

# Application Form

## Profile

Andrea

First Name

Brauer

Last Name

Middle Initial

## Preferred Name

[Redacted]  
Email Address

[Redacted]  
Home Address

Suite or Apt

[Redacted]  
City

State

Postal Code

## Residency and District Information

### Are you a City of Austin Resident? \*

Yes

Are you, or your employer, a registered lobbyist with the City or have you, or your employer, been registered as a lobbyist with the City Clerk within the past three years?

no

[Redacted]  
Primary Phone

Home:

Alternate Phone

## Cell Phone

## Home Phone

## Business Phone

## Select Your District

District 7

Self Employed

Employer

Project Manager

Job Title

## Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve on a board or commission

## Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

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I am excited to apply for a position on the Board of Directors of the Sobering Center. From the first time I heard about the Sobering Center, I was intrigued and very grateful that Austin was starting this unique program that would offer so many people a safe place and allow them to avoid entering, or reentering the criminal justice system. I am a licensed social worker and have worked within the homelessness system in recent years. I have seen first hand how critical it is for people in the downtown area to have a safe place to go and resources to help them to deal with ongoing challenges. In addition to my experience working on issues surrounding homelessness, I have worked in state government, public policy, and several nonprofits over the years. These experiences have given me a lot of insight into how successful programs and policies are crafted and implemented. I believe in careful research and planning, thoughtful collaboration with the community, and careful oversight and evaluation to determine the effectiveness of services. Moreover, I believe it is imperative that people with lived experiences have input on services and planning. I've served on boards in the past, and currently sit on the AISD Safety and Security Committee, and Foster Village's Advisory Board. I take these responsibilities very seriously, and I am fully committed, as I would be if named to the Sobering Center Board. I show up, do the work, and truly want to contribute. Finally, my family members have experienced addiction, and this has given me more understanding and compassion for others facing these challenges. My brother was an addict, and our family worked together to get him the help he needed. He is now 14 years sober, and remains stable in part due to community resources such as Narcotics Anonymous. I would be honored to be a part of the organization and help guide the work of the Sobering Center.

[Andrea Brauer 2020 Board.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

## Resume

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## Qualifications

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Licensed Master Social Worker Worked in the homeless services system Former executive director and board member Fundraising and strategic planning experience Family experience with addiction

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## Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

### Ethnicity

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Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

### Gender

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Female

### Sexual Orientation

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Straight/Heterosexual

Date of Birth

Disability or Impairment Information

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**Do you have an auditory/hearing disability or impairment?**

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No

**Do you have a visual disability or impairment?**

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No

**Do you have a mobility disability or impairment?**

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No

**Do you have a cognitive disability or impairment?**

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No

**Do you have another disability or impairment you'd like to share?**

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## **Board Requirements**

**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

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Sobering Center Local Government Corporation: Submitted

Some boards have additional requirements for appointees. Additional requirements will appear below as they apply to each board.

Question applies to Sobering Center Local Government Corporation

**Please select the requirements you have met (Sobering Center Local Government Corporation): \***

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City Council representative

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## Texas Open Records Act

City of Austin Officials are able to choose whether or not their home address, home telephone numbers, emergency contact information, social security number, and information that reveals whether they have family members are available to the public on request. The Texas Public Information Act is a State law that requires the City of Austin to disclose this information to anyone who requests it. The only exceptions are for: 1) commissioned peace officers; and 2) Official who file a written request to withhold this information. Officials who are not peace officers and who do not submit such a written request will have this information made available to anyone who requests it. Do you choose to have your home address, home telephone number, emergency contact information, social security number and information that reveals whether you have family withheld members from the public?

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Yes  No

## Andrea Varnell Brauer, LMSW

### EXPERIENCE

July 2020 - Present

#### **Foster Village**

*Project Manager*

*Austin, TX*

Develop, manage and oversee the Connect for Success program to match volunteer tutors with kids in foster care.

July 2019 - June 2020

#### **Front Steps**

*Special Projects Manager*

*Austin, TX*

Work with the leadership team to address priority issues for the organization, including policies and procedures, compliance, grants, training, and working with the National Alliance to End Homelessness to strengthen shelter practices. Facilitate support group for women.

July 2018 - June 2019

#### **Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)**

*Director of Communications and Strategy*

*Austin, TX*

Managed communications and messaging for the Coalition and worked with community organizations to advance Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness.

August 2015-July 2017

#### **Texas Gun Sense**

*Executive Director*

*Austin, TX*

Led the organization's statewide public policy, advocacy, development and communications efforts to reduce gun violence, including suicide. Started the Coalition to Reduce Gun Violence and grew the organization through legislative initiatives and strategic planning. Our team also increased the budget and tripled the number of donors, grants and supporters statewide.

November 2012-August 2015

#### **Texans Care for Children**

*Early Education Policy Associate*

*Austin, TX*

Led the research and policy efforts on child care and pre-K issues; wrote policy briefs, newsletters and op-eds; testified before legislative committees and state agencies; facilitated the Early Education Alliance; conducted advocacy efforts at the Texas Capitol with legislators and their staff.

Also worked as a **Public Policy Consultant from October 2005 to April 2006**, with primary responsibility to launch Partners in Child Protective Services Reform group; conducted research and collaborated with agencies to advocate for Texas Children; editor of the Children's Campaign Report.

December 2010-June 2011 and January 2009-May 2009 **National Association of Social Workers, Texas Chapter**  
*Policy Analyst* Austin, TX  
Contractor for two legislative sessions; analyzed and tracked legislation involving the Social Work profession; helped with strategies to advance the legislative agenda and wrote action alerts to mobilize social workers to advocate for legislation.

May 2002-June 2005 **Office of Texas State Senator Eliot Shapleigh**  
*Director of Projects* Austin, TX  
Public policy lead on health and human services issues; worked with stakeholders and led efforts to pass key legislation, including creation of the Border Health Foundation.

September 1999-May 2002 **Sunset Advisory Commission**  
*Policy Analyst* Austin, TX  
Project Manager for reviews of state agencies; led the research efforts of teams, developed recommendations, and wrote reports to the Legislature; worked extensively with state agencies and interest groups; testified at hearings.

June 1997-July 1998 **Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services**  
*Children's Social Worker II* Los Angeles, CA  
Case Manager for children and families in Adoptions Division; interviewed families and conducted home studies; Intern for the Department September 1995 - May 1996.

## EDUCATION

June 1997 **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES**  
*School of Public Policy and Social Research*  
**Master of Social Welfare**  
Specialization in Community Administration and Policy Planning

May 1992 **LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO**  
**Bachelor of Arts**, Honors, Cum Laude in Political Science **Achievements:** Presidential Scholarship; Honors Program; Jesuit National Honors Society; Dean's list

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

March 2020 - Present **Austin Independent School District**  
*Committee Member* Austin, TX  
AISD Safety and Security Committee

April 2019 - Present

**Foster Village**

*Advisory Board Member*

*Austin, TX*

Nonprofit dedicated to supporting and providing resources to foster families

March 2000 -  
May 2008

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas**

*Mentor*

*Austin, TX*

Mentored a girl from a single parent home

December 1993 -  
May 1994

**Village of Koular**

*Health Educator*

*Senegal, West Africa*

Peace Corps training in 1992; conducted health education meetings in villages; trained interpreters; helped initiate regional family planning centers; taught English classes