

APPLICATION TO SERVE ON
HUMBOLDT COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

1) Name: Isabella M. Wotherspoon

2) Address: _____

3) Email: _____

4) Telephone: _____

5) Supervisorial District: Two (2)

6) Occupation: Social Worker

7) Category:

Consumer

Family of Consumer

TAY

Other

8) Prior Advisory Board or Commission Experience

Yes

No

9) Personal References:

Name: Marie Essif

Telephone: _____

Name: Casey Russo

Telephone: _____

10) Please write a brief statement describing why you are interested in serving on the Humboldt County Behavioral Health Board:

[Empty box for statement]

Current Date

9/6/12

Signature

Isabella M. Wotherspoon

Please send this application to:

ATTN. Joe McManus

Humboldt County Behavioral Health Board

720 Wood Street

Eureka, CA 95501

For Office Use Only: Date to BOS:

Approved

Not Approved

September 22nd , 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Isabella M. Wotherspoon and I write to you in hopes of being considered for a position on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

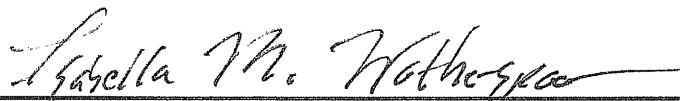
I am currently employed by the County of Humboldt, being the Social Worker III for the Office of the Public Defender. I was hired last June, of 2020, and am this office's first official in-house social worker, dedicated to better meet the needs of our clients whom we represent in criminal proceedings. The clients I serve hail from all walks of life. They struggle with severe mental illness, poverty, housing insecurity, homelessness, substance abuse, and face further barriers due to their struggles with recidivism and criminal histories. I partner with other county affiliated programs, such as DHHS Mental Health Diversion, Adult Drug Court program, and the Adult Probation Department, in order to enable the engagement of our clients and assist them with accessing the resources they are so overtly in need of.

My chief goal here, in my current capacity, is connecting our clients to resources that may reduce recidivism rates and contribute to their future flourishing. This may include, but is not necessarily limited to, medical and mental health referrals, Outpatient AOD referrals, In-Patient Residential SUD treatment referrals, Sober Living referrals, Emergency Shelter referrals, Benefits access, (such as General Relief, MEDICAL, Social Security, CALFRESH, Section 8 Housing), Permanent Supportive Housing navigation and garnering Vital Docs.

I have a vast array of experience in the Social Services Arena (cumulatively nearing a decade in experience), and have served a diverse array of local entities, including The Wiyot Tribe, (where I fulfilled a dual-position of Indian Child Welfare Social Worker and Domestic Violence Advocate), the Arcata House Partnership, (where I was the assigned Social Work Case Manager of the Adult Shelter Program), Evolve Youth Services, (where I worked as a Child and Family Specialist), Redwood Community Action Agency's Youth Services Bureau, (in which I was a Residential Staff of the Youth Shelter), and the Humboldt Senior Resource Center.

In summation, I would be both humbled and honored to be considered for a seat on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board, to further advocate on behalf of my clients, and community, on the whole. Thank you, most ardently, for your time and consideration.

Ever Respectfully,



Isabella M. Wotherspoon