

information

Please fill out this form to help the agency assess how your strengths, experiences and networks might contribute to NWYS' internal resources and community linkages. Please be advised that if your application for board membership is approved, some demographic information about you may be released to funding agencies or other public bodies as required.

personal information

Vahid	Aaron	Crooks		
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name		
1020	38 th Street	Bellingham	WA	98229
Address	Street	City	State	Zip Code
302-357-8622	Telephone Number(s)			11/07/1976
aaroncvahid@gmail.com	Email			Birthdate

occupation information & history

HollyFrontier	Name of Employer			
8505	North Texas Road	Anacortes	WA	98221
Address	Street	City	State	Zip Code
360-293-0800	Telephone Number(s)			E-mail
Environmental Engineer	Occupation			13+ years
Occupation	How Long?			How Long?

experience

Do you have any experience working with youth or addressing youth issues? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Over the last two years I have helped animate a group of young adolescents through a program of spiritual empowerment which is designed to encourage them to become agents of change through awakening of spiritual potentialities such as the power of unity, of love, of humble service, and of pure deeds. So often



society paints our youth as a decadent, morally ambivalent, and purposeless generation, which could not be further from the truth. As our youth grow, they are just beginning to explore their physical, mental, and spiritual powers and this program seeks to release these powers and direct them towards service to humanity. I believe that youth have a nobility and unique consciousness that, if properly harnessed, will drive them to make our world a better place. Our group tried to direct these energies into study, action, and reflection which lead to several successful service projects for the un-housed in Whatcom County. I was very privileged and proud to be a part of this amazing group of young youth who have now graduated the program and moved onto high school.

If you have any background or experience in any of the following areas, please check and provide some insight into that experience in the space below. Next, circle the content area(s) that would be of interest for your portfolio with NWYS.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donor Cultivation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PR/Community Awareness/Marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Policy Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

In the space below and/or on back, please expand upon your experience in these categories:

My experience with the Safe Storage (see resume) and the JYSEP (Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Program) has given me experience with two online fund-raising and one in-person fundraising efforts. In each case, we raised several hundred to several thousand dollars towards our fund-raising goals. In one case, we raised money online to buy and build lockers intended to allow the un-housed 24-hour access to safe storage options. In the other cases, our JYSEP raised funds online and in-person and put together over 120 care packages for the un-housed in Bellingham. Also, my work with the City of Bellingham as a member of the Safe Storage organization has given me public policy experience and direct interaction with the city government as we tried to negotiate a land lease use agreement for outdoor lockers. My work as an environmental engineer engenders responsibilities that relate directly to public policy, PR/community relations and awareness, and the legal/environmental law fields. In that regard, I meet regularly with regulators (both local, State, and Federal) and negotiate the development of new laws and the implementation of existing regulations. I have also been in the position at my work to develop and implement two community awareness and communication plans related to refinery operations. Regarding content areas of interest, I am happy to help in any of the aforementioned areas, as needed, but can be of particular use in the PR/Community Awareness and Public Policy spaces.

inquiry

Have you served on a board of directors before? Yes No



If yes, please list organization(s) and years of service:

What motivates you to want to be a part of Northwest Youth Services' mission?

I have two main reasons for wanting to be a part of NWYSs mission. The first relates to me becoming aware of NWYSs after you purchased the PAD home in my neighborhood. There are generally two forces at work in society, one is essentially constructive in nature and the other is destructive. Both have their place, but I strive to align myself with the constructive forces in our world. When I saw the vehement opposition to the PAD home in my neighborhood, I vowed to support NWYS in any way that I could because I recognized the good that you are doing; and now that we are neighbors, I consider it my duty to help. The second reason is more personal. I have a very close friend, Chris Pope, who has told me, in no uncertain terms, that NWYSs saved his life! So, after becoming aware of NWYS and talking to Chris, how could I not want to be a part of an organization that serves our community's youth and saves lives?

Have you previously volunteered in some capacity for NWYS? Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Given your personal and professional obligations, how much time per month do you estimate it will be feasible to schedule and dedicate to NWYS board service?

I could reasonably dedicate 10 hours per month to NWYS board service.

Since NWYS serves a uniquely vulnerable population, it is essential that all staff, volunteers, board members and other people on the Agency's premises be persons of demonstrably good character. For this reason, NWYS will conduct a Washington State Patrol WATCH (Washington Access to Criminal History) Background Check on all board member applicants. NWYS may, at its discretion, choose not to accept a board applicant who has been convicted of a violent crime or crimes involving or related to abuse or exploitation if, after conducting an individualized assessment involving the applicant's criminal record, employment history, conduct in the years since the conviction and other relevant circumstances, NWYS determines that board membership of the applicant would pose an unacceptable safety risk to NWYS' clientele and/or staff.

As a board applicant are you willing to consent to a WATCH background check?

Yes No



references

Please list the names of two people who you know would provide important insight into your capacity to serve our board effectively.

1. Selvi Adaikkalam	Baha'i Office of Public Affairs	7 year
Name of Reference	Business	Years Acquainted
360-820-8321		sashwee@gmail.com
Address	Phone	E-mail
2. Brian Robson	HollyFrontier	3 years
Name of Reference	Business	Years Acquainted
360-724-8057		brian.robson@hollyfrontier.com
Address	Phone	E-mail

resume

Please attach your resume or other pertinent information to this form.

Northwest Youth Services collaborates with at-risk, runaway and homeless youth to foster self-reliance.

