

Lily Sussman

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Status

Name Lily Sussman
Application Date 11/6/2023
Expiration Date 11/6/2033
Status Received

Board	Vacancies	Status
Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Advisory Board	11	Pending

Basic Information

Name
Lily Sussman

Brief resume of educational background:
Masters of Science in Public Health-Johns Hopkins University
Masters of Arts in Teaching-National Louis University
BA in International Affairs--Northeastern University

I'm constantly learning. I have additional trainings/certifications in facilitation, trauma-informed yoga, and more. I've participated in training on equity, diversity and inclusion/helped administer in previous jobs.

Work experience you feel is relevant to this particular board:
Public health and evaluation: My work is about social impact and always has been. Currently I help organizations better use data to increase their impact. I do this through facilitation, planning, and coaching. Previous titles have included behavioral health epidemiologist, Director of Research and Evaluation, research assistant and consultant. Along the way I've worked with many diverse individuals and organizations and continually learned and evaluated my own privileges and biases.

Teaching: as a teacher, the vast majority of students I worked with were from families with low-income as a result of cycles of oppression. The circumstances of their community was a result of racism, including housing discrimination, drug policy, and the jailing of black men. The community I worked in was affected by violence, lack of access to fresh and healthy food, low employment opportunities, subpar housing and more. This experience early in my career had a huge impact on my desire to work for systemic changes in our society.

In the past year, I've started my own women-owned small business consulting practice. Part of my mission is to merge my experience in direct service and systems. I believe those most impacted by programs, policies and societal structures are the voices which must be centered to bring about sustainable change and justice. Thus, in my consulting work I push partners to include the intended beneficiaries of their programs in the planning and review process. My work is inspired by Culturally Relevant and Equitable Evaluation (CREE) and participatory approaches, which provide tangible methods for centering equity, cultural awareness, and a social justice perspective in community based projects.

As an advisory board member, I bring a strong foundation of experience and tools, experience with analytical and critical thinking, and a desire to deepen my practice and humbly learn from others with lived experience.

Previous community service (boards, etc):
Current board service: Earth Within Girls (Missoula, MT)
I've volunteered most of my career, mostly with youth--e.g.

Contact Information

Address
[Redacted]

Resident
Yes

Email
[Redacted]

Phone
[Redacted]

Occupation

Employer
LAS Visions LLC
Occupation
Public Health Practitioner and Consultant

Court Appointed Special Advocate, tutor, currently board member at Earth Within Girls who supports in classroom as needed.

Number of years as a resident of Missoula County:

3.5

Please list three personal references and explain why you wish to serve on this board or committee.

It believe I will contribute in the ways I've explained, and it's very aligned with my personal and professional work and values.

References: If you let me know you're contacting them, I'll give them a heads-up. Thanks!

Jenny Bender
Supervisor for 3 years at Colorado CASA

[REDACTED]

Rachel Huff Doria
Owner of RHD LLC, subcontracted on recent projects

[REDACTED]

Taylor Soderborg
MD/Phd friend/former teacher

[REDACTED]

Other Questions

Question #2

How long have you lived in Montana?

3 years, plus one summer.

Question #3

JEDI - How long have you lived in Missoula County? (Where and how long you have lived in a Montana and Missoula County is only considered to ensure board members represent residents with different experiences within the City of Missoula and across Missoula County.)

3 years, plus one summer.

Question #5

JEDI - I understand that information provided in board member application is subject to public review. Missoula County & the City of Missoula take the privacy of applicants seriously and will not share applicant contact or pronoun information.

Yes

Question #6

JEDI - Three possible terms exist for initial members of the JEDI Advisory Board. Please select the term you would prefer to serve (terms expiring in less than three years do not count against term limits):

Term expires June 30, 2027

Question #7

JEDI - What is your interest in service on the JEDI Advisory Board?

I strongly believe in this work and think I can help move it forward as an advisory board member. My background is a mix of direct service work as a special education teacher, and

systems work, as a public health practitioner. Through this background I've gained a deep understanding on a personal and professional level of how systemic racism, sexism, ableism (all isms), impact all facets of life. As a board member I would bring an analytical perspective informed by my understanding of the social determinants of health, experience with group dynamics and facilitation, and a deep desire to continue to learn and listen to other community members. I'm excited for the opportunity to partner with other dedicated residents and elected officials to increase equitable and just access to public resources and opportunities in Missoula. PS-- for the last question it required a choice of terms, however I'm fine with any of the options.

Question #8

JEDI - From the following two groups, please select four of your strongest attributes:

Collaborative Spirit: Ability to work collaboratively with others, fostering a sense of teamwork and shared purpose., Effective Communication: Ability to communicate respectfully and effectively across different cultural and social groups.

Question #9

JEDI - attributes continued:

Evaluation and Feedback: Willingness to solicit and provide constructive feedback to promote continuous improvement., Problem Solving: Ability to identify issues and barriers related to JEDI and devise effective, inclusive solutions that address the root causes and promote positive outcomes.

Question #10

JEDI - Attributes continued: Please specify any additional attributes or skills you possess that would contribute to the JEDI Advisory Board:

Data--the work I do includes data-informed decision-making, and helping organizations collect and use data effectively and inclusively--e.g. centering equity. I think this perspective /skill set could be helpful to ensure we're making recommendations based off available information, and also thinking about equitable use of data. A lot of the attributes listed are familiar to me from my work in public health, facilitation/strategic planning and evaluation. I would also add, I'm available! I will take the time to prioritize this as I think it's incredibly important.

