

Application Form

Profile

Mackenzie

First Name

DM

Middle Name

Whipps

Last Name

Home Address

Street Address

Walnut Creek

City

CA

State

94596

Post Office Code

Day Phone

Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 4

First 5 Contra Costa

Employee

Early Childhood Program Officer

Job Title

Length of Employment

2 months

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

District 4

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

3 years

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education (LPC): Submitted

Seat Name

Public Agency Representative - East County

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?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Bachelor of Science, Psychology

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

New York University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Doctor of Philosophy, Psychology and Social Intervention

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.

As an incoming Early Childhood Program Officer for First 5 Contra Costa, I wish to apply to represent our organization in the LPC.

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

Please see attached resume for additional qualifications.

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:

Full time employment at First 5 Contra Costa.

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:

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.

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 undersand 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.

MACKENZIE D.M. WHIPPS

EDUCATION

New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development | New York, NY May 2020
Ph.D. in Psychology and Social Intervention, with a concentration in Maternal-Infant Health Intervention; GPA: 3.98

- Awards: Mitchell Leaska Dissertation Award (recognizing exceptional dissertation research); Bernard R. Ackerman Award (recognizing promise in research and advocacy); Philip Zlatchin Award (recognizing service to vulnerable communities)

University of Maryland, Baltimore County | Baltimore, MD May 2008
B.Sc. in Psychology, Minors in Biology and Political Science; GPA: 4.00; summa cum laude (top 5% of class)

- Awards: Psychology Department Distinguished Scholar Award; Apex Scholarship (recognizing excellence in leadership)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center, Peabody College at Vanderbilt University | Remote July 2022 – Feb 2024
Senior Research Associate

- Leading several simultaneous research and evaluation projects, including: theory development and policy tracking for child care system transformation efforts in New Mexico; mapping geographic disparities in child care supply and demand in Davidson County, Tennessee; and evaluating a pilot community connection and referral program to strengthen families in Connecticut
- Co-leading the design of digital media products and data visualizations to effectively communicate scientific findings
- Supervising multiple teams of graduate students, staff researchers, data analysts, and communications staff
- Collaborating with advocates, policymakers, academics, and analysts to inform Center-wide strategy and proposal development

Health Equity Across the Lifespan (HEAL) Lab, Dept of Human Ecology at UC Davis | Remote Dec. 2020 – June 2022
Postdoctoral Fellow

- Developed and launched the impact and implementation evaluation of *Welcome Baby*, a universal nurse home visiting and community referral program for low-income birthing families in Yolo County, California
- Collaborated closely with First Five Yolo County to co-create a community-engaged, mixed-methods evaluation plan
- Assisted in managing a state-wide RCT of an app-based, mHealth platform for 500 birthing people, including medical data collection and analysis, manuscript preparation, and presentation of findings to academic and lay audiences

Transitions Mother-Baby Lab, New York University | New York, NY Sep. 2016 – May 2020
Principal Investigator

- Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data from longitudinal, national surveys and in-depth interviews to understand the diversity of breastfeeding trajectories and policy contexts in US birth hospitals
- Trained and managed a team of 12 research assistants in semi-structured interviewing, transcription, and qualitative coding
- Founded the Breastfeeding Students Empowerment Network of NYU, moderated peer-to-peer breastfeeding support, and led the creation and adoption of a new student-facing lactation policy impacting NYU's 60,000+ students

Smart Beginnings Lab, NYU Steinhardt and NYU School of Medicine | New York, NY Sep. 2016 – May 2019
Graduate Research Associate

- Evaluated impact of an integrated model promoting positive parenting and early school readiness in pediatric primary care clinics
- Led data analyses and writing, especially for subgroup analysis, spillover effects, and program innovation and fidelity using mixed-method approaches

Birth Doula, Postpartum Doula, and Certified Lactation Counselor | NY, CA, and MD Feb 2011 – Present
Independent Practitioner

- Received CLC certification (45 CE hours) in 2016; completed DONA birth doula training (18 CE hours) in 2011
- Providing patient advocacy, timely information, and bedside support for families during the childbearing year
- Providing information and hands-on skills training to families learning how to breastfeed and troubleshoot infant feeding challenges; CLC work is pro-bono and often integrated with postpartum doula work

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Technical Programming Competencies:** STATA, Qualtrics, SPSS, NVivo, Mplus, Excel, ArcGIS, Infogram, Salesforce
- **Hobbies:** birth photography, bird watching, themed party planning, reading biographies and ethnographies