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CITY OF SEATTLE

2015 JUL 28 PM 2:12

CITY CLERK



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Shandra Benito		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities		Position Title: Get Engaged
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment <i>OR</i> Reappointment	Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Appointing Authority: Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor Other: Specify appointing authority		Term of Office: September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016
Residential Neighborhood: Greenwood	Zip Code: 98103	Contact Phone No.: NA
Legislated Authority: SMC 3.14.920, SMC 3.14.921, SMC 3.51.010, Ordinance 118392, Ordinance 120871		
Background: Shandra Benito is currently working on her Masters of Social Work with a concentration in Administration and Policy Practice from the University of Washington. As a dedicated worker in the fields of domestic and sexual violence and Disability rights, Shandra is excited to serve on the Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities to continue her work fighting for all people to have the opportunity to live without fear, be valued in society and achieve their full potential.		
Date of Appointment: June 29, 2015	Authorizing Signature (original signature): 	Appointing Signatory: Mayor Edward B. Murray

Shandra Benito

Social Service Leadership and Experience:

Women's Domestic Violence Advocate - YWCA of Missoula – JVC NW/AmeriCorps **Aug 2014 – July 2015**

- Serve as one of two full-time domestic violence advocates working in the Pathways domestic violence program, managing a seven room confidential shelter, answering calls on a 24-hour crisis hotline and hosting open walk-ins for community members.
- Provide case management, legal/medical/housing/financial/educational advocacy and crisis counseling on an on-call basis to shelter residents from diverse backgrounds including Native American/indigenous communities, LGBT community, and rural communities in Montana.
- Ensure effective quarterly grant reporting, and build organizational capacity through serving as the chair of the crisis committee, projects such as evaluating accessibility of programs for members of the Disability community and developing organization policy and instructions for serving individuals with Limited English Proficiency.

Founder and Executive Director – Reach Out **June 2009 – July 2014**

- As a senior in high school I started Reach Out, a non-profit that provided mentorship for disadvantaged youth by creating and running free summer camps in local Seattle social service agencies.
- Over the span of my leadership I applied for and received more than \$20,000 in grants and donations, grew the organization from one summer camp per summer to six summer camps at three different organizations, served over 100 children, and recruited and managed 150 volunteers.

Volunteer Advocate – Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services **May 2011 – Aug 2014**

Served as a domestic violence advocate on after-hours and weekend crisis hotline serving Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Deaf Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. On average I took one to two weeklong shifts a month where I was on duty 5pm-8am on weekdays and all day/night on weekends.

Children's Summer Program Coordinator – Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services **Summer 2014**

Part-time position, 15 hrs/week. Planned, coordinated, and managed five week summer field trip series for 20 children living in the Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services transitional housing program for survivors of domestic violence.

Deaf Summer Program Associate – Seattle Children's Hospital **Summer 2013**

Part-time position, 10 hrs/week. Provided programming and support to forty Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing children needing health assistance in a weekly program at Seattle Children's Hospital in the Clinical Mental Health Department. Program provided social and educational enrichment that focused on positive self-identity, peer social skills and improving language and communication skills in American Sign Language.

Practicum Student – Sound Mental Health Deaf Services **Sept 2012 – June 2013**

Experience included working with Deaf individuals who had severe anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, borderline personality disorder, developmental disabilities, and post-traumatic stress disorder. I assisted my clients in their needs for therapeutic treatment, housing, education, employment, and communication access and advocacy.

Children's Advocate Intern – ADWAS (Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services) **Summer 2011**

Ran weekly community nights for 25 families with children from 0-16 years old. Assisted with therapeutic programs for children who have experienced violence. Organized "In Her Shoes," a domestic violence simulation for the Seattle Deaf Community.

Organizing and Research Experience:

Researcher – “Working Toward Accessibility and Inclusion in the Classroom”

Sept 2013 – June 2014

Completed a quantitative study of professor’s feelings of preparedness and support in teaching students with Disabilities Seattle University College of Arts and Sciences as part of the Social Work Honors Program. The study had over 40 participants and resulted in the completion of a 50-page research thesis and presentation to faculty of the Sociology/Anthropology/Social Work Department.

Research Assistant – “The ‘Hearing’ Earnings Gap”

May 2013 – Present

Assisted an Economics Professor in her econometrics analysis of the American Communities Survey evaluating earnings between Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Hearing individuals after controls for variables such as education attainment, gender and professional field. As a part of this project, I co-presented at the International Intersectional Conference in Vancouver B.C.

