



STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Terri Thao

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

Member

Minnesota Housing Finance Authority

Effective: July 3, 2024

Expires: January 3, 2028

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed June 28, 2024.



Tim Walz, GOVERNOR

Steve Simon, SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed June 28, 2024
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State
Steve Simon

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Reappointment

President of the Senate

Application for the position Public Member Application Date: 12/21/2023 11:14:51 AM

Note: If your application needs to be amended, including updates to any uploaded documents, contact open.appointments@state.mn.us. Please provide your name, board, position you've applied to, and any other documentation you'd like included in your application along with a brief summary of your request.

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Housing Finance Agency

Position: Public Member

Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Terri Thao

Phone: (651) 560-3456

County: Hennepin

Recommended by the Appointing Authority: True

Mn House District: 67A

US House District: 4

Part III: Appending Documentation

Cover Letter and Resume

Type	File Type
Cover Letter	application/pdf
Resume	application/pdf

Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type	File Name
No additional documents found.	

Part V: Signature

Signature: Terri Thao

Date: 12/21/2023 11:14:51 AM

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TERRI THAO

1492 Clarence Street
Saint Paul, MN 55106

Phone: (651) 329-0824

Email: territhao1@gmail.com

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Work Experience

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Program Director, Local Initiatives and Opportunities

(January 2022-Current)

Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies (MACP), Eden Prairie, MN consists of two grantmaking entities, the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation (MACF) and Anne Ray Foundation (ARF) who share a common mission of providing meaningful assistance and support to society, the arts, and the environment.

- Lead in the development, evaluation, and administration of three grant portfolios at MACP: the MACP Opportunity Fund/Local Initiatives Program, Program Area Fund, and Anne Ray Opportunity Fund totaling over \$30 million in annual giving.
- Develop grantmaking strategies for the three portfolios with Local Initiatives team (funding mostly in Minnesota) and with program leadership across the other seven domain/program areas at MACP in partnership with broader MACP leadership and board members.
- Cultivate and deepen relationships with nonprofits in the state of Minnesota as well as with other philanthropic institutions working and funding in Minnesota.
- Serve on program leadership team and internal committees addressing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) initiatives and other internal interests and priorities.
- Supervise Local Initiatives team of program officer, program associate, and administrative assistant.

Program Director

(January 2013-December 2021)

Nexus Community Partners, St. Paul, MN: Nexus Community Partners is a community building intermediary whose mission is to build more engaged and powerful Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. Nexus strengthens organizations, develops innovative initiatives, and aligns and amplifies resources.

- Provided leadership, work direction and supervision to staff to meet performance goals and build a broad collaborative network of 40 partners.
- Served as member of Nexus' team of program directors to share and shape program strategies and learnings across the organization.
- Lead the adaptation of the Boards and Commissions' Leadership Institute (BCLI) model from Oakland-based Urban Habitat for the Twin Cities. The BCLI identifies, trains and places indigenous and communities of color on municipal, regional, and state boards and commissions in support of a racially equitable outcomes. Key program issue areas: economic development, health, housing, transit, and workforce development.
- Developed BCLI program strategy, curriculum design and delivery focused on adult learners; facilitated trainings; tracked and created developmental and outcome-based program evaluation; coordinated all fundraising and administrative aspects of the BCLI Program; and, graduated over 100 community leaders, many of whom are now public policy professionals and serve as elected and appointed officials in Minnesota.
- Deepened leadership development portfolio for Nexus, which includes convening, mapping, and offering program design feedback of other local leadership development programs for greater impact, training on civic engagement, equity, and leadership to other local leadership programs. Secured and executed four consulting contracts for Nexus' leadership work with local organizations and state government.

- Supervised BCLI program manager and program assistant.

