

From: [Ilsa Lund](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support for Mary Kate Bacalao/Local Homeless Coordinating Board candidate
Date: Monday, April 4, 2022 10:29:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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I'm writing to offer my unconditional support of Mary Kate Bacalao to sit on the Local Homeless Coordinating Board. She is a fierce advocate for people experiencing homelessness, a champion for equity, and a tireless leader in the homeless response system. She also has a depth of knowledge about HUD and the CoC process. The LHCB will be well-served by her.

Sincerely,

Ilsa Lund
Chief of Strategy
Larkin Street Youth Services
134 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94109
Cell – 347-267-1321
Pronouns: she/her



Larkin Street's mission is to create a continuum of services that inspires youth to move beyond the street. We will nurture potential, promote dignity, and support bold steps by all.

We acknowledge that we live and work on the unceded ancestral homeland of the [Ramaytush Ohlone](#) peoples, who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula.

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April 4, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Peskin
Chair, Rules Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102



Submitted via electronic mail

Re: File #220184 — Appointment to the Local Homeless Coordinating Board — Letter of Support for Mary Kate Bacalao

Dear Supervisor Peskin:

On behalf of GLIDE, we proudly and enthusiastically offer our support for the appointment of Mary Kate Bacalao to the Local Homeless Coordinating Board (LHCB). Mary Kate's career has been founded in improving opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, and we have the utmost respect for and faith in her as an advocate for the people of San Francisco.

Mary Kate is the director of external affairs and policy at Compass Family Services, where she leads policy and advocacy efforts to improve systems and increase resources to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. She has been an instrumental force as the co-chair of the Homeless Emergency Service Providers Association (HESPA), a coalition of over 30 community-based agencies with deep roots in communities impacted by homelessness and poverty. Previously, she served as the director of public funding at Larkin Street Youth Services, where she raised and maintained the agency's portfolio of federal, state, and local public contracts for youth housing and services. She also advised HUD-funded Continuums of Care and facilitated county-level strategic planning to end homelessness as a staff attorney at HomeBase.

Mary Kate's skills and accomplishments as an organizer, advocate, attorney, and policy professional, her exceptional dedication and compassion — especially for those living at the extreme edge of poverty and marginalization — all make her an ideal member of the LHCB. Her qualifications are exemplary and we are confident her inclusion will help the LHCB fulfill its obligation to the community. For questions about the organization's position, please write me at wsaver@glide.org.

Sincerely,

Wesley Saver
Senior Policy Manager, GLIDE

Cc: Victor Young, victor.young@sfgov.org

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Peskin
Chair, Rules Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102



Submitted via electronic mail

Re: File #220184 — Appointment to the Local Homeless Coordinating Board — Letter of Support for Gary McCoy

Dear Supervisor Peskin:

On behalf of GLIDE, we proudly and enthusiastically offer our support for the appointment of Gary McCoy to Seat 8 on the Local Homeless Coordinating Board (LHCB). Gary's career has been founded in improving opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, and we have the utmost respect for and faith in him as an advocate for the people of San Francisco.

Gary's expertise is keen and lived; he experienced homelessness as a young adult, and lived on the streets of San Francisco throughout his twenties. He knows what it is like to be where many of our neighbors and loved ones currently are, and he also knows just as intimately wider community concerns.

An instrumental force in his various roles at the San Francisco Shelter Monitoring Committee and the California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, Gary has been heavily involved in advocating for policies and spearheading public health responses that directly relate to people experiencing homelessness, people in recovery from substance use disorder, and life-saving harm-reduction approaches for people who use drugs. He is currently Vice President of Policy & Public Affairs for HealthRIGHT 360, a non-profit provider of substance use disorder treatment, mental health services, and primary care to over 49,000 Californians annually.

Gary's skills and accomplishments as a community organizer, advocate, and policy professional, his exceptional dedication and compassion— especially for those living at the extreme edge of poverty and social isolation — and his lived experience, all recommend him as an ideal member of the LHCB. We simply cannot imagine a more qualified or promising member than Gary McCoy, and are confident his inclusion will help the LHCB fulfill its obligation to the community. For questions about the organization's position, please write me at wsaver@glide.org.

Sincerely,

Wesley Saver
Senior Policy Manager, GLIDE

Cc: Victor Young, victor.young@sfgov.org

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San Francisco, CA 94102

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