## Interests & Experiences

## Special Expertise, Experience, or Interest in This Area?

I have a deep understanding of how mental illness affects individuals and families. Furthermore, I know from seeing loved ones in treatment how heartbreaking it is when a family member has to leave and seek services elsewhere and how dangerous it can be when a person does not have access to proper mental health services and is instead sent to an unsecured ER bed, or a jail cell. I also have professional skills that would benefit the Advisory Board. My work since arriving in Mendocino County in 2013 has consistently been to build community and create lasting resources for the future through the Healthy Mendocino Project and through my work with the Community Foundation of Mendocino County. I have served on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board since 2018, serving as chairperson in 2020. I have worked with organizations and volunteers across the county on a wide spectrum of grant projects in diverse areas such as education, arts, community health, historical preservation, environmental and economic development. I am a Leadership Mendocino Class XXV alumna, which has deepened my connections and understanding of issues across the county. Prior to coming to California, I assisted with the development of a \$10 million combined Head Start, Family Resource Center, and Food Bank in Coos Bay, Oregon. The project used a complex arrangement of funding including a Community Development Block Grant, USDA Rural Development Loan and New Market Tax Credits. Through my education I have developed a solid base of writing skills as well as research and analytic capacity. My professional experience has rounded out this foundation with public speaking, meeting facilitation, grant writing, as well as strong technical abilities. I look forward to bringing theses skills to the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee.

Michelle Rich Resume 12.29.20	<u>).pdf</u>	
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Upload Additional Supporting Documents		
Upload Additional Supporting Documents	_	

## Certification

Please read the following statements and indicate your acceptance thereof.

I hereby certify that I am a registered voter in the State of California, County of Mendocino, a citizen of the United States, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election. I am not imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony. I certify under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the information on this application is true and correct. I understand that assuming this public responsibility could result in public knowledge of my background and/or qualifications, including financial interests. Applications will be kept on file for one year.

✓ I Agree \*