Program Officer

(May 2008-December 2012)

- Responsible for \$75,000 grant portfolio in the South Minneapolis geographic focus area which consisted of over a dozen grantees in the areas of community engagement and community economic revitalization.
- Established relationships with over a dozen informal and formal organizations to determine fit for Nexus grant support; reviewed proposals, wrote summaries and presented grants to Nexus Grants Committee and Board of Directors for approval; monitored grantee progress; and, provided technical and strategic assistance to grantees on issues of program evaluation, fundraising and administrative functions.
- Designed, fundraised, evaluated, and managed project connecting technology and community building called "Communities Connect through Technology" which provided free laptops, internet service and training to 20 immigrant and refugee families in Minneapolis and St. Paul.
- Assisted in continued program refinement and strategy of other Nexus initiatives such as the East Side Housing Initiative in St. Paul and Center for Working Families project.
- Assisted in securing general operating and project funding for Nexus from local and national foundations.
- Lead finance and human resources staff for the organization; assisted with setting up internal finances and human resources system during formal IRS incorporation and separation from previous fiscal agent.

Program Associate

(April 2004-April 2008)

- Assisted in the research and program development of several projects for a community building intermediary working in three geographic areas in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Projects include the marketing of Minneapolis commercial corridor Lake Street during large reconstruction, a housing initiative aimed at increasing home ownership among communities of color on the East Side of St. Paul, the creation of a local website the Twin Cities Beehive, and the Center for Working Families project focused on increasing asset and wealth creation on both the East Side of St. Paul and in South Minneapolis.
- Supported in the strategic planning of the transition from a community development focus to a community building intermediary.
- Secured funding for the organization through writing and/or editing grants for the organization; ensured report compliance with funders and served as grant administrator for all of Nexus' grantees.
- Responsible for implementing Nexus' evaluation and assisted in creation of database to track outcomes.

Community Faculty Instructor, Masters in Advocacy and Political Leadership (MAPL) Program

(January 2020-June 2022)

Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN: Metropolitan State enrolls 3,500 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The Masters in Advocacy and Political Leadership Program teaches students how to ethically bring about social change and influence public policy.

- Serve as an instructor developing curriculum, teaching students and grading assignments for two courses: Political & Advocacy Leadership and Organizing and Communication for Advocacy.

Research Fellow

(September 2003-May 2004)

Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Minneapolis, MN

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Terri Thao Resume
Page 2 of 4

President of the Senate

- Supported the instruction of two Humphrey School courses, Introduction to Policy Analysis and Racial Inequality and Public Policy.
- Assisted in creation of syllabus; met with students regarding their questions concerns about the course topics and readings; and used WebCT system as technical tool to post syllabus and class readings.

Community Program Specialist

(June 2002-June 2003)

Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Minneapolis, MN: The Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice is dedicated to finding solutions to racial and ethnic inequality. Using an integrated model of research, dialogue, and community partnerships, the center guides and empowers policymakers and community leaders in developing and promoting solutions to the problems of racism and racial and ethnic inequality.

- Worked on the evaluating the effectiveness of community based after school initiatives; convened two advisory committees to provide guidance for the project; secured funding for project; and secured test scores from three metropolitan school districts for data analysis.
- Coordinated for the Minneapolis component of the Executive Leadership Institute (ELI), a three-day intensive training program in public policy for the National Forum for Black Public Administrators.

Community Involvement/Volunteer Experience

- Board Member, Minnesota Housing, 2017-current. Appointed by Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton in 2016; reappointed in 2020 by Governor Tim Walz.
- Governor’s Task Force on Housing, 2018. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Co-Chair, Home Ownership Working Group
- Mentor, New Sector Alliance, local leadership development program in the non-profit sector, 2016.
- Mentor, Emerging Leaders in Community Development at the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, 2014-2020.
- Member, Coalition of Asian American Leaders, 2016-2021.
- Board Member, East Side Neighborhood Development Company, a place-based community development corporation in St. Paul, 2014-2019. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Board Chair, 2017-2018.
- Board Member, Voices for Racial Justice (formerly known as the Organizing Apprenticeship Project), which works with communities of color to lead the way toward a more inclusive and equitable Minnesota, 2014-2021. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Board Treasurer, 2016-2021.
- Board of Directors, F.R. Bigelow Foundation, 2013-2022. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Board Chair, 2021-2022.
 - Co-created Linking Leaders Initiative, working to identify leaders of color in the East Metro area, Co-Chair, 2014-current.
 - Board Vice Chair, 2019-2020.
 - Board Treasurer, 2016-2018.
 - Minneapolis St. Paul Workforce Innovation Network (MSPWIN) Member, a local funders collaborative focused on workforce development in the Twin Cities area, 2013-2017. Served as co-chair, 2016-2017.
 - Audit Committee Chair, 2015.
- Member, Building More Philanthropy with Purpose (BMPP) Giving Circle, 2013-current.

