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CITY OF SEATTLE
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CITY CLERK

City of Seattle
Notice of Appointment

Name: **Jeniffer Calleja**		☒ **Executive Appointment** ☐ **Legislative Appointment** ☐ **Agency Appointment** ☐ **PDA Council** ☐ **PDA Constituency**
Residential Neighborhood: West Seattle	**Zip Code:** 98126	**Contact Phone No.:** (206) 910-6612
Appointed to: Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission		**Date of Appointment:** 1/31/2013
Authority (Ord., Res.): Ordinance 118392		**Term of Office:** **From:** Confirmation **To:** 01/31/2015

Comments:

Jeniffer Calleja, originally from Sinaloa, Mexico, has worked in social research and community development for over 10 years. Since moving to Seattle, she has worked on issues of health equity, employment and labor and civic and family engagement, with low income community members, a majority of whom are immigrant and refugees and from diverse age groups. She is passionate about empowering underrepresented individuals and communities to make their voices heard and participate in local decision-making processes from reporting a broken street light to pursuing complex policy changes. Currently, she works at Neighborhood House on a project to address health disparities in public housing communities.

Authorizing Signature:	**Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment:** Mayor Michael McGinn

JENIFFER CALLEJA

Summary of Qualifications

A proven track record of successfully working with low income and minority populations and stakeholders in Seattle and King County around issues of preventive health, built environment, human services, economic development, economic opportunity and civic engagement.

Strong quantitative and qualitative research and analysis skills. Oversaw and wrote multiple issue papers, technical reports and policy recommendations on challenges facing vulnerable and underrepresented populations.

Lead interdisciplinary teams on projects to streamline processes and systems for increasing access to physical activity and healthy foods for low income and minority populations disproportionally affected by chronic diseases.

Strong community connections and knowledge of existing resources for immigrant, refugee and low income populations.

WORK EXPERIENCE

White Center Community Development Association, Seattle, WA.

Healthy Community Project Manager. January 2012 - Present (Contract, 0.25 FTE)

- Support the implementation of strategies to increase access to healthy food and improving the built environment in White Center with focus on vulnerable youth and parents as well as the White Center produce markets, which are all owned and operated by refugee entrepreneurs. Provide grant management, program coordination and fund development planning.

Neighborhood House, Seattle, WA. March 2005 - Present (Contract and Full time)

Be Active Together Project Coordinator. August 2008 – Present.

Worked collaboratively with immigrants and refugee community residents from 10+ countries as well as community and research partners to develop and implement a five-year Community Participatory Based Research Project to address health disparities and achieve policy and systems change in two public housing communities (High Point in West Seattle and Greenbridge in White Center).

- Developed and implemented community assessments and research plans and coordinated data collection. Built and maintained databases to track project impact. Conducted data analysis and produced reports and presentations for stakeholders including limited English speaking audiences.

- Led multilingual interdisciplinary teams cultivating cultural competency principles to implement interventions and conduct data collection.

- Developed multilingual and age diverse community action teams, established partnerships and committees with broad representation to develop and steer project collaboratively.

- Planned and implemented strategies to build community capacity, increase physical activity, social connections, and civic engagement impacting immigrant, refugees and vulnerable populations, such as gender and age-specific exercise and swimming, cultural celebrations, community forums and potlucks, health fairs, family nights, open houses, field trips and hiking trips and cooking classes.

- Coached community members to advocate for their needs for neighborhood safety, access to health, information and transportation and testified at public meetings and in front of the Seattle City Council.

High Point Survey Coordinator. March 2008 - March 2010

- Oversaw the data collection of a longitudinal multilingual research study of 400 residents at High Point in West Seattle to learn how changes in the built environment affect their health, social networks and job search.

High Point Family Center Program Coordinator. March 2008 - August 2008

- Developed and implemented the start-up of a City of Seattle funded community service center in the heart of High Point, a multicultural multilingual public housing community.

- Developed culturally relevant programs and established community partnerships to increase programming.

Community Health Worker. Breathe Easy Homes Demonstration Project. September 2005 - August 2007

- Implemented a two year home visit curriculum with immigrant families in a US Department of Housing and Urban Development and Lead Hazard Control funded project to reduce asthma triggers in a public housing community through environmental changes and education. Provided support to the families prior, during and after relocation to a "Breathe Easy Home" at High Point in West Seattle.

Research Interviewer. Healthy Homes Community Survey Project. March 2005 - June 2005.

- Recruited participants and conducted research surveys at participants' homes and a focus group for a National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences funded study to learn how the rebuilding of a public housing site in High Point, West Seattle affects residents' health.

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local No. 6. June 2006 - March 2008

Researcher.

- Developed and implemented strategies to increase union membership in the janitorial and private security industry in the Seattle area, with the janitorial workforce being primarily made of immigrant and refugees.

