



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE
CITY OF DULUTH
VACANT SECOND DISTRICT CITY COUNCILOR POSITION

RECEIVED
JAN 30 2014
CITY CLERKS OFFICE

INSTRUCTIONS: (1) Print the application. (2) Fill in your information. Please remember to SIGN the application below. (3) Mail or deliver to the address below by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2014.

**ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM
AND ANY ATTACHMENTS ARE PUBLIC.**

NAME Angie Miller

HOME ADDRESS 228 S. 19th Ave East

TELEPHONE (work) 218-726-1665 (home) —

(cell) 218-481-3321 (e-mail) omiller228@msn.com

VOCATION, OCCUPATION, EMPLOYMENT Community Action Duluth Director

PLEASE ATTACH A STATEMENT AS TO WHY YOU ARE APPLYING AND WHAT ASSETS YOU WOULD BRING TO THE CITY COUNCIL. YOU MAY ALSO ATTACH A RESUME.

SIGNATURE: Angie Miller DATE: 1/30/2014

****PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN & DATE THE APPLICATION****

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- NOTE:**
- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Council interviews will be on Thursday, February 6, 2014, at 5:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, City Hall. This is the only notice you will receive.
 - Applicants must be 21 years of age and an eligible voter in the 2nd District of the City of Duluth.
 - The deadline for submitting applications to the City Clerk's Office, 330 City Hall, 411 W. 1st St., Duluth, MN 55802, is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2014.

Angie Miller's Application for Appointment to the Second District City Councilor Position

Why I am applying:

As stated in the mission statement for the Duluth City Council, I'm ready, willing and able to contribute my time and energy to "developing effective public policy rooted in citizen involvement that results in excellent municipal services and creates a thriving community prepared for the challenges of the future".

I believe I have the expertise and passion needed by the City Council in the next 2 years, especially in the areas of addressing complex housing and poverty issues. I have devoted my professional life to public service in the non-profit sector and the 4 months I recently spent as Interim St. Louis County Commissioner made me realize I am interested in expanding my public service to the policy-making arena as well.

Many positive things are now happening in Duluth thanks to the leadership of Mayor Don Ness, the City Council, the business community and local non-profits. It is an exciting time to be a Duluthian and I'd relish an opportunity to directly contribute to making our city an even better place for all residents as a City Councilor.

I love Duluth and I have lived here for most of the last 35 years. I hope that one or both of my grown children will return to Duluth some day and I am motivated to make Duluth an even better city for my future grandchildren. As part of this, I'm interested in creating new housing opportunities in Duluth for all income levels. A thriving city needs sufficient housing opportunities that exist across all demographics whether for homeless/low income populations, middle income young professionals or "empty nesters" searching for newer, accessible, energy efficient homes. I have the passion and knowledge to participate in creating public policy that will encourage this kind of development.

The non-profit sector is a major economic engine in the City of Duluth and recent data from the MN Council of Non-Profits shows that excluding hospital employees, there are over 10,945 employees of nonprofits in MN. The average weekly wage of these workers in 2013 was \$769. Nonprofits are an important sector of the Duluth economy and nonprofits play an important role in creating a vibrant city. My experience and knowledge in the nonprofit arena will also be useful to the City Council.

Finally, I'm applying to be on the City Council because I'm painfully aware that Steve's work as a public servant was cut short and that there's still much work that needs to be done. I'm inspired to do all I can to continue his legacy of service and leadership. Appointment to the City Council would be the perfect opportunity to combine my expertise with my commitment to continuing some of Steve's work.

Professional Assets I would bring the City Council:

- **Management Experience** - As the director of Community Action Duluth I manage 25 employees, a \$1.5 million dollar budget (from 50 different sources) and an array of programs and services that create opportunities for people with low incomes to achieve their aspirations and goals.