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- Member, Program Committee, Minnesota Council of Foundations, 2016-2019.
- Mentor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs Alumni Program, 2012-2021.
- Board Member, CommonBond Communities, a multi-state affordable housing developer, 2012-2015. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Advantage Services (programs) Committee Chair, 2013-2015.
- Fellow, PLACES Program, The Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, a national philanthropic association, 2011-2012.
- Member, Sprockets Leadership Group for out of school time programs for youth in St. Paul, 2010-2013.
- Board Member, Asian Economic Development Association (AEDA), 2009-2018. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Board Chair, 2012-2018.
- Member, City of St. Paul Planning Commission, 2009-2018. Appointed by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Co-Chair, Grand Round Advisory Committee, 2015-2016.
 - Co-Chair, Western, Victoria, Hamline Station Area Planning Taskforce, 2009-2010.
 - Communications Committee Chair, 2010-2014.
- Board Member, Neighborhood House, 2006-2013. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Board Chair, 2009-2011.
 - Chair, Program Committee, 2006-2008.
- Board Member, Asian Pacific Endowment Fund at the St. Paul Foundation, 2006-2012.
- Member, Asian Council for the State of Minnesota's Emerging Markets Home Ownership Initiative (EMHI), 2005-2008. Served in the following additional leadership roles:
 - Chair, EMHI Asian Council, 2007.
- Member, City of St. Paul Housing Taskforce, 2007.
- Volunteer, Hmong Girls Troop, Girl Scouts of St. Croix River Valleys, 2006-2007.
- Member, City of St. Paul's Broadband Advisory Committee, 2005-2006.
- Co-Chair of Volunteer Committee, Dragon Festival, 2006.
- President, Hmoob (Hmong) Alumni Group of the University of Minnesota, 2003-2004.
- Board Member, Hand in Hand, Inc., 2000-2006.

Education

Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
 Master of Public Policy
 Graduated May 2002

College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
 Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Russian
 Graduated May 2000

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December 21, 2023

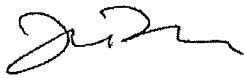
Dear Boards and Commissions Appointment & Selections Committee,

My name is Terri Thao and I am writing to submit my application for consideration for my third term as a public member of the Minnesota Housing Board. I was first asked to join due to my work in overall community economic development, especially in regards to the homeownership gap for communities of color. When I first joined the board in 2016, we were still recovering from the 2008 recession in the housing market with various programs and strategies including supporting naturally occurring affordable housing. I was part of the 2019 Taskforce on Housing where I co-chaired the Homeownership Working Group on behalf of Governor Dayton where many of the issues: supply chain, labor, local land use regulations continue to impact the development and preservation of housing today.

As a current board member, I have learned a tremendous amount from participating in overseeing the state's response to the COVID crisis, especially with the RentHelp and HomeHelp programs; often times responding quickly in order to ensure safe housing for the state's most vulnerable residents. My current position working in the field of philanthropy often compliments the field of housing and I am able to bring that perspective to the board in addition to my connections to various vulnerable communities.

I am interested in serving another term to ensure continued equitable recovery from the pandemic and help build a longer-term infrastructure for the sector and for all Minnesotans. Thank you for the opportunity to serve these past six years and I would be honored to serve another three years. I am available via email or phone to discuss my candidacy further and look forward to hearing from your office soon.

Sincerely,



Terri Thao

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