Founder and President – Coalition for Students with Disabilities

Mar 2012 – June 2014

I started the first on-campus disability advocacy organization at Seattle University, providing a supportive space for students with Disabilities, education on campus, and advocacy for accessibility and inclusion on campus. In the first two years I led the group to secure:

- Disability representative in the Student Government
- Consideration of students with Disabilities in the university-wide working group on Diversity
- An additional staff hired to the Office of Disabilities Services
- Student petition to the university administration calling for increased resources garnering over 400 signatures

International Experience:

Global Justice Intern – Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD)

Jan 2014 – Mar 2014

- Part of the International Development Internship Program Cohort at Seattle University, a three quarter long program with a pre-formation class on International development in the fall, a quarter long abroad internship in a development NGO in the winter, and a synthesis class in the Spring.
- As an intern at the ECDD, I lived and worked in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia running English support classes for Deaf students and female students with physical disabilities at the University of Addis Ababa, served as a consultant for the Ethiopian National Association of the Deaf, and worked as a project assistant on several USAID, EU and UN funded Disability inclusion projects.

Honors:

Seattle University Hunthausen Award Recipient:

Considered to be Seattle University’s most prestigious honor, this award is given to one outstanding graduating senior, who embodies the mission and values of the university: integrity, faith, leadership and passion for learning, and who “live for the moment.”

Seattle University Sullivan Leadership Award:

A full scholarship, equal to tuition, room, and board for each of four years, designed to support students with a commitment to service, leadership, academic rigor, community, spirituality and global awareness. Awarded through a competitive process to nine students each year from a pool of approximately 350 applicants from 13 states.

Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship


Krista Colleague & Recipient of Service and Leadership Development Grant

Member of cohort leadership development community that provides mentorship and support to young adults engaged in service and committed to justice in our interconnected world.

2013-2014 Magis Advisory Board Member

Truman Scholarship Finalist: One of four finalists from Washington State from a highly selective national pool of more than 500 applicants.

2012 Seattle Innovation Fast Pitch Social Entrepreneurship Competition College Division Winner:



Named one of top presenters of more than 30 social ventures and received a \$5,000 for my non-profit Reach Out.
Parent Map Magazine – 2011 Superhero of Washington State Award

SEATTLE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
JULY 2015

16 members: Per SMC 3.14.920 Confirmed by City Council, all subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 7 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Commission- Appointed
- 1 Mayor-appointed

Roster:

*D	**G	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Start Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	M	1.	Member	Jonathan Porter	May 27, 2015	04/30/17	3rd	Mayor
6	F	2.	Member	Patricia Copeland	May 27, 2015	04/30/17	3rd	Mayor
		3.	Member	Vacant		04/30/15		Mayor
2	F	4.	Member	Hope Drummond	May 27, 2015	04/30/16	3rd	Mayor
6	M	5.	Member	Mark Adreon	May 27, 2015	04/30/16	3rd	Mayor
6	M	6.	Member	Steve Lewis	May 27, 2015	04/30/16	1st	Mayor
2	F	7.	Member	ChrisTiana Obey	May 27, 2015	04/30/17	1st	Mayor
1	F	8.	Member	Vicki Foster	12/11/14	04/30/16	3rd	City Council
6	M	9.	Member	Ryan Troyer	12/11/14	04/30/16	2nd	City Council
6	M	10.	Member	Mike Barta	7/8/13	04/30/17	3rd	City Council
6		11.	Member	Vacant		04/30/15		City Council
6	F	12.	Member	Deborah Witmer	12/11/14	04/30/16	3rd	City Council
6	M	13.	Member	Robert Canamar	7/8/13	04/30/17	2nd	City Council
6	M	14.	Member	Ivan Molton	12/11/14	04/30/16	1st	City Council
6	F	15.	Member	Diane Laurine	6/8/15	04/30/16	1st	Commission
1	F	16.	Get Engaged	Shandra Benito	9/1/15	8/31/16	1 term	Mayor

Diversity Chart:

	Diversity Chart:		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)		
	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	Asian-American	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	***Other	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	3	3	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Council	4	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comm	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GE	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7	7	2	5	2	3	0	0	0	7	0	0	0

Key:

- *D** List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
- **G** List *gender*, M or F
- ***Other** Includes diversity in any of the following: *race, gender and/or ability*