



CITY OF POMONA
505 S. GAREY AVENUE
POMONA, CA 91766

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CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS PUBLIC SERVICE APPLICATION

Please Note:

- All applicants must be current residents of the City of Pomona.
- A separate application must be submitted for each Board or commission you are interested in serving.
- Applications are kept on file for one (1) year from the date submitted.
- An individual may serve on one commission at a time.
- The maximum number of consecutive years an individual may serve on the same commission is nine (9).
- **Submitted applications are considered a public record and are subject to review by anyone upon request.**

(Please print or type all information)

In which Council District do you reside? 4

Board or Commission for which you are applying: TRI-CITY MHC GOVERNING BOARD

Name of Applicant

BUNCE RICHARD R Home [REDACTED] ^{HOME} [REDACTED]
Last Name First Name M.I. Telephone Number ^{OFFICE} ^{Work}

Home Address

[REDACTED] POMONA CA 91767
Street Number Street City State Zip Code

Mailing Address (if different from above)

SAME
Number and Street Name or P.O. Box City State Zip Code

Business Address

SAME
Street Number Street City State Zip Code

E-mail Address [REDACTED]

Daytime Contact Telephone Number (between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.) [REDACTED]

- ✓ The City's Conflict of Interest Code requires that members of City Boards/Commissions file a Statement of Economic Interests. **Would you be willing to file a financial disclosure statement?** Yes ☒ No ☐

Please provide the following information. You may attach additional pages, enclose a copy of your résumé, or submit supplemental information that would be useful to the City Council in consideration of your appointment.

HOW LONG have you resided in the City of Pomona? 16 YEARS

COMMUNITY SERVICE (List boards, commissions, committees and community organizations on which you are currently serving or have served, and the number of years, offices held and in what city)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

In the 1970's my community service as a volunteer began when I established and headed a regional task force on world hunger for the Presbyterian Church, USA, for a period of three years. Following the Sylmar earthquake, I served for two years as chairperson of the committee for rebuilding the sanctuary building of Pasadena Presbyterian Church

During the 1980's, I was vice-president of the Pomona Valley Council of Churches (now called Hope Partners) for two years. This was followed by two years as president of the Council. I also served for several years on the boards of Upland Rotary Club, Inland Valley Hospice Association, and Southern California Presbyterian Homes.

More recently, I was a member for ten years of the board of directors of the Pomona Valley affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), and this included three years as vice President and three years as president. In my association with NAMI, I founded and managed an information and referral helpline for 10 years and founded and managed the Interfaith Collaborative on Mental Health for 7 years.

About ten years ago, Tri-City Mental Health Center established a delegate process (now called stakeholder process) for involving community representatives in the preparation of proposals for allocation of California Mental Health Services Act funds. I have participated in this process from its inception.

Currently, I am convener of a group called, The Gathering, which meets at a local Pomona Church. This is a group that builds community through peer support, strength-based personal empowerment, public service, and social justice advocacy. Under the auspices of The Gathering, I volunteer at the homeless shelter at the armory twice a week. The Gathering engages residents in games and art.

I've also participated in the homeless count, Pomona Beautification Days, and currently in the city's Placemaking project. I'm also involved with the Compassionate Cities Initiative, which has come to the attention of Mayor Sandoval. (A representative group has met with him in this regard and is meeting with him again on November 13.)

EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND

Missionary Intern in Iran: Taught in schools related to the Presbyterian mission and assisted the US Agency for International Development in an education initiative.

Executive Director of the Pacoima Outpost of the Neighborhood Adult Participation Project, Office of Economic Opportunity (the federal anti-poverty program): Supervised a staff of 16, created job opportunities and advocated for social and racial justice.

Staff consultant for the LA County Department of Community Services: worked with local community groups for creating alternative programs for at-risk youth

Staff Consultant for the LA County Commission on Human Relations: worked with local community groups toward intergroup understanding and a healthy pluralism. Major responsibilities flowed from the school desegregation process.

Concurrently with county employment: Part-time church service with Pasadena Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Westlake Village.

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Upland: the full range of pastoral responsibilities.

Executive Director, Shelter Now: Management of a nonprofit agency, Shelter Now, that gave grants for creative transitional services for the homeless.

Executive Director, Progressive Christians Uniting: A Christian ecumenical organization that assisted local Protestant congregations in addressing social concerns such as poverty, racism, and homelessness.

My work with NAMI led to gainful employment during my retirement years as interim executive director for NAMI Pomona Valley and subsequently as interim executive director for NAMI LA County Council. The former involved setting up an office, hiring staff, fundraising, and program development for the local NAMI affiliate. The latter involved negotiating a seven million dollar grant for NAMI services on a countywide basis, setting up a new office, and managing a staff of eight.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Undergraduate degree in history from University of Oregon

Master degree in theology from Princeton Theological Seminary

MY UNDERSTANDING OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF TRI-CITY MHC GOVERNING BOARD

The community delegate process began when Tri-City was soon to emerge from bankruptcy. We who were delegates were led by consultant John Ott through a rigorous exercise in reflecting on the direction and performance of Tri-City, past, present, and projecting into the future. We, the delegates, made several recommendations, most of which were adopted and integrated into the current goals and objectives of Tri-City. Here are the key elements as we advocated for them and as they persist to this day:

Emergence from bankruptcy and management of the reparative payments responsibly.

