



BRANDON FREY

Area 4 Resident

Brief Statement of Interest

I would like to join the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association Board of Directors because I have a strong passion for building and sustaining a genuine sense of community. One of the things that makes Washington Heights so special is its deep-rooted sense of neighborliness — people look out for one another, share common spaces, and celebrate the neighborhood's cultural richness together. I've experienced firsthand how vital that sense of connection is, whether it's through block parties, local clean-up efforts, or simply exchanging greetings on the sidewalk. In a time when many communities are becoming more disconnected, I see the Neighborhood Association as a powerful force for unity — a place where we can amplify residents' voices, support local businesses, and ensure our public spaces remain welcoming and safe for everyone. I want to help strengthen that community fabric by fostering more inclusive events, open communication, and collaborative problem-solving. Serving on the board would give me the opportunity to help ensure that Washington Heights remains not just a place to live, but a true community where people feel they belong.

Background Information

I have been fortunate enough to call myself a Washington Heights resident since 2021. In just a few years, this neighborhood has truly become home. I was initially drawn in by the charming architecture and walkable streets, but it's the welcoming spirit and strong sense of community that made me fall in love with the area. There's a neighborly energy here that's hard to find—people genuinely care about each other and take pride in the place we all share. In my free time, I enjoy woodworking, reading, and exploring all the great things our neighborhood and city have to offer—from local restaurants and shops to parks and cultural events. One of my favorite things about living here is how easy it is to connect with neighbors through events like the Spring Clean-Up, Washington Park Wednesdays and Spooktacular, or even just through casual conversations while walking the dog or working in the yard. I'm inspired by the people who make this neighborhood what it is, and I would be honored to contribute to the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association Board of Directors to help support, strengthen, and celebrate the community we all love.

Experience

As a finance professional with a focus on budgeting and forecasting, I bring a strong skill set in financial planning, resource management, and long-term strategic thinking. These skills would be highly beneficial to WHNA in managing the association's budget, planning for future projects, and ensuring that funds are allocated effectively to support our neighborhood's growth and sustainability. My ability to analyze financial data and make informed decisions can help WHNA plan for both short-term and long-term needs while staying within budget constraints. In addition to my technical skills, I'm experienced in working collaboratively with diverse teams to achieve shared goals. I'm confident that my ability to approach financial matters with clarity and precision will support WHNA's initiatives, whether that involves managing funds for neighborhood events, planning community improvements, or securing resources for outreach and advocacy efforts. Beyond my professional expertise, I'm passionate about creating strong community connections. Through my work with MADACC, I've developed a deeper understanding of the value of volunteerism and community partnerships. This experience, coupled with my professional background, allows me to bring both financial acumen and a collaborative spirit to WHNA, ensuring that the organization remains financially stable while also strengthening its ties to the local community. I'm excited for the opportunity to apply my skills to help Washington Heights thrive and continue to be a vibrant, inclusive neighborhood for all.

Volunteer and Community Involvement

I currently volunteer with the Milwaukee Area Domestic Animal Control Commission (MADACC), where I assist with animal care, enrichment activities, and community outreach efforts. This experience has been incredibly rewarding and has deepened my appreciation for the impact that dedicated volunteers can have on local organizations. It's also helped me build skills in consistency, responsibility, and compassionate service—qualities I believe are essential in any volunteer board role.

While I haven't yet served on a formal board, I'm eager to expand my involvement in community-based work and see this as a great next step. I'm committed to contributing my time, energy, and professional skill set to support the mission and goals of the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association. I look forward to learning from experienced board members and actively helping to strengthen and celebrate our neighborhood.