

Application Form

Profile

Gabriel

First Name

Middle Initial

Lemus

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

City

CA

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 5

Contra Costa County

Employer

Deputy Director

Job Title

Length of Employment

22 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

District 5

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

22 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Submitted

Seat Name

Federal Homeless and Housing Funding Administration Representative

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

60-70

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

UCLA

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

B.A. - History and Chicana/o Studies

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Cornell University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

M.R.P. - City and Regional Planning

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**Other Training A**

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I've served on this Council for 10 years now sitting in the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Representative seat. Homelessness is a growing issue in the County and those who are experiencing homelessness in our community deserve to have access to services and affordable housing. Serving on this council assists in preserving the services and housing that currently exist but also to expand them.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I have worked with Contra Costa County for 22+ years, primarily working on administering various programs that serve low-income populations, including those who are experiencing homelessness. My role as the administrator of the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program has led me to cultivate working partnerships with various public agencies and service providers that assist in providing resources, access to services, and access to affordable housing to low-income residents and those experiencing homelessness throughout the County. I have served on the Council on Homelessness for 10 years and have enjoyed the experience to collaborate with other stakeholders to provide the necessary services and affordable permanent housing to those experiencing homelessness or those at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

[Upload a Resume](#)

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

Council on Homelessness; Countywide Oversight Board

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

I have served on the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness since 2015. I have also served as on the Planning Commission as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Martinez from October 2014 to March 2019.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

[View results](#)

Respondent

26

Anonymous

31:04

Time to complete

About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

The following questions will be used by the Council on Homelessness' Nominating Panel to identify diverse applicants that can contribute unique expertise and perspectives to the Council. Answers to these questions will be evaluated in relation to the experience and qualifications desired for available member seats. Please carefully consider how your personal experiences, professional experiences, and values will contribute meaningfully to the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by **Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 5PM**. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

For more information, about applying to the Council on Homelessness, please review the Council on Homelessness Board Recruitment FAQ document.

If you need accommodations to complete the application, please contact Jaime Jenett, Staff to the Council, by emailing cchomelesscouncil@cchealth.org or calling or texting (925) 464-0152.

Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? *

- ☐ **Behavioral Health Representative** – Must work in the behavioral health field in Contra Costa County (i.e., peer support, clinician, system-level behavioral health planner, etc.) with experience impacting behavioral health policy, decision-making, and/or funding.
- ☐ **City Government Seat** – Must be an employee of a city or town located in Contra Costa County. This seat is not open to representatives elected to positions in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ **CoC/ESG Program Grantee** – Must work with an agency receiving Continuum of Care and/or Emergency Solutions Grant funding in Contra Costa, including agencies that are providing housing and/or services to survivors of domestic violence. Applicants must work with one of these agencies to be eligible: CCH: H3; Contra Costa Crisis Center; Contra Costa Housing Authority; GRIP; Hope Solutions; SAHA; SHELTER, Inc; STAND! For Families Free of Violence; Trinity Center
- ☐ **Community Member Seat** – Must live or work in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ **Federal Homeless and Housing Funding Administrator Representative** – Must work for an agency in Contra Costa County that administers federal funding for homelessness and/or housing programs.
- ☐ **Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) Representative** – Must work for the Contra Costa Employment and Human Services Department.
- ☐ **Faith Community Representative** – Must have substantial experience as an employee, volunteer, or congregant of the County faith community.
- ☐ **Public Housing Authority** – Must be an employee of a Housing Authority in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ **Public Safety Representative** – Must have substantial experience in the public safety field in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ **Reentry Services Representative** – Must have substantial experience in the reentry field in Contra Costa County (i.e., services provider and/or correctional staff supporting individuals reentering the community after involvement with the criminal legal system).
- ☒ **Youth Representative** – Must be between the ages of 17 and 24 and have lived experience of homelessness in Contra Costa County

2. Please explain why you would like to serve on the Council on Homelessness and in the specific Council seat(s) you are applying for. (400 word maximum) *

I've served on this Council for 10 years now sitting in the Federal Homeless and Housing Funding Administrator Representative Representative seat. Homelessness is a growing and ongoing issue in the County and those who are experiencing homelessness in our community deserve to have access to services and affordable housing. Serving on this council assists in preserving the services and housing that currently exist but also to expand them.

