# 2026 CASC Nominees



# Cynthia del Rosario

**The 2026 Board Election will be on Wednesday, November 18 at 1:15 PM. Active members are invited to vote for 5 of the 8 candidates. Absentee Ballots can be secured at the Front Desk.**

the central

References: (list of three people, not related to you, whom you have known for at least one year :)

1) Name: Vivian Lee
Phone/Email: [redacted]

2) Name: Ricky Hall
Phone/Email: [redacted]

3) Name: Ed Taylor
Phone/Email: [redacted]

Birth date: 6/11/1956

Sex: [ ] Male [X] Female

Disability: NA

Name of Spouse/Significant Other: Edward "Adrian" Laiso

Children's Names: Paulette Denning

Please return this form to:

Address: CASC Board Chair
c/o Central Area Senior Center
500 30th Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98144

This application is also available online:
www.casrcenter.org

For more information, contact CASC.
at (206) 206-726-4926

For more information about CASC, please visit our website: www.casrcenter.org

08/2025

Central Area Senior Center
500 30th Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98144

# A Call for Board Members

central
AREA SENIOR CENTER

**Mission:** CASC infuses warm friendships, healthy activities, and joyful experiences into the lives of mature adults.

**CASC** engages and enriches the diverse communities of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest

Central Area Senior Center (CASC, The Central) welcomes expressions of interest for its Board of Directors. CASC serves as a neighborhood gathering place for non-profit, civic, and social organizations. A rich diversity of neighborhood groups and individuals access the center daily. The Central engages, serves, and