

Joanna Johnson, MPH

It is with great enthusiasm that I am running for Division C Director. I have dedicated both my personal and professional life to service, this position representing an exciting opportunity for me to expand upon that work and continue to grow as a human and continue building a great community.

Having over 10 years in the healthcare field and my current position as the Flying Toasters President make me the ideal candidate for this position. I joined Toastmasters in 2015 in Alabama, before moving to Salem in 2018 where I joined the Flying Toasters, in addition to attending many clubs as a guest for many years throughout my college career and various moves. These serve to further my understanding of differing leadership, clubs, and cultures.

A common thread through my personal and professional work I have done through the years is forming and maintaining respectful partnerships across agency divisions, both with external and internal stakeholders and vendors. Currently, in my day job, I work regularly with executive staff, professional staff, Tribal authorities, and other federal partners. These provide me with experience in working with a variety of people and will provide me the foundation to continue learning through this new role in Toastmasters. The programs and projects that I lead help to advance health equity and address systemic health disparities for all Oregon populations I hope to carry this experience into my role in Division C Director and increase the connections that we have and feel throughout the district, division, Areas and clubs.

Key strengths that I possess for success include:

- a robust background working with, and advancing equity for diverse, under-represented, and culturally specific populations
- a strong work ethic and eagerness to learn and contribute to the success of those around me
- Passion in making connection with others and showing that all are worthy of belonging.
- skill and experience in policy development and analysis, grant writing, project management, fiscal management, creating policy and program reports, and analyzing data
- experience managing staff, graduate students and volunteers, conflict resolution; cultivating team process to pool expertise and facilitate decisions
- expertise in setting agendas, coordinating seminars, delegating groups, and leading discussions and meetings

These skills will enable me to learn quickly and work confidently leading. My experience serving as club President will assist me in swiftly learning about serving the districts, members and community in this role. I will bring my creativity and desire to learn to this role, offering myself as a role model for the division to add my expertise and experience to the challenges ahead. I look forward to the challenges for growth and learning this position will offer me.

My adoration for growth; enthusiasm for new experiences; and skill working with people from diverse backgrounds coupled with my empowering leadership, group facilitation, and desire to learn make me an ideal candidate. I look forward to bringing our Division and District together, to grow, encourage and welcome each person as we are to make a safe place for all to come to.

Thank you in advance for your time and positive consideration. We are better together.

