

# Community Equity Advisory Board

January 9, 2024  
Noon - 1:00 pm  
Zoom meeting

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**Attendees:** Kurtis Enick, Van Kuno, Clarence Shaw, Lika Smith, Mindy Woods, Giselle Zapata-Garcia

**Absent:** John Agyapong, Amelia Bai, DanVon'ique Bletson-Reed, Taniela Tokailagi,

**Department**

**Staff:** Nicole Thomsen, Pia Sampaga-Khim, Abi Sauer, Kelly Grimsley, Samara Jameson-Hayden

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## Meeting Minutes

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### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Nicole Thomsen at 12:00. The meeting was held via Zoom video conference. There was a quorum present.

### Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Clarence Shaw and seconded by Lika Smith to approve the minutes of the meetings of July 11, 2023, September 12, 2023, October 10, 2023 and November 14, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

### Introduction of Snohomish County Children's Health Commission

Shakima Tozay, Vice Chair of the Commission, introduced the work she and others do on the Commission that was formed in the 1980's. The Committee meets every fourth Wednesday of each month and are currently composed of about 25 members. The Commission was created to advise the county on issues that impact infants, children and youth. They can amplify the voices of children and youth, also work in policy and advocacy to create healthier, equitable communities. One way that it is accomplished is through the dissemination of their annual report each year that is sent to the County Council highlighting focus areas. Currently the focus areas are perinatal internal health, access to healthcare and behavioral health and early childhood education. Throughout the year the members meet and figure out how to increase awareness about issues that are impacting our children and youth within those focus areas and then make recommendations to the County Council. Recently the Commission has been spearheading an equity initiative. Shakima explained that the Commission would like to see how they can work together with the Equity Board and welcomed anyone to come to their meetings. [Shakima.Tozay@snoco.org](mailto:Shakima.Tozay@snoco.org)

### Update – New Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Lead staff position

Nicole explained Kurtis, Clarence and Giselle along with Department staff Pia, Samara and Nicole have been involved in various capacities with the hiring process. There has already been one round of interviews, but a successful candidate was not found. The group did have an incredible dialogue and conversation which showed the value of having community voices at the table and meaningfully engaged in the process. The position was re-posted and the second round of interviews will be held January 12, 2024.

### Next Meeting

February 13, 2024, 12:00 - 1:30PM via Zoom