

Tariana Navas
Denver County Cultural Council

Sandra Sharp
1105 S. Cherry St. 4-201
Denver, CO 80246
skaysharp@yahoo.com
720.595.6747

March 10, 2020

Dear Tariana,

I am pleased to submit my application for a volunteer position on the Denver County Cultural Council. I have attached my application, answers to application questions, and my resume which all demonstrate my fit for this position. Most importantly though is my drive and passion for the importance of art and cultural diversity in order for a community to thrive.

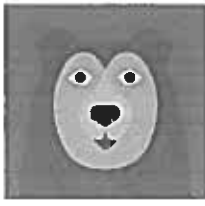
I moved to Denver from Western Colorado over a year ago. Since that time I have become very involved with our business and government community. I have been able to enjoy the wonderful local arts and cultural events, and I now look forward to becoming more involved with the cultural arts community. My involvement with similar activities and boards across the county will be a valuable assist.

I have been involved with the cultural arts in differing capacities for multiple years, from board and participant involvement with the ballet and opera in San Francisco to board membership with the Actor's Theatre in Santa Cruz. I also produced an arts display on the effects of solitary confinement at the Carbondale, Colorado library.

I look forward to discussing this opportunity with you and others with the Denver County Cultural Council.

Kindly,

Sandra



**DENVER COUNTY CULTURAL COUNCIL
APPLICATION**

Name Sandra Sharp

Address 1105 South Cherry St - 4-201 Zip 80246

Phone (W) _____ (H) _____ (C) 720.595.6747

E-Mail skaysharp@yahoo.com

Occupation/Employer CDLE/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Highest Level of Education or Degree Earned: MFA Year completed: 119

Race & Ethnicity: mixed

Are you a resident of the City and County of Denver? Yes No

Are you at least 21 years of age? Yes No

Are you a current board member or paid staff member of any organization applying for Tier III funding? Yes No

Are you willing to disclose any conflict of interest? Yes No

1) **QUALIFICATIONS:** What is your experience with arts, cultural, scientific or historical organizations? Describe the nature of your involvement, including the organization(s) and time period(s).

2) **EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:** Briefly describe your education and the knowledge and skills you would bring to the DCCC.

3) **VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** List and briefly describe your community and volunteer activities.

4) **REFERENCES:** List the name, phone number, and affiliation of 2 organizations/individuals with which you have worked in any of your community involvements in the past 5 years.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Please answer the questions stated above even if you attach a bio.
- If not selected for the DCCC would you be willing to serve on another volunteer panel?
- Is there anything that would adversely affect public confidence in your appointment? If yes, please explain.

Please submit applications to Tariana Navas-Nieves, Director, Cultural Affairs at Tariana.Navas@denvergov.org

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Denver County Cultural Council Application

1. **Qualifications:** My experience ranges from being a member of the San Francisco Ballet & Opera Guild, to creating and presenting a Pucha Kucka and art exhibit at the Carbondale Public Library on an individual's experience and art work during solitary confinement at CDOC, to performing as a supernumerary with the Joffrey Ballet.

My qualifications go beyond being involved with the arts, I also have excellent organizational skills. I am currently the chairperson for an event including government officials and 100+ local businesses. I have also organized numerous outreach events for CDLE in Western Colorado and most recently in Denver.

I am a fearless and successful advocate. I believe not only in the importance of Arts for a healthy society, but also in the importance of cultural equity and diversity.

2. **Education, Knowledge & Skill:** My under graduate degree is in Journalism and Communication Studies. I worked for as a news editor for KGNR Radio and then BBD&O Advertising as an account executive before returning to school to study psychology. As I returned to work after being a t stay-at-home mom, I had a column in the Winona Daily News, received a professional graduate certificate from UCLA in screenwriting. I optioned a screenplay and received my MFA in Creative Writing from the University of New Orleans. During my time as a stay-at-home mom I also was a member of the Santa Cruz Actor's Theatre and founded the Woman's Crisis Center of Southern Nevada.

