



Application for appointment to a Board, Committee, Commission, or Task Force

DATA CLASSIFICATION ADVISORY

Some of the information on this form is public data under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Chapter 13. The data is being requested so that the appointing authority can make an informed decision as to the appointment to the relevant board, commission, committee or task force. An applicant is not required to provide any information; however, failure to answer any of the questions on this application may cause the appointing authority to reject the application or to select another candidate. The data on this form will be maintained by the City of Minneapolis in accordance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the non-public portions of the form, if any, will be available to individuals working for the City whose work assignments reasonably require access.

We also request that you complete the **voluntary demographic questionnaire**. The City of Minneapolis has made efforts to increase diversity on boards and commissions. Knowledge of your status will assist us in monitoring the success of our efforts. Although you are not required to provide the information requested on the demographic questionnaire, your cooperation is appreciated and valued. The information provided is not used in determining appointments to boards and commissions. Please find the form in MS Word and in PDF.

**THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS PAGE IS OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC PER THE MINNESOTA DATA PRACTICES ACT**

<u>Title of the Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force this application is for</u>	
Family Housing Fund Board of Directors	
Name: Senta Leff	Ward: 12
City of residence: Minneapolis	
Occupation: Program Developer, Family Supportive Housing Services	Employer: Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
Employer's Address: 451 Lexington Parkway North, Saint Paul, MN 55104	
Describe your background related to any required or desirable qualification listed in the Notice. Include applicable experience with civic, professional or volunteer organizations and other city boards or commissions. List any awards or special recognition.	
<p>I currently work as Program Developer for the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, with an expertise in homelessness and affordable housing. In this position, I am the primary fundraiser for one of the largest supportive housing providers in St. Paul, with an annual budget of over \$13 million. The funds I raise generate enough revenue to house 30% of the homeless families in Ramsey County each year. My position allows me the opportunity to work at the intersection of issues that make a difference to housing developers, service providers, public and private funders, as well as consumers.</p> <p>I have lived in and traveled to more than 30 countries, primarily in the developing world. However, I am a Native Minnesotan – raised in the Twin Cities by a loving single mother. Our family lived in poverty as my young mother sought to balance sporadic employment in low-wage jobs and intermittent public assistance with the full-time responsibilities of raising two young children. My family benefitted from affordable housing resources when I was a child, so I am especially proud of that fact that I now hold a leadership position in an agency that once provided my family with essential resources during a difficult time. These childhood experiences inform my commitment to the human services profession, and the field of affordable housing in particular.</p>	

In less than 10 years, I have secured nearly \$25 million in annual revenue, special project and capital funds for supportive housing. In addition to managing relationships with nearly 30 private and government funders, I also work closely with Wilder Research and Wilder's Executive Team on strategic planning and program evaluation. It is important to me that the strategies of our organization, as well as the outcomes we develop, are meaningful not only to our funders, but to the families we serve. I am privileged to actively participate in many of Wilder's strategic planning efforts, including playing a leadership role during the dissolution of our Supportive Housing and Employment Services division and subsequent reorganization in 2009.

I am a graduate of Mills College in Oakland, California and have had the distinct privilege of attending the *Aspen Seminar* at the Aspen Institute in May 2011. I have presented to local and national audiences on issues related to affordable and supportive housing services. I currently serve as a board member for the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless and on the Ramsey County Continuum of Care Governing Board.

As a young leader, with a personal connection to the benefits that affordable housing offers families, I can bring a diverse perspective to the leadership of the Family Housing Fund Board.

Return completed applications to:

Email openappointments@minneapolismn.gov

Mail or delivery City Clerk Appointments
Room 304, 350 S. 5th St
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1382

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