

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [City Clerk Department](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Citizen Board/Committee Application
Date: Friday, July 12, 2024 9:01:43 PM

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Citizen Board/Committee Application

Contact Information

Applications remain on file for **6 months only**.

Choose from the following	Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, William S. Harvey Scholarship Selection Committee
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Name	Janae Ponder
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Email Address	janae.ponder@life-spirecounseling.com
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Organization	Life-Spire Counseling Services
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Address	780 Deltona blvd ste 102 Deltona FL 32725
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City	Deltona
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State	fl
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Zip Code	32725-3655
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Phone Number	3862755654
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Fax Number	386-9683257
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About Yourself

Number of Years as a Deltona Resident	6 to 10 Years
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What Commission district do you reside in?	District 2
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Are you a registered voter in Volusia	Yes
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County?

Who is your employer?
(Please include
number of years,
address, phone
number and title /
position)

Employer 1

Name: Life-Spire Counseling Services LLC

Position: Owner/Operations Manager

Years: 6 years (February 2018 - Present)

Address: 780 Deltona Blvd Suite 102 Deltona, FL 32725

Phone Number: 386-400-3100

Employer 2

Name: Nana House

Position: Clinical Director

Years: Less than 1 year (February 2024 - Present)

Address: 2053 N University Dr, Sunrise, FL 33322

Phone Number: (954) 508-9138

Employer 3

Name: Volusia County School District

Position: School Social Worker

Years: 3 years (February 2021 - Present)

Address: 200 North Clara Avenue, DeLand, FL 32720

Phone Number: (386) 734-7190

Please summarize your
work experience.

I have a diverse and robust background in mental health services and social work, bringing a wealth of knowledge, skills, and experience that will greatly benefit the advisory board. My career journey has been enriched by various roles, including:

Owner and Operations Manager at Life-Spire Counseling Services LLC: I manage business operations, perform therapy sessions, and provide comprehensive counseling services. My work involves helping clients confront issues such as poverty, abuse, mental health, and addiction, and developing social programs to support at-risk populations.

Clinical Director at Nana House: I oversee the daily operations of Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOP) and Partial Hospitalization Programs (PHP), ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and maintaining high standards of care. I provide clinical supervision and support to a multidisciplinary team, develop and implement clinical policies, and facilitate group and individual therapy sessions.

School Social Worker with Volusia County Schools: I conduct individual and group counseling sessions with students, collaborate with teachers and parents to develop interventions, and provide crisis intervention and support. I also develop social-emotional learning programs and advocate for students' rights and access to resources.

Adjunct Professor: I have taught courses at Daytona State

College and Bethune-Cookman University, developing and managing syllabi, creating lectures and assignments, and assessing student performance. I have also participated in professional development activities and collaborated with colleagues on course curriculum.

Clinical Social Worker at Florida Hospital Fish Memorial: I provided crisis intervention and community linkage for patients and families experiencing significant stress due to hospitalization or chronic illness. My role involved evaluating social service referrals, coordinating with medical staff, and providing counseling and advocacy.

Program Therapist and Mental Health Screener at Halifax Behavioral Services: I planned and administered therapeutic treatments, observed and modified therapy based on patient reactions, and maintained regular contact with other agencies and professionals regarding client progress.

My educational background includes a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Bethune-Cookman University and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Central Florida. I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in multiple states and a qualified supervisor.

My skills include excellent communication, leadership, problem-solving, and the ability to adapt to new situations. I am proficient in various therapeutic approaches, including cognitive behavioral therapy and dialectical behavior therapy, and have experience in crisis intervention, program development, and community engagement.

I am committed to fostering positive change within communities, individuals, and families through comprehensive psychoeducation initiatives. My passion for promoting wellness and empowerment, combined with my extensive experience and skills, will enable me to make meaningful contributions to the advisory board and the well-being of the Deltona community.

List any volunteer service organizations, clubs, or professional societies you are a member of and give the positions or titles you have held.

Fathers' Uplift, Incorporated
Position: Mentor

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
Position: Member

School Social Work Association of America
Position: Member

African American Entrepreneurs Association
Position: Member

Describe any additional knowledge, skill, education, or experience you have, which would assist you in the duties of this Board/Committee.

I bring a wealth of knowledge, skills, education, and experience to the advisory board, drawn from a diverse and accomplished career in mental health services and social work. My occupational journey is a testament to my goal-driven nature, autonomy, and resilience, which are crucial qualities for effective board service.

