

King County Immigrant and Refugee Commission VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Background

On Feb 27, 2018 King County Executive Dow Constantine and members of the County Council signed legislation creating an Immigrant and Refugee Commission, a permanent body committed to integrating, strengthening and valuing immigrant and refugee communities and upholding the county's commitment as a welcoming community. The Commission, which meets monthly, works to achieve fair and equitable access to county services for immigrant and refugee communities, improve opportunities for civic engagement, set annual goals, and participate in important dialogue on County policies and practices that impact the community. To learn more about the details of Ordinance 18653 for the establishment of a King County immigrant and refugee commission please [click here](#).

Responsibilities

Thirteen Commissioners from across King County work together to identify, elevate and develop shared strategies and solutions; streamline and strengthen efforts; and bring more resources to the most pressing issues affecting immigrant and refugee communities. Given the importance of place as a determinant of equity and the accelerated growth of immigrant and refugee populations outside of the City of Seattle, the County's immigrant and refugee integration agenda will include a specific focus on understanding and addressing challenges faced by communities living in smaller cities and unincorporated areas of the County. Specific Commissioner duties include:

- Assisting and advising the County Executive, County Council, offices of assessor, sheriff, prosecuting attorney, and elections, and all other departments and divisions on issues, programs, policies, and legislation impacting immigrant and refugee communities;
- Promoting civic participation and government representation (including working to encourage hiring in County government, and representation on boards, commissions, and elected offices), of immigrant and refugee community members;
- Collaborating with all levels of government to ensure effective outreach to and engagement of immigrant communities and refugee communities and advise on County's role with other government entities;
- Assisting with the development and implementation of King County policies and regulations protecting and impacting immigrant and refugee communities;
- Evaluating County programs and services from the perspective of immigrant and refugee communities;
- Helping develop and/or review County plans to ensure that the interests of immigrants and refugees are given high priority.

Qualifications

- Commissioners must reside in King County and be immersed in one or more immigrant/refugee communities
- Commissioners shall reflect the diversity of ethnicities, professional backgrounds, socioeconomic status, and geographic areas that make up the fabric of our communities

- Commissioners should be well-versed on the issues affecting immigrant and refugee communities locally as well as nationally
- People representing immigrant-led and/or faith-based organizations are encouraged to apply
- People who have had personal experiences as refugees or asylees are encouraged to apply
- Socioeconomic status, gender diversity, age, sexual orientation, and ethnic and racial diversity will be considered in the composition of the Commission

Questions

If you have any questions, please email us at kcirc@kingcounty.gov.