Integrate the system of care within Tri-City's own ranks and be a force for integration (continuity of care) within the larger community.

Encourage formation of a board of directors in which oversight and accountability are increased (lest the rubber stamping habits that contributed to the bankruptcy be repeated).

Shift emphases from a top-down medical model of care to a client-driven operation.

Include input from families in the formation of a recovery plan, and integrate families into the plan as much as possible, while also honoring HIPAA (client privacy) requirements.

Seek out the strengths, interests, and talents of clients and build from there.

Make Tri-City services accessible, with various doors through which potential clients, current clients, and non-client community members may enter and participate.

Create a collaborative environment within staff operations and throughout the various programs of Tri-City.

Meet people where they are. Practice cultural competency. Assist clients in living to their full potential.

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN WHAT IN MY BACKGROUND, TRAINING, EDUCATION, OR INTERESTS QUALIFIES ME FOR THIS APPOINTMENT

My wife and I have three sons, one of whom was afflicted with paranoid schizophrenia when he was halfway through college. This led to about twenty years of his cycling through hospitals, jails, the streets, and occasional times of relative stability. In hopes of helping him, I attended support groups and classes offered by NAMI, then became very active in NAMI as the needs of other families in similar straits became apparent. Additional incentive came from my wife, Pamela, who became a collaborative partner in the work.

I started an information and referral service that in the last ten years has responded to approximately 7000 calls for referral support. Also, I knew that clergy were generally as uninformed about mental illness as I had been as a pastor, so I launched the Interfaith Collaborative on Mental Health. The Collaborative held many conferences, seminars, and classes so as to assist clergy and lay faith leaders to widen the welcome and deepen the support of people with mental health challenges and their family members.

In the course of my service to NAMI, I was in close contact with Tri-City's board, commission, and programs such as full service partnership, the wellness center, supportive housing, crisis response, etc.. Even though I have recently transitioned to an emphasis on volunteer work with homeless women and men, I continue to attend Tri-City board meetings and to access services

in the course of working with the homeless. I should add that I served on the personnel committee that selected the finalists for the most recent selection of Tri-City's executive director. This gave me additional insight into the management needs of the agency.

My entire background helped prepare me for my son's mental illness (after I got over the initial shock and dismay). This lived experience as his parent plunged me into an intensive effort to better understand mental illness and to be a force for alleviation of suffering. I believe this combination of experience and commitment can help me to be an asset to the governing board.

HOW I WOULD UTILIZE THE ABOVE TO HELP ACHIEVE THE BOARD'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

First, the decision to expand the board from four to seven members was to invite the input of community members who are not directly wired into the political system. I for one have been too busy working at the grassroots level to run for political office. Yet, in the course of my mostly volunteer service, I've gained insight about the challenges of mental illness and the performance of Tri-City that can enable me to be a fresh voice at the table.

Second, the objective of including family members in the treatment and recovery process is easier said than done. Families can bring insight into the situation and can provide essential support, but families can also be too traumatized to be helpful or may even contribute to the challenges. Having been a family member, I can add insight to this important and often overlooked dimension of care.

Third, the intention to meet people where they are and build upon their interests and talents is very commendable and should be integral to case management. Yet, this is also complex and can easily be forgotten. As I've branched out and am now working primarily with the homeless, this is an aspect of Tri-City's work that I can support as I continue to learn and grow in this regard.

Forth, Tri-City's commitment to helping clients live to their full potential is an important goal that I can support wholeheartedly. My son is now a respected social worker in Long Beach. He again is a loving and considerate member of our family. This is one example among others of the hope that drives mental health service. People can go a long way toward full recovery. This is a great motivator in often grueling world of mental health providers.

Finally, I've been involved at the management level in enough organizations to have insight into administrative successes and challenges. Tri-City has come a long way in recent years, but Toni Navarro and her "admin team" would be the first to say that the agency still has much ground to cover. There is room for legitimate pride and more hard work. I am ready and willing to help guide the hard work – and to acknowledge the many accomplishments.

EMPLOYMENT BACKGROUND (Title and duties)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND (Optional – Include professional or vocational licenses or certificates)

WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING of the objectives and goals of the Commission to which you are seeking appointment?

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN what in your background, training, education or interests, you feel qualifies you for this appointment.

HOW would you utilize the above-stated qualifications to help achieve the board's/commission's objectives and goals?

I have used all reasonable diligence in completing this application. I have reviewed the application and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and on any attached pages is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant

11/6/17
Date

WHEN COMPLETED, MAIL OR RETURN ORIGINAL TO : Office of the City Clerk
Pomona City Hall
505 South Garey Avenue
Pomona, CA 91766

SPACE BELOW FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____
Appointed to: _____ District: _____ Date Appointed: _____

☐ Board of Library Trustees

☐ Reappointed

☐ Board of Parking Place Commission

☐ Original Appointment:

☐ Community Life Commission

Expiration of Term: _____

☐ Cultural Arts Commission

9 Year Term Limit: _____

☐ Historic Preservation Commission

Reason for vacancy: _____

☐ Parks and Recreation Commission

Nominated by: _____

☐ Planning Commission