

## Advisory Body Applicants

**Name of Committee:**

Local Homeless Coordinating Board

**Seat#:**

["Seat 9"]

**Full Name:**

Hope Kamer

**Home Address:**

**Phone Number:**

9252623439

**Email:**

[hkamer@compass-sf.org](mailto:hkamer@compass-sf.org)

**Employment or Involvement with HSH (If applicable):**

I work at Compass Family Services, a San Francisco based CBO that received significant funding from HSH to operate our continuum of direct care services. I understand this would be an ongoing consideration when engaging in decision – making at LHCB should I be selected to join this committee.

**Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying?**

Yes

**18 Years of Age or Older:**

Yes

**Resident of San Francisco:**

No

**Place of residence:**

Oakland, CA

**Please state your qualifications regarding the committee of interest:**

I work at Compass Family Services as the Director of Public Policy and External Affairs. Founded more than 100 years ago, Compass is one of the largest multi-service agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area, supporting homeless and at-risk families in achieving permanent exits from homelessness and creating long-term stability and well-being. In FY 22-23, Compass supported more than 2500 families in avoiding or exiting homelessness via our continuum of prevention, early childhood education, basic needs,

emergency shelter, housing subsidy, and behavioral health programs. Crucially, Compass operates the City's busiest Family Coordinated Entry System (CES) Access point – the “front door” for families into the homeless emergency response system. My access to our direct care staff and family leaders offers timely, accurate information on the state of this social safety net that will be valuable in informing the future decisions of LHCB. Additionally, I serve as the Chair of the Family Provider Subcommittee of the Homeless Emergency Services Provider Association (HESPA). HESPA advocates as a coalition for needed funds and system adjustments for the City's homeless response system. As Chair of HESPA's Family Subcommittee, I can collect a consensus of provider perspectives to leverage greater input into LHCB's projects and decision – making processes. Prior to this role, I worked at Seneca Family of Agencies, the largest children's behavioral health provider organization on the West Coast. My role at Seneca supporting predominantly extremely low-income families with multiple system involvement offered robust exposure to the social services landscape of the Bay Area. For many families in Seneca programs, unsafe or untenable living conditions led to avoidable and punitive child welfare system involvement. I feel passionate about driving a homeless emergency response system for families that centers parent voice and choice and does not punish caregivers for asking for help. I began working at Seneca after earning a master's in social Welfare (MSW) from UC Berkeley in 2019. Finally, the population of homeless families in San Francisco remains undercounted, and the safety net system in place to serve them is not resourced at a scale commensurate with the scope of the problem. Families experiencing homelessness often require support from multiple city departments and well-funded interventions that are related to, but discrete from, those that serve homeless single adults. I am enthusiastic about LHCB's continued, important work in coordinating cross-system stakeholders and offering well-informed input to DSHS to scale up the family emergency response system.

**Please list and describe the civic activities you are currently or have previously participated in:**

In past professional roles at the California Alliance of Child and Family Services and Seneca Family of Agencies, I worked directly on state legislation and budget advocacy to strength the publicly funded children's behavioral health and child welfare systems.

**Applicant Signature:**

Hope Kamer

**Date:**

2023-12-04

**Name of Committee:**

Local Homeless Coordinating Board

**Seat#:**

["Seat 1"]

**Full Name:**

Marjorie Buckhanan

**Home Address:**

1321 mission st apt808

**Phone Number:**

4157972386

**Email:**

[maggibuchanan67@gmail.com](mailto:maggibuchanan67@gmail.com)

**Employment or Involvement with HSH (If applicable):**

N/A

**Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying?**

Yes

**18 Years of Age or Older:**

Yes

**Resident of San Francisco:**

Yes

**Place of residence:**

**Please state your qualifications regarding the committee of interest:**

I've been homeless for 12 years in San Francisco I've been housed for a couple years now I m working a grassroots campaign to better service marginalized individuals in the community

**Please list and describe the civic activities you are currently or have previously participated in:**

I'm currently working on opening a local nonprofit and running a grassroots outreach operation team on my own here in SF