3. **Volunteer/Community Involvement:** Currently in Denver I am on the Denver National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) Board of Directors. Recently I testified for the Secure Transit Bill and I do other advocacy work for Mental Health Colorado. I am also an ambassador for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. Here is a list of previous volunteer experience:

- Youth Zone: Restorative Justice Facilitator
- Member: CDLE Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- National Alliance Mental Illness – Board Member (Denver)
- VALE – Victims and Witnesses Assistance and Law Enforcement Board Member
- Garfield County Jail: Thinking for a Change Facilitator & Life Skills Facilitator
- Aspen Institute: Athens to Aspen Program
- Common Reader Committee
- Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club (Parent of the Year 2005)
- American Medical Association, Alliance (Winona County President 2000-2003)
- Crisis Center of Southern Nevada (Founder)

- Santa Cruz Rape Crisis Center
- Berkeley Suicide Prevention

4. References:

- a. NAMI (Board of Directors): Gary DiUbaldo, gad750@gmail.com
- b. Denver Chamber of Commerce (Ambassador): Rob Rose, 720-771-0286

I would be willing to serve on another volunteer panel.

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Professional Summary:

Accomplished and energetic leader of change with a solid history of achievement in social advocacy. Motivated leader with strong prioritization and persuasive abilities. Areas of expertise include Criminal Justice, Employment and Diversity and Inclusion.

Work Experience:

State of Colorado

2012-present

Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

Business Outreach Specialist

- Promote Diversity and Inclusion to local businesses and stakeholders
- Leader in building partnerships within the community including businesses, state government, health and human service agencies, chamber of commerce, and other stakeholders
- Labor Market Information/live statewide and national employment trend Subject Matter Expert
- Create curriculum and present job skills trainings to justice involved individuals, individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment
- Develop and present apprenticeship opportunities to job seekers and employers
- Presenter of ADA requirements to employers
- Presenter: Working Towards Recovery Conference
- Member of the National Work Based Learning Community and sponsored by the University of Arkansas to attend the NWBL Forum
- Peak Performer Award

Department of Labor and Employment

Employment Specialist/Case Manager

- Best Practice Award for Incarcerated/Homeless to Bridge Construction Flagger Program
- Developed Post-Incarceration Employment Program
- Member of original Statewide Business Leadership Team
- OJT – apprenticeship development/placement champion
- Responsible for knowledge of Employment Law Regulations.
- Trained job seeking skills to offenders at county jails and community corrections
- Developed and conducted staff training
- Youth Workforce Investment Act Case Manager
- Program monitoring for quality assurance/compliance
- Requested presenter at Alternative and Traditional Middle & High Schools
- Economic Development leader

Department of Corrections – Limon

Teacher I

- Curriculum development and instruction of the Customer Service/CIS program – (Pueblo Community College) - student body of medium and maximum-security offenders
- COPD hearing board
- Management of classroom budget and offender payroll
- Maintained highest statewide graduation rate

Colorado Mountain College

2010-2013

- Adjunct Faculty (English Composition, Student Success, Developmental Reading & Writing)
- Guest Lecturer (Shakespeare and Film Editing)
- Long-term Substitute (Literature for Change)

BOCES-Board of Corporative Educational Services

2009-2011

Records and Data Manager

- Advanced use of Excel and other data spreadsheets. Data management and data analysis (SEAS)
- Responsible for training resource staff on case management of IEP's
- Responsible for all state reporting

Education:

Master of Fine Arts

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

Professional Graduate Certificate

University of California, Los Angeles

Post-Graduate Course Work, Statistics

University of California; Berkeley, CA

Post-Graduate Course Work, Psychology

California State University, Sacramento, CA

Bachelor of Arts, Double Major: Communication Studies and Journalism - Minor Business Administration

California State University, Sacramento, CA

Publications:

bent but never broken - A Pecha Kucha, Art Exhibit and Literary Publication (into solitary confinement)

Boarder Boy - Screenplay.

Community Columnist - Winona Daily News.

Certifications and other training:

- Thinking for a Change – Instructor Certificate
- Human Centered Design – Facilitator
- ACCI Life Skills Facilitator II Certificate
- Ending the Silence – NAMI/Trainer
- Bring Your A Game to Work – Instructor Certificate
- Bridges Out of Poverty
- Suicide Prevention Hotline Facilitator
- Motivational Interviewing
- Restorative Justice Facilitator
- Veteran's Reintegration

Community Activities:

- Youth Zone: Restorative Justice Facilitator
- Member: CDLE Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Denver NAMI Board of Directors
- National Alliance Mental Illness – Board Member (Denver)
- VALE – Victims and Witnesses Assistance and Law Enforcement Board Member
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