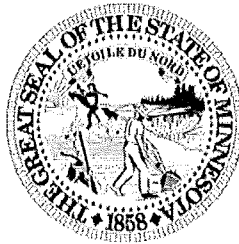


# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



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JUN 15 2020

**Governor Tim Walz**

President

Secretary

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

**Terri Thao**

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

**Member**

**Minnesota Housing Finance Agency**

Effective: June 16, 2020

Expires: January 1, 2024

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it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.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 11, 2020.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

**Tim Walz**

Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

**Steve Simon**

Secretary of State

Reappointment

Filed on June 11, 2020  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon

**Application for the position Public Member**

**Part I: Position Sought**

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**Agency Name:** Housing Finance Agency  
**Position:** Public Member

**Part II: Applicant Information**

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**Name:** Terri Thao  
**Phone:** (651) 379-0505  
**County:** Ramsey  
**In House District:** 67A  
**State House District:** 4  
**Recommended by the Appointing Authority:** True

**Part III: Appending Documentation**

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**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.	

**Signature**

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**Signature:** Terri Thao  
**Date:** 1/3/2020 12:11:56 PM

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President of the Senate

January 3, 2020

Dear Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan:

My name is Terri Thao and I am writing to request reappointment to a second term on the board of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. I currently work as a program director for local non-profit intermediary Nexus Community Partners where I run the Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute (BCLI) whose purpose is to identify, train, and help place indigenous and communities of color on publicly appointed boards and commissions in support of an equity agenda. One of the key issues we focus on in the BCLI is housing and my experience on the board has helped me better train my fellows on this topic.

In my first term on the board, I learned a tremendous amount of information about the financing and production of housing as well as its connections to workforce, health, and education issues. I have offered feedback on our annual housing RFP guidelines and other policies. In addition to this, in 2018 Governor Dayton appointed me as the MN Housing ex-officio member to the Governor's Task Force on Housing where we created a blueprint to increase the supply of housing and housing services for all Minnesotans. I co-chaired the Home Ownership working group, where we identified the need to incorporate new technologies, building up the housing workforce and the various fees impacting housing production. The blueprint serves as the basis for our new MN Housing strategic plan.

I look forward to continuing my advocacy on the MN Housing board, especially bringing the voices of those most impacted by the housing policies we are proposing and refining. I am disappointed by the fact that home ownership disparities are increasing (a reverse trend) amongst Minnesota's communities of color and the White population and want to continue to focus on this topic along with ending homelessness. I would be honored to be appointed to a second term to work on these goals. I also have volunteered to serve as vice-chair and if reappointed, look forward to chairing this powerful board.

I would love to continue my service to the state and represent the residents of Minnesota. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards,

Terri Thao

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President of the Senate

**TERRI THAO**  
1492 Clarence Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55106  
(651) 329-0824  
Email: territhao1@gmail.com

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President of the Senate

### Work Experience

#### Program Director

January 2013-Current

Nexus Community Partners, St. Paul, MN

- Lead in 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 an equity agenda.
- Responsible for all aspects of the Twin Cities BCLI program design and delivery including curriculum development for adult learners, facilitating trainings or securing trainers, program evaluation, fundraising and program budgeting.
- Trained over 80 leaders through the BCLI and also worked with local, regional, and state government on best practices in engaging, recruiting and retaining indigenous and board members of color
- 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.
- Supervised BCLI program manager and program assistant.

#### Program Officer

April 2008-December 2012

Nexus Community Partners, St. Paul, MN

- Responsible for portfolio of grants in the South Minneapolis geographic focus area consisting of over a dozen grantees and grant investments of over \$75,000 annually.
- Established relationships with a number of 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 of ongoing 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

Nexus (formerly Payne-Lake) Community Partners, St. Paul, MN

- 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 in increasing asset and wealth creation on both the East Side of St. Paul and in South Minneapolis.

- Assisted in the strategic planning of the transition from a community development focus to a community building intermediary.
- Assisted in grant writing for the organization; ensured report compliance with funders.
- Grant administrator for all of Nexus' grantees.
- Responsible for implementing Nexus' evaluation and assisted in creation of database to track outcomes.

**Research Fellow**

September 2003-May 2004

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

- Teaching assistant for two Humphrey Institute 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

- Continued work 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.
- Program coordinator 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.

**Subcontractor**

October 2001-August 2003

Rainbow Research, Minneapolis, MN

- Conducted focus groups in Hmong for Rainbow Research clients; translated comments from Hmong to English.

**Research Assistant**

February 2000-June 2002

Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Minneapolis, MN

- Lead research assistant on a project evaluating the effectiveness of community-based programs on the academic performance of students; worked with local community organizations to promote project and establish relationships; and, assisted with creation of research methodology for project.
- Gathered information for production of the booklet *Getting the 411: A Guide to Helping Students Improve in School* and disseminated over 500 booklets to local schools, parents, and community organizations.
- Conducted focus groups evaluating the effectiveness of anti-racism programs in Minnesota.

**Community Involvement**

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- Member, MN Housing, 2017-current.
- Governor's Task Force on Housing, 2018.
  - 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, 2014-2018.
- Member, Coalition of Asian American Leaders, 2016-current.

- Board Member, East Side Neighborhood Development Company, a place-based community development corporation in St. Paul, 2014-2019. Leadership positions include:
  - Board Chair, 2017-2018.
- Board Member, Voices for Racial Justice (former Organizing Apprenticeship Project), which works with communities of color to lead the way toward a more inclusive and equitable Minnesota, 2014-current. Leadership positions include:
  - Board Treasurer, 2016-current.
- Board of Trustees, F.R. Bigelow Foundation, 2013-current. Leadership positions include:
  - 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.
  - Linking Leaders Initiative, working to identify leaders of color in the East Metro area, Co-Chair, 2014-current.
  - Audit Committee Chair, 2015.
  - Board Treasurer, 2016-2018.
  - Board Vice Chair, 2019-current.
- Mentor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs Alumni Program, 2012-2019.
- Board Member, CommonBond Communities, a multi-state affordable housing developer, 2012-2015.
  - Advantage Services (programs) Committee Chair, 2013-2015.
- 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. Leadership positions include:
  - Board Chair, 2012-2018.
- Member, City of St. Paul Planning Commission, 2009-2018. Leadership positions include:
  - 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. Leadership positions include:
  - 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. Leadership positions include:
  - 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

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May 2002

President of the Senate

May 2000

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JUN 15 2020

President of the Senate