**Applicant Signature:**

Marjorie Buckhanan

**Date:**

2023-11-30

**Name of Committee:**

Shelter Monitoring Committee

**Seat#:**

["Seat 5"]

**Full Name:**

Charles Deffarges

**Home Address:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

[cdeffarges@ecs-sf.org](mailto:cdeffarges@ecs-sf.org)

**Employment or Involvement with HSH (If applicable):**

Director of Policy at Episcopal Community Services

**Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying?**

Yes

**18 Years of Age or Older:**

Yes

**Resident of San Francisco:**

No

**Place of residence:**

Berkeley, CA

**Please state your qualifications regarding the committee of interest:**

I am very excited to be applying to a community agency seat on the Shelter Monitoring Committee. Professionally, I've worked across the homeless response system as an outreach worker, a City staffer, and now a Director at a large community service provider. Personally, I'm a native San Franciscan who cares deeply about ensuring that our most vulnerable neighbors get the care they deserve and need. The work I've done, the role I'm in, and my personal beliefs all make me well suited to serve on the Shelter Monitoring Committee, I appreciate your consideration. I am currently the Director of Policy at Episcopal Community Services (ECS), one of the largest providers of homeless services in San Francisco. ECS currently operates hundreds of beds across various models of shelter ranging from non-congregate hotel conversions to seasonal emergency congregate shelter. As a part of our shelter programs, we provide behavioral health, case management and housing navigation services to our guests, with the goal of

transitioning them to more permanent housing opportunities. As Director of Policy at ECS, I am in close communication with our staff across all of these systems. Operations, clients, and facilities are all affected by policy developments and two-way communication is key to making sure we are providing the best possible. Prior to working at ECS, I worked at the San Francisco COVID Command Center and HSH operating the shelter in place hotel program, and as a member of the SF Homeless Outreach Team. Both of these experiences give me a unique perspective on our City's shelter system. Working for the City, I learned what it takes to set up and operate an emergency shelter system. With the HOT team, I placed clients at every single shelter facility in the City, visiting each on multiple occasion while working with and advocating for my clients. In addition to working across the entirety of our shelter system, my time with the HOT team gave me a secondhand perspective on what makes a good shelter experience for our unhoused neighbors.

**Please list and describe the civic activities you are currently or have previously participated in:**

I've previously served on the board of the Tenderloin Community Benefit District as well as the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee. I'm an active participant in several membership-based organizations and regularly attend open houses and town halls in San Francisco I've also volunteered as a hospitality monitor at the Gubbio for the past six years.

**Applicant Signature:**

Charles Deffarges

**Date:**

2023-11-29

**Name of Committee:**

Shelter Grievance Advisory Committee

**Seat#:**

["Seat 2", "Seat 4", "Seat 7", "Seat 10 "]

**Full Name:**

Spencer Lopez Ruiz

**Home Address:**

Oakland CA

**Phone Number:**

5108465725

**Email:**

[slopezruiz@compass-sf.org](mailto:slopezruiz@compass-sf.org)

**Employment or Involvement with HSH (If applicable):**

I work as PD in a family shelter and have regular contact with HSH.

**Have you attended any meetings of the body to which you are applying?**

No

**18 Years of Age or Older:**

Yes

**Resident of San Francisco:**

No

**Place of residence:**

Oakland CA

**Please state your qualifications regarding the committee of interest:**

I've worked in the family shelter system since January 2016, in various sites like Hamilton, Buena Vista Horace Mann, and Providence Foundation locations, now most recently at Compass Family Shelter. I've also worked at TNDC adult PSH sites. This has given me insight into how different populations are served and supported in residential settings and how different grievance procedures are implemented in the programs. I've learned a lot and supported a lot of clients directly through these positions and I'd like to bring that expertise to the SGAC.

**Please list and describe the civic activities you are currently or have previously participated in:**

Previously been on a school board for a charter high school in Oakland CA for one year. I was also briefly governance chair but stepped back to pursue opportunities within the housing field in SF.

**Applicant Signature:**  
Spencer Lopez Ruiz

**Date:**  
2023-12-01