3. Please briefly describe any personal or professional skills, experiences, volunteer work, or connections (such as affiliations with organizations addressing homelessness) that you would bring to the Council on Homelessness and/or the specific seat you are applying for. For example, you can talk about things like your experience getting services in the county, comfort with public speaking, experience working with unhoused youth, community activism, relationships with organizations, etc. (400 word maximum) *

I work for the County's Department of Conservation and Development, and I oversee the division that administers HUD funds that are too primarily benefit low-income households/residents and to address various housing and community development activities.

4. Please identify your personal connections with homelessness by selecting one of the options below: *

- ☐ I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.
- ☒ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- ☐ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ I would prefer not to respond

5. **Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. Please list and explain 3 reasons why certain groups might have a harder time accessing services than others. (400 words maximum) ***

One reason is availability, or lack of services in specific areas of the County (for example, in east/far east County). Another reason is cultural reasons, such as language. Outreach materials may not be as available in different languages. Another may be fear or comfortability of seeking services that are provided by or affiliated with a government entity.

6. **Please share and explain two (2) ideas to help Contra Costa County better support people who are unhoused and people at risk of being unhoused. Your ideas can come from your own experience receiving services, your work, and/or what you've seen in the news. (400 word maximum) ***

One idea is to create or improve on an inventory list of interim/temporary housing in the County to better understand what currently exists and understand how much more may be needed. Of course, a similar inventory list for permanent affordable housing should also be created or improved on. Another idea is having the various County departments that address homelessness in some way (HSD, DCD, EHSD) coordinate their various funding programs to have more of an impact on services addressing homelessness.

7. **How many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings have you attended in the past? ***

☒ 3 or more meetings

☐ 1-2 meetings

☐ 0 meetings

8. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach, which means people can get into housing without needing to meet certain requirements like being sober, participating in a religious program, or having a job. In response, the Council has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.*

Do you agree with the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

9. Members of the Council are expected to attend standing monthly Council on Homelessness meetings which take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members are also expected to participate in at least one committee, which typically meet on a monthly basis.

Standing Committees (meet once a month or every other month)

- Equity Committee
- HMIS Policy Committee
- Oversight Committee
- PATH (Plan for Accelerating Transformative Housing) Committee

Ad Hoc Committees (meet on an as-needed basis for a limited time)

- Funding Committee
- Governance Committee
- Homelessness Awareness Month Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Committee

All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below: *

- ☒ I am available to attend the **standing monthly COH meeting** on the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm, and I am available to participate in at least one committee which would require attending a separate regular meeting.
- ☐ I am not available for the standing monthly COH meeting and/or I am not available to participate in at least one committee.

Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

10. What are your pronouns (for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.)?

11. What is your gender identity (for example: female/male/transgender/non-binary/gender non-conforming, other)?

12. What is your sexual orientation (for example: bisexual/straight/gay/pansexual, other)?

13. What best describes your age? (Check one)

☐ Transition aged youth (18-24)

☐ Adult (25-54)

☐ Older Adult (55-61_

☐ Senior (62+)

14. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

White

Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(e)(x)

Black/African American/African

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous

Asian American/Asian

Multiple Races

Other

15. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? *

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☐ East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- ☐ Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☐ West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☒ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

16. Is there any other information you would like to share, including anything that would help us understand how you would contribute to the diverse representation of people and experiences on the Council (for example: lived experience of homelessness, abilities, immigration status, ethnic background, or cultural background)?

I interact with various non-profit agencies and cities throughout the County. Contra Costa County is very diverse in terms of its demographics, economics, and overall environment. I have worked with local representatives, city staff, non-profit organizations, and various community members representing various parts of the County. Understanding the key issues, concerns, and needs of any community and area is important ahead of time but allowing residents or stakeholders representing those communities to express the issues, concerns, and needs are equally important. It not only affirms any information or understanding you may have gained from other sources, but it gives you an opportunity to actually listen to those who are from the community and potentially gain deeper understanding or brings attention to issues you may not have known about.

Contact Information

17. Name *

Gabriel Lemus

18. Email *

[REDACTED]

19. Phone Number *

