Nominator Narrative for Connie D. Mom-Ching, DM, MPA

Board of Directors – NAMI
Nomination by NAMI SW WA
Kim Schneiderman, Executive Director, and Ann Donnelly, Board President
April 13, 2020

NAMI SW WA is privileged to nominate Connie D. Mom-Ching to the Board of Directors of NAMI. Together, we (Kim and Ann) represent some 30 years of NAMI board experience (NAMI Oregon and NAMI SW WA).

This nomination narrative cannot do justice to Connie’s extraordinary professional experience, education, and life experience as detailed in her resume. However, we are eager to testify to the highly positive experiences working with her from 2012 to the present, during which time she occupied positions of leadership and high responsibility during a time of behavioral community transition, with Southwest WA Behavioral Health (CEO), Columbia United Providers (Chief Behavioral Health Officer), and Community Health Plan of WA (Director, Integrated Managed Care).

Invariably, we observed that she made a positive and commonly pivotal contribution to many committees and task forces to improve behavioral health services in our state. NAMI SW WA benefited from her unfailing collegiality, humane approach to the mental health community, and unblemished professionalism. We are confident Connie will make strong and in fact unique contributions in the five areas identified as important to enhance NAMI’s board this year:

- **Diversity of race, ethnicity, language, experience, age and national geography:**
  - Connie was born in Cambodia, and the story of her emigration to the United States is a testimony to her courage and determination. Her impressive education qualifications include studying French language, literature, culture, traditions, politics and economics at the historic Faculte D’Avignon, Avignon, France, before focusing on Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Public Administration, and Management at Western WA University, Lewis & Clark College and University of Phoenix, respectively.
  - Her leadership positions in the community include serving on the Board (and current Board Chair) of the Cambodian American National Organization. She has served on that culturally significant board since 2010. She hosted a presentation of *Bridging Cambodian American Generations* at the 2019 National Cambodian American Conference.
  - She has also served as a member of the Clark County Diversity Advisory Committee.
  - Member, Department of Social and Health Services: Healthcare Disparities Workgroup 2010-2012
  - Former Chair and Member: Mental Health Division/Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council’s Ethnic Minority Advisory Committee (2004-2010)
• WA Delegate, National Policy Summit to Eliminate Disparities in Mental Health Care (2009)

**Knowledge of the philanthropic community and track record with donor cultivation:**

- Connie’s unique contribution in this area is her educational qualifications and extensive professional experience in organizational development, non-profit management and strategic planning and leadership. These are precisely the areas that the philanthropic community regards as the most important in evaluating organizations such as NAMI and its affiliates for donations and grants. Other individuals can provide the contacts with the philanthropists. In our region, that would be the Community Foundation of SW WA, Murdoch Foundation and a handful of individual large donors, all of whom Connie is familiar with.

- Connie will provide the essential guidance and leadership in establishing throughout NAMI’s affiliates processes of strategic planning and organizational improvement that will inspire confidence in the donor community that their donations will be well used. The donor community is now aware that behavioral health is a crucial area of need now. But donors search out and select those organizations that rise above the others in organizational excellence. Connie can assist NAMI and its affiliates to achieve this status in the view of the philanthropic community.

**Experience with a variety of revenue models and financial oversight and management:**

- Connie’s professional positions since 2008 have required executive and director level management of a sequence of revenue models, with responsibility for their oversight and management. These are some of the most consequential positions in the behavioral health community of our region and state:
  - Regional Support Network Administrator, Clark County Regional Support Network
  - CEO, Southwest Washington Behavioral Health
  - Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Columbia United Providers
  - Director of Integrated Managed Care, Community Health Plan of Washington

- Her educational credentials directly address financial oversight and management
  - Masters of Public Administration
  - Doctor of Management in Organization Leadership

**Health Care/Medicine:**

- Since 2008, Connie has served in positions of management/executive experience in the behavioral health community of Southwest Washington. Her appointments to the positions listed above speak to the confidence that the community has in her experience and judgement to lead in health care.
  - A number of her leadership positions (see Resume Page 5) include committees and task forces on health care in its various aspects
    - Board of Directors Southwest WA Regional Health Alliance (2014-2015)
    - Member, Eldercare Alliance/Southwest WA Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities (a very important area of expertise) (2010-2015)
    - Member, Department of Social and Health Services: Healthcare Disparities Workgroup 2010-2012
    - Former Chair and Member: Mental Health Division/Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council’s Ethnic Minority Advisory Committee (2004-2010)
- WA Delegate, National Policy Summit to Eliminate Disparities in Mental Health Care (2009)
- Member, Columbia River Mental Health Services/Grant Oversight Committee: Accessing Healthcare and Human Services Occupations (2002-2005)

- **Criminal Justice**
  - Early in her career in behavioral health here in our region, Connie contributed her expertise in behavioral health to the Community Outreach Project Committee of the Vancouver Police Department.

Kim Schneiderman
Executive Director NAMI SW Washington