Question #11

JEDI (Optional) Please share more about your interests, skills, attributes, or any other relevant information that supports the Board's capacity to serve. Please use this space to link to online media you wish to included in your application. You can also submit attachments (writings, photos, or other media) by emailing ebuchholz@missoulacounty.us.

I'm happy to submit any other supporting documentation. The board closely aligns with my personal values and the work I dedicate myself to professionally. LinkedIn here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lilysussman/> Work website here: <https://lasvisions.com/>

Question #12

JEDI - Participation Consideration: In forming this Board, we wish to create a supportive and accessible environment, and it is crucial to understand and address any potential barriers that might affect participation in the application process and the Advisory Board. There will be an opportunity to share

anything impacting your continued involvement in the selection process and/or Advisory Board; this can include, but is not limited to, childcare, transportation, parking, accessibility, language, or other circumstances.

N/A

LILY A. SUSSMAN

845.304.0757 | lily@lasvisions.com | Missoula, MT

Summary: Interdisciplinary background in public health, evaluation, and education, with proven track record of leading multi-partner evaluations, and facilitating diverse professionals and lived experts to consensus. I pair my technical background in evaluation and epidemiology with my passion for guiding collaborative, community-driven projects. I am proud to call Missoula home and eager to work with others contributing to our community.

EXPERIENCE

Founder and Consultant

January 2022-Present

LAS Visions LLC

Missoula, MT

- Spearhead and collaborate on comprehensive program evaluations, community needs assessments, and strategic initiatives with diverse partners, including national and state-based nonprofits and government agencies
- Champion a collaborative and participatory approach, informed by the principles of Culturally Responsive and Equitable Evaluation (CREE) and other participatory methods
- Utilize a wide range of facilitation modalities, including Technology of Participation (TOP) and Emergent Strategies to ensure actionable outcomes and meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Deliver high-impact workshops and training sessions on an array of data-related topics, equipping teams with the skills needed for proficient data collection, rigorous analysis, and compelling data storytelling.

Director of Evaluation and Learning

May-December 2021

Program and Data Evaluator

December 2018-May 2021

Colorado CASA (Colorado CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates))

Denver, CO

- Led development and implementation of inaugural monitoring and evaluation for CASA in Colorado network, which includes 18 programs, hundreds of staff, and thousands of volunteers
- Applied principles of utilization focused and participatory evaluation to engage stakeholders in inclusive, strength-based process, emphasizing actionable data for program improvement and decision-making
- Facilitated and coordinated statewide committees, training and capacity building services for staff and volunteers
- Presented and participated in statewide and national committees, conferences and convenings
- Trained and onboarded position replacement

Epidemiologist

July 2017-November 2018

Boulder County Public Health

Boulder, CO

- Expanded access and use of behavioral health data to better inform county priorities and progress
- Facilitated data work group for the Opioid Advisory Group, including indicator creation for public facing dashboard
- Served as internal consultant on the Health Planning and Evaluation team; supported department-wide ad hoc requests and long-term projects including data collection, evaluation consultation, and data visualization
- Presented data to professional and lay audiences at national health conferences, local coalitions and events
- Supported agency-wide initiatives including strategic planning, the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and the Public Health Improvement Process (PHIP)

Food Communities and Public Health Research Assistant

September 2016-June 2017

Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future

Baltimore, MD

- Provided technical assistance and resources to local food policy councils(FPC) across the United States

- Analyzed qualitative data for Baltimore Food Planning Initiative, compiled and disseminated report
- Researched relevant legislation, policies and funding opportunities;
- Authored annual Food Policy Councils Report (2016), based on analysis of survey data over 300 FPC

Teaching Assistant

January 2016-June 2017

Johns Hopkins School of Public Health

Baltimore, MD

- Assisted professors in school of public health with the following graduate level courses: Fundamentals of Program Evaluation, Professional Epidemiology Methods, and Introduction to Social Epidemiology

Qualitative Research Assistant

September 2016-May 2017

Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

Baltimore, MD

- Conducted qualitative research to understand parents' perceptions of their children's asthma control as compared to the medical definition of asthma control
- Designed and implemented research protocol, obtained IRB approval, followed privacy guidelines

Evaluator for Missoula Foster Child Health Program

Summer 2016

Missoula City-County Health Department

Missoula, MT

- Collaborated with Missoula-City County Health Department, Providence Health & Services, and Child Protective Services to evaluate tri-agency partnership that aims improve health outcomes for children in foster care
- Conducted qualitative research including key informant interviews, case-studies and surveys
- Co-wrote final report, including findings and recommendations

Center for Adolescent Health Research Assistant

November 2015-October 2016

Center for Adolescent Health (CAH) at JHSPH

Baltimore, MD

- Conducted key informant interviews to identify essential elements of trauma-informed schools
- Cleaned and analyzed school wellness survey data using Stata
- Conducted crosswalk of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative (TPPI) in preparation for program evaluation
- Prepped grant funding and IRB applications

Special Education Teacher

June 2010-June 2015

Urban Prep Academy, Learn Excel, Lighthouse Academy

Chicago, IL

- Taught academic, and social and emotional skills based on Common Core standards and students' IEPs
- Documented, analyzed and shared students' progress toward individual goals and proficiency standards
- Collaborated with social workers, psychologists, caseworkers and parents/guardians to develop Individualized Education Programs for students with learning disabilities, behavior challenges, ADHD, development delays, etc
- Managed up to three teaching assistants, including delegating responsibilities, and creating schedules

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

2015-2017

- Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH)
- Certificate in Epidemiology for Public Health Professionals
- Certificate in Maternal and Child Health

Baltimore, MD

National Louis University

2010-2012

- Master of Arts in Teaching

Chicago, IL

Northeastern University

2006-2010

- Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs

Boston, MA