- Wrote strategy reports and developed presentations for workers meetings, stakeholders, and contract negotiations.

- Built community, industry and political support for grassroots campaigns by developing partnerships and building capacity among union leaders.

United Way of King County. October 2005 - May 2006 (7 month contract)

White Center Site Manager.

- King County EITC Campaign. Managed a site of an Internal Revenue Service-funded project to provide free tax preparation services in the Seattle area targeting low-income families. Managed all operations of a high-volume, free tax preparation site in South Seattle serving clients in three languages.

Evans School of Public Affairs, Univ. of Washington-Seattle, WA. September 2002 – June 2004

Research Assistant.

United Way of King County Collaborative IDA Program Evaluation Project.

- Conducted research on a savings program for low-income families implemented by 14 community organizations. Designed survey instruments and monitoring tools, conducted advanced qualitative analysis, wrote reports on research findings, and worked collaboratively with the Individual Development Account Collaborative.

Washington State WorkFirst Study.

- Conducted research in a longitudinal study designed to increase understanding of the transition from assistance to self-sufficiency. Researched state and national welfare policies; Analyzed, interpreted and disseminated survey data of 5,000 welfare recipients for policy reform. Prepared reports on research findings for the Washington State Employment Security Department. Reports were available on the Washington WorkFirst website. http://www.workfirst.wa.gov/about/StudyIndex2.htm

University of Guadalajara. Center of Strategic Development Studies. Mexico June 1999 - June 2000

Survey Coordinator

- Perspectives and Values Unit. Implemented and lead a team to collect survey data across the State of Jalisco, Mexico during the Presidential Election. Collaborated in research design, survey implementation, managed budgets, supervised research interviewers, oversaw data entry and wrote findings reports.

Internship

Evaluation Intern. USAID and Chemonics International. Summer 2003 Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

- BOLFOR Bolivian Forestry Sustainable Project. Documented the operations of a unique grassroots sustainable forestry collective in rural Bolivia that survived without external assistance. Wrote a case study highlighting their best practices to help USAID increase its understanding of local norms and organizational practices. Conducted field research in an indigenous forestry community including an oral census, documenting community meetings, interviews with stakeholders and compiling and analyzing available documentation.

EDUCATION

- University of Washington, Seattle, WA 2002 - 2004

Masters in Public Administration (MPA)

International Development Policy and Management Graduate Certificate Program

- University of Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. 1995 - 2000

B.A. in Political and Governmental Studies

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board. March 2010 to present
- Community Based Participatory Research Summer Institute 2011. San Francisco State University.
- US Cuba Women's Collaboration. Research Delegation 2010.
- Institute for Democratic Future, Class of 2008.
- Production Assistant, Corrugated Films, Seattle, WA October 2003-June 2005

LANGUAGES

Spanish, English.

Immigrant and Refugee Commission

January, 2013

15 Members: Who are confirmed by City Council and serve a term of two years. **3 term maximum.**

- 8 appointed by Mayor
- 7 appointed by City Council

		Member	I/R	Y	Term #	First Appointed	Term Ends	Position #	Appointing Body
1	M	Shree Ram Dahal	Y		2	7/11/11	1/31/15	2	Council
2	F	Vacant	Y					4	Council
1	F	Vacant	Y					10	Council
3	M	Vacant	Y					8	Council
1	F	Vacant	Y					14	Council
4	F	Vacant	Y					6	Council
1	F	Vacant	Y					12	Council
1	M	Justin Chan			1	1/31/13	1/31/15	3	Mayor
1	F	Maria E (Maru) Mora Villalpando	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	11	Mayor
2	F	Tsegaba Woldehaimanot	Y	Y	2	5/13/11	1/31/15	1	Mayor
1	F	Jeniffer Calleja	Y		1	1/31/13	1/31/15	5	Mayor
4	F	Devon Alisa Abdallah, Ph.D			3	12/13/07	1/31/14	9	Mayor
4	F	Roxana Norouzi			1	1/31/13	1/31/15	7	Mayor
2	M	Mohamed Sheikh Hassan	Y		2	12/22/10	1/31/14	15	Mayor
2	M	Michael Neguse	Y		2	12/22/10	1/31/14	13	Mayor

*Diversity*before vacancies*

Appointed by:	Total		Youth		*I/R		US Born Minority		API (1)		African (2)		Latin@ (3)		Mid-East (4)		Other (5)		E European (6)		Vacancies
Subtotal	*14*		*3*		*10*		*3*		*4*		*4*		*3*		*3*		*3*		*3*		*1*
Gender	Women	Men	W	M	W	M	W	M	M	W	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	
Mayor	5	3	1	0	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Council	5	2	2	0	3	2	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	8	6	3	0	4	6	2	1	1	3	2	2	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1