My educational background includes a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Bethune-Cookman University and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Central Florida. I have learned the importance of resourcefulness, connectivity, and service, which have guided me in my professional endeavors. As a first-generation college student, my journey reflects my commitment to excellence and breaking beyond stereotypes.

Professionally, I am the owner of Life-Spire Counseling Services LLC, where I have created a space for diverse clinicians to serve a wide range of clients. My role involves managing business operations, providing therapy sessions, and developing social programs to support at-risk populations. As the Clinical Director at Nana House, I oversee Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOP) and Partial Hospitalization Programs (PHP), ensuring high standards of care and compliance with regulatory requirements. I also provide clinical supervision and support to a multidisciplinary team.

My experience as a School Social Worker with Volusia County Schools has further honed my skills in individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and advocacy. I collaborate with teachers, parents, and external agencies to develop interventions and support student success. My work involves developing social-emotional learning programs and facilitating workshops to promote positive coping skills and emotional regulation.

In addition to my professional roles, I have served as an Adjunct Professor at Daytona State College and Bethune-Cookman University, where I have developed and managed syllabi, created lectures and assignments, and assessed student performance. I have also participated in professional development activities and collaborated with colleagues on course curriculum.

I am also the author of "100 Bold Affirmations to Calm Your Fears," which underscores my commitment to mental health and personal empowerment. This work reflects my dedication to providing resources that help individuals manage anxiety and build resilience.

Throughout my career, I have been committed to fostering positive change within communities, individuals, and families through comprehensive psychoeducation initiatives. My passion

for promoting wellness and empowerment, combined with my extensive experience and skills, positions me well to contribute meaningfully to the advisory board. My journey has taught me the value of persistence, adaptability, and the power of education, which I will bring to my role on the board.

I am an eternal learner, continually seeking to apply lessons from my diverse experiences to create a professional life worth working. My commitment to serving diverse populations, empowering communities, and advocating for marginalized individuals aligns with the mission of the advisory board, and I am eager to contribute my expertise to support its goals.

Explain why you want to serve on this Board/Committee, and include any potential contribution you selection would bring.

I want to serve on this advisory board because I am deeply committed to fostering a caring and connected community in Deltona. Working in a field where human connection and empathy are key, I have honed my skills as a professional problem solver, always striving to find balance. Over the years, I have observed that morale, creativity, hope, and many other positive aspects of our community have diminished. We have unfortunately moved away from being a truly caring community.

It is my desire to serve on this board to be an advocate for those who are often underrepresented, to use my solution-focused techniques and wisdom to apply data-driven decisions to meet the needs of the people. As someone who works, lives, and has children attending school in Deltona, I believe that actively getting involved and showing up is essential. If I am not part of the solution, I am part of the problem, and this is my "why."

With my extensive background in mental health services and social work, I bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to this role. I have managed Life-Spire Counseling Services LLC, providing therapy and developing social programs for at-risk populations. As the Clinical Director at Nana House, I oversee intensive outpatient programs, ensuring high standards of care. My role as a School Social Worker has involved individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and advocacy, all of which are crucial for supporting our community.

Additionally, I am the author of "100 Bold Affirmations to Calm Your Fears," highlighting my commitment to mental health and personal empowerment. My educational journey and professional experiences have equipped me with the skills needed to effectively contribute to the board's mission.

If selected, I would bring a variety of impactful contributions to the board, including:

- Community-wide service initiatives
- Intensive life-skills trainings

Activities and programs that strengthen families and children
Accessible mental and general health programs/initiatives
Parent education
And much more

I am passionate about promoting wellness and empowerment,
and I am eager to leverage my expertise to support and enhance
the well-being of the Deltona community.

Potential Conflict of
Interest

None at this time.

Have you ever been
convicted for violation
of any federal, state,
county, or municipal
law, regulation, or
ordinance? If so, give
details. Do not include
traffic violations or fines
of \$100 or less that
were imposed, unless it
also included a jail
sentence.

No

List names, addresses,
and telephone
numbers of at least
three persons who are
in a position to
comment on your
qualifications and of
whom inquiry may be
made by the City of
Deltona.

Rubin Colon 386-801-3122
William Bradley 386-848-6753
Primrose Cameron 386-235-5032

Additional Information
or Comments

None at this time

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)