

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Anderson, Karen](#); [Szebenyi, Alessandra](#)
Subject: Online Form Submission #176224 for Snohomish County Boards & Commissions Application Form
Date: Sunday, August 24, 2025 10:44:11 PM



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Snohomish County Boards & Commissions Application Form

SNOHOMISH COUNTY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS APPLICATION FORM

NOMINEE: Please fill in this section

Name of Board/Commission:	Human Rights Commission
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	New Appointment
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Snohomish County Council District (Please choose one):	5
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Name	Taryn Toevs
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Home Address	24725 144th Place Southeast
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Mailing Address (if different)	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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City	Monroe
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State	WA
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Zip Code	98272
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Telephone (Home)	248-909-8439
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Telephone (Work)	248-909-8439
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Email	taryn.l.oconnell@gmail.com
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Current Employer	Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County / Compass Health / Boston University
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Occupation	Relief Advocate / Agency Affiliated Counselor / Part-Time MSW Graduate Student
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Education	B.S. Earth and Environmental Sciences from University of Michigan 2013; MSW Boston University (Current student, graduating January 2026)
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Licenses held (if applicable)	AAC
Why would you like to serve on this board/commission?	I would like to serve on the Human Rights Commission to utilize my unique combination of lived experience, volunteer work, and education to advocate for those in my district. Snohomish county is a beautiful place where people value a strong sense of community, but because of systemic oppression, institutional barriers, complex personal factors, and cultural "isms", some of our neighbors do not get to experience their rights the same as others. Residents of my district are dealing with the impact of many human rights crises, like housing stability, lack of accessible services, transportation limitations, fentanyl, and disaster events brought on by climate change. We need a strong, diverse human rights commission prepared to advocate at the macro and micro level for an equitable, accessible, and inclusive community and I want to be a part of that solution.
Please explain why you are a qualified candidate, including relevant professional experience, to serve on the board/commission.	My qualifications to serve on this board come from a wild variety of experiences. Human rights have always been important to me growing up in a home witnessing domestic violence. I knew firsthand what it was like to feel like when you didn't experience true love, support, and understanding from your community. My bachelor's degree in Earth and Environmental sciences educated me on the significance of climate change and the devastating effects it will continue to have on our communities. After a brief career working in different national parks as an outdoor educator and volunteer coordinator, I gained tremendous experience in the corporate world as a project manager at Funko, a Snohomish County treasure. This role equipped me with high-level problem-solving, organizational, and relationship-building skills. Like many people, I felt changed by the events of 2020 and decided to live a life more aligned with my values. I volunteered as a CASA over two years, working with families involved with DCYF and the dependency system. There I gained a much deeper understanding of and appreciation for the real everyday challenges some of the most vulnerable populations in our county face, and of the systems that continue to perpetrate harm. Unsurprisingly, I went on to complete my foundational practicum at Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County, where I am still employed as a relief advocate on weekends. I am currently only a handful of weeks away from completing my clinical practicum hours at Compass Health, a critical community provider for behavioral health services. Finally, I will complete my coursework in December and should graduate in January 2026 with my MSW. My passion is serving my community, and to be a member of this commission would be a culmination of all of my experiences merging to create a compassionate, ethical, and tireless advocate seeking change for the better in our community.
Please list community involvement/volunteer activities	CASA Snohomish County Volunteer - 2023/2024 Domestic Violence Services Advocate - 2024 to present Compass Health Agency-Affiliated Counselor (intern) - 2024 to present (completing in October 2025)

How did you learn of this opportunity?

I sought out this opportunity through the county's website

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.

****People joining identified boards and commissions will be required to complete a background check. Boards and commissions identified as subject to requiring background checks include Children's Commission, Community Services Advisory Council, Council on Aging, CDMH (Chemical Dependency and Mental Health Program Advisory Board), Climate Action Advisory, Developmental Disabilities, Evergreen State Fair, Human Rights, Marine Resources, Performance Audit, and Planning Commission.**

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

Taryn Toevs

Date

08/24/2025

Please attach resume if available and either submit this form or print it and mail to

[Taryn Toevs - Resume - 082425.pdf](#)

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.

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