board/commission? In 2006, I began a career in serving the senior population in different capacities. For me, it has been an intensely rewarding career path. I have learned that seniors are not seen and our society does not do an adequate job in serving the needs of the elderly population. They are not expendable to society, but a

valued member of society and should be treated as such. I have also met many people along the way who possess the desire and empathy to assist. Being on this board, would put me in a position to work with like minded people who have a vision to better the lives of the ageing population. It would be an honor for me to contribute to this goal.

Please explain why you are a qualified candidate, including relevant professional experience, to serve on the board/commission.

My experience includes many years of working with the elderly population. In 2006, I took a role as an Adult Day Service Provider that worked with seniors with disabilities. I planned and executed community access, therapeutic/recreation and inclusion programs. This opportunity provided me with one on one interaction and I learned how to engage with not just seniors but individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. In this position, I worked closely with ARC of King County as we worked together to manage the day to activities of our clients.

After first gaining experience with the ageing population, I was hooked. The next position I took was with Sound Generations in King County specifically in their Meals on Wheels department. I would meet with MOW clients in their homes to determine eligibility and make referrals to other agencies if they needed assistance with other resources/information. In doing this job, I came across a diverse cross section of seniors. It taught me that each individual has a story and they just want to be heard. Every time that I went to a person's home, most wanted to just talk as they were lonely. Also, as I was constantly making referrals to other agencies for resources, I became aware of the breadth of services available and gained extensive knowledge on senior resources.

Later, I continued my career at Northshore Senior Center as their Community Resource Specialist. I provided individualized support for older adults & family givers to ensure full access to community resources. I worked closely with King & Snohomish agencies to put on community presentation about resources available to seniors at Northshore Senior Center. I maintained relationships with various community organizations that provided assistance to seniors.

Last year, I took a position with Volunteers of America at their Carl Gipson Center as an Operations Manager. The senior center had been closed for 2 years due to the pandemic. VOA took over the day to day operations in September of 2021. Along with 3 other staff members, we worked tirelessly to reopen the center on 1/3/22. Since the center reopened, the

staff has signed up almost 800 members. We have developed a breadth of activities including mental health access, fitness classes, a nutritional program and other programming designed to engage the senior population to promote health and wellness and reduce social isolation. At the Carl Gipson Center, I have seen the after effects of the pandemic and 2 years of isolation has done to the elderly population. They were in a particularly precarious situation during the pandemic as they were the most vulnerable. It was imperative to have social and recreational opportunities available as I was finding a lot of our seniors were coming out of complete. Programs and support that provide seniors with access to social, health, and educational opportunities need to be implemented for the ageing population. With my background and experience I feel I can contribute to this goal.

Please list community involvement/volunteer activities

Everett Public Schools-Special Education Advisory Council

How did you learn of this opportunity?

I learned about this position through my boss, Cory Armstrong-Hoss. Cory is the director at the Carl Gipson Center.

Do you currently serve on a Snohomish County board or commission?*

No

**2.03.060SCC - Candidates for appointment to county boards or commission must meet the following requirements:*

(1) Possess qualifications for the appointment sought, as shown by the candidate's written documentation and any hearing testimony;

(2) If a reappointment, demonstrate the continuing benefits of retaining the board member as discussed in the executive's recommendation and a satisfactory attendance record, as determined by adopted criteria of the particular board;

(3) Reside or work in Snohomish County, or show evidence of special interest in Snohomish County, PROVIDED That a candidate may not be a County employee.

****Please be advised, effective January 1, 2022 individuals joining identified boards and commissions will be required to pass a background check.**

By signing this Application Form, Nominee acknowledges that he/she will comply with all county policies, county code, and state law. Nominee also acknowledges that any record, including personal e-mail, prepared, owned, used, or retained by Nominee in the conduct of Board/Commission business is a public record, and Nominee agrees to produce said records to County upon request. Failure to comply with the above provisions may result in Nominee's removal from Board/Commission.

Signature Gul Subaykan

Date 1/10/23

Please attach resume if available and either submit this form or print it and mail to *Field not completed.*

Pursuant to the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, records submitted to Snohomish County and County Council are subject to public disclosure. The practice of the council office is to post all meeting and hearing materials to our website to ensure transparency, as well as to assist in facilitating public records requests.