- **St. Louis County Board** - During my 4 months I gained perspective on the potential for cities and counties to work together, thereby creating efficiencies. I also gained experience with, and an appreciation for, working with Board Members having very different backgrounds and perspectives than mine. These experiences would prove directly relevant and beneficial as a City Councilor whether it's as the City seeks ways to create cost saving measures with other units of governments, or at Council meetings where controversial issues are debated.
- **Track record of innovation** - I have implemented cutting edge Financial Opportunity Center programming at Community Action Duluth, in partnership with Duluth LISC. Our work is getting national attention for outcomes such as job placement and increased net income, net worth and credit scores. In the last year I've done presentations at national conferences in Detroit, Florida and Chicago where best practices in such innovative strategies in poverty reduction are shared.
- **Creative partnerships** - In the last 4 years, Community Action Duluth has worked with City of Duluth Parks and Rec for trail repair after the flood, Stream Corps tree planting, and Seeds of Success vegetable growing on vacant City of Duluth land; demonstrating that innovative partnerships between City and non-profits results in mutually beneficial outcomes.
- **Commitment to addressing racial and economic disparities** - Over the last 5 years I have made personal and professional commitments to consistently and intentionally acknowledge and address racial and economic disparities. Many Duluth institutions are affected by these disparities and are looking for new and creative ways to address disparities. In my tenure as Executive Director, Community Action Duluth has attracted and retained a very racially diverse staff and board. I view this as a major accomplishment of my career.
- **Board Member of Center City Housing** - a leading housing developer in Duluth and across Minnesota (2008-present).
- **Knowledge and expertise in housing issues** - as a HUD Certified Housing Counselor (2003-2010).

Personal Assets:

- A leadership style that is based on developing collaborative relationships, listening more than talking, civility, compromise, assuming good will and using creativity to find solutions.
- A deep appreciation for the trails and natural beauty of Duluth and a desire to protect these valuable assets.
- 6 years living with people experiencing homelessness and 8 years caring for foster children in my home has given me an intimate and personal perspective on the issues of poverty which informs my work every day
- The day-to-day experience of living on 19th Avenue East and Jefferson Street in the midst of a diverse mix of rental and home ownership where college students and families live side by side.

Angie Miller

Experience

July 2008 - present Community Action Duluth Executive Director

- Manage over \$1,600,000 in state, federal and foundation grants and a staff of 25 to provide services annually to over 2200 people with low-incomes
- Provide leadership in the development of new programs and services such as long term Employment and Financial Coaching, the region's largest Free Tax Preparation operation, an award winning employment program - Seeds of Success, JumpStart - the only affordable car purchase program in Duluth, an innovative matched savings program that has helped hundreds of Duluthians to purchase a home, capitalize a business and attend post secondary education, leadership development classes and community engagement opportunities for people with low incomes, an evening GED completion program and a health and wellness program designed to address unique needs of people in poverty.
- Assure agency compliance with relevant governmental, regulatory, and funding body requirements, and with the policies and guidelines established by the Board of Directors
- Provide strong and innovative leadership for a highly motivated management team and staff committed to the mission and goals of the organization
- Oversee hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of staff
- Strengthen ties with existing funders, identify new funding opportunities, and oversee the development of grants and contracts that meet objectives established by the Board
- Develop, direct, and implement a comprehensive fundraising plan to increase financial resources from individual, corporate, foundation, and government resources
- Develop and oversee public relation programs and activities to increase community awareness, confidence, and trust in the agency and its mission
- Provide support and leadership through open and regular communication to assist a Board of Directors in meeting their governance responsibilities
- Collaborate with and maintain positive relations with community partners, government officials, organizations, and businesses that can assist in advancing the agency's mission and vision

2003 -2008 Community Action Duluth Associate Director/Assets Program Manager

1998-2003 North Star Community Development Corporation Child Care Program Mgr

- Collaborated with Child Care Resource and Referral Agency to create Project Provider 2000 - a comprehensive training and support project for providers in the seven county Arrowhead Region. This project increased the retention rate for new providers by over 20%.
- Developed curriculum and taught a 16-hour business skills class for family child care providers
- Responsible for providing one-to-one technical assistance and support to low and moderate income people interested in developing a family

childcare business

- Managed loan program for low and moderate income child care providers. Duties include assisting providers to develop business plans, underwriting loans and loan follow up.

Education

M.S.W. School of Social Development University of MN - Duluth

B.S.W. Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN

MN Council of Non-Profits Senior Management Leadership Institute 8 month progra

Awards

YWCA Woman of Distinction 2007

Boards

St. Louis County Interim Commissioner

Sept. 2013 - Jan. 2014

Center City Housing 2008 - present

MN Council of Non-Profits 2012 -present

LISC Local Advisory Board 2008 - present

Other

St Louis County Foster Parent for primarily for newborns and infants 1997-2003

Helped start Loaves and Fishes Community in 1989