

Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board Youth Committee Membership Application

Committee Member Contact Information

Organization/Company	Contra Costa County Office of Education
Title/Position	Director, Youth Services
First Name	Alejandra
Last Name	Chamberlain

Street Address	
City	Pleasant Hill
State	CA
Zip Code	94523
Phone Number	
E-mail	

Board Questions

What is your interest in serving as a youth committee member and your anticipated contribution to the committee?

Response

I am interested in serving on the Workforce Development Board Youth Committee because I am passionate about ensuring that all young people—particularly foster youth, youth experiencing homelessness, justice-involved youth, and other opportunity youth—have equitable access to education, workforce development, career pathways, and economic mobility.
As Director of Youth Services for the Contra Costa County

I am interested in serving on the Workforce Development Board Youth Committee because I am passionate about ensuring that all young people—particularly foster youth, youth experiencing homelessness, justice-involved youth, and other opportunity youth—have equitable access to education, workforce development, career pathways, and economic mobility.

As Director of Youth Services for the Contra Costa County Office of Education, I oversee countywide programs that support vulnerable youth across Contra Costa County. In addition, Youth Services serves as the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program provider for the County Office of Education, allowing our department to directly connect youth to career exploration, work-based learning, leadership development, employment opportunities, and postsecondary pathways.

My work requires close collaboration with workforce, education, child welfare, probation, housing, behavioral health, and community-based organizations to address barriers that impact school success, employment, and long-term self-sufficiency. Through these partnerships, I have helped develop systems and programs that improve outcomes for youth who are often disconnected from traditional educational and workforce opportunities.

Through my current role as the Superintendent's proxy on the Workforce Development Board Youth Committee, my service on the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness, and my leadership of countywide and regional initiatives supporting foster and homeless youth, I have developed a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing young people throughout Contra Costa County.

As a Youth Committee member, I would contribute a countywide perspective that bridges k-12 education and workforce systems, elevates the needs of vulnerable youth populations, and supports strategies that strengthen career readiness, employment, postsecondary success, and long-term economic mobility. I am committed to helping the Committee advance collaborative solutions that ensure all youth have access to meaningful opportunities to succeed in school, work, and life.

ALEJANDRA CHAMBERLAIN

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 |

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Over 15 years of experience leading youth development, workforce development, education, and wellness initiatives. Expertise in designing and managing programs that support career readiness, work-based learning, postsecondary transitions, and economic mobility for foster youth, youth experiencing homelessness, justice-involved youth, and other opportunity youth.

KEY SKILLS AND COMPATANCIES

Program Management, Policy Development, Data Analysis, Cross-Agency Collaboration, Strategic Planning and Bilingual English/Spanish

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Expanded the department from 15 to 30 staff** to strengthen program delivery and oversight.
- Secured and implemented the Homeless Education Technical Assistance Center (HETAC) grant, **expanding services from a county-based model to statewide and regional support**, improving technical assistance for homeless education programs across multiple jurisdictions.
- Led the **development and execution of the Foster Youth Interagency Agreement**, coordinating efforts across school districts, Child & Family Services (CFS), Probation, CASAs, Public Defenders, County Office of Education, and the courts to improve educational outcomes for at-risk youth.
- **Leads workforce development initiatives, including WIOA Youth, DOR-TTP, DOR We Can Work**, and related programs that support career readiness, employment, work-based learning, and postsecondary transitions for youth throughout Contra Costa County.
- **Coordinates with workforce, education, child welfare, probation, housing, and community partnerships** to improve outcomes for foster youth, youth experiencing homelessness, justice-involved youth, and other opportunity youth.

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Counseling, Career Specialization
California State University, Sacramento

Bachelor of Arts in Child Development
California State University, Sacramento

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Development & Oversight – Led the planning, implementation, and evaluation of countywide and regional programs, focusing on education, workforce, wellness, and social services for opportunity youth. Designed and launched inclusive programming strategies to ensure accessibility across diverse communities.

Financial & Grant Management – Managed multi-million-dollar budgets across multiple funding streams, including federal, state, and local grants. Secured and implemented grants such as HETAC, expanding programs from a county-based model to regional/statewide impact. Allocated resources strategically to maximize service expansion and sustainability.

Interagency & Public Sector Partnerships – Developed and maintained partnerships with school districts, nonprofits, county agencies, and government offices to coordinate services and enhance program accessibility.

Led cross-agency agreements and collaborative initiatives, including a countywide Transportation MOU to improve mobility for foster and homeless youth.

Leadership & Team Development – Expanded department staffing by 100%, adding two managers and two supervisors to improve oversight and service delivery. Led staff training, mentorship, and professional development efforts, enhancing retention and leadership succession planning.

Policy & Compliance Oversight – Developed and implemented countywide policies that improved service delivery, program efficiency, and compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. Led policy initiatives such as Interagency Agreements and countywide MOUs to streamline operations across agencies.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Director, Youth Services, Contra Costa County Office of Education <i>Pleasant Hill, CA</i>	01/2022 – Present
Manager, Youth Services, Contra Costa County Office of Education <i>Pleasant Hill, CA</i>	06/2014 – 12/2021
Youth Services Program Coordinator, City of San Pablo <i>San Pablo, CA</i>	01/2013 – 06/2014
Youth Development Services Specialist, Contra Costa County Office of Education <i>Pleasant Hill, CA</i>	11/2010 – 01/2013
Workforce Development Professional, Sacramento Employment and Training Agency <i>Sacramento, CA</i>	03/2010 – 11/2010
Youth Specialist, Crossroads Employment Services <i>Sacramento, CA</i>	09/2008- 03/2010

ADVISORY ROLES & COUNTYWIDE LEADERSHIP

Council Member, Contra Costa Council on Homelessness	07/2016— Present
Youth Committee Member Proxy to Superintendent Lynn Mackey, Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Committee	06/2022- Present
Committee Member, Family and Children’s Trust Committee (FACT)	01/2023-01/2025
Co-Chair, AB 2083 Admin Leadership Team	
County Homeless Education Liaison (EH CY)	
Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) Coordinator	
State and Regional Lead, Homeless Education Technical Assistance Center (HETAC)	



Contra Costa County Office of Education

77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 • (925) 942-3388
Lynn Mackey, Superintendent of Schools

July 1, 2026

Dear Youth Committee Members,

I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation in support of Alejandra Chamberlain's application to serve on the Contra Costa Workforce Development Board Youth Committee.

As Director of Youth Services for the Contra Costa County Office of Education, Alejandra has demonstrated exceptional leadership and a steadfast commitment to improving outcomes for young people throughout Contra Costa County. With more than fifteen years of experience in workforce development, education, and youth services, she has successfully developed and strengthened programs that connect youth to education, employment, and career opportunities.

Alejandra provides strategic oversight for a broad range of initiatives serving foster youth, youth experiencing homelessness, justice-involved youth, youth with disabilities, and other opportunity youth including the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program, the Department of Rehabilitation Transition Partnership Program (TPP), We Can Work (WCW), WorkAbility, COYA, and other programs. She has extensive experience managing workforce development programs, building cross-sector partnerships, and aligning resources among education, workforce, and community agencies to better serve young people.

Over the past several years, Alejandra has served as my representative on the Workforce Development Board Youth Committee. In that capacity, she has demonstrated professionalism, sound judgment, and a thorough understanding of the committee's mission and responsibilities. Her collaborative approach and commitment to youth success have made her a respected and valued contributor.

I offer my highest recommendation for Alejandra Chamberlain's appointment and appreciate your consideration of her application.

Sincerely,

Lynn Mackey
Superintendent of Schools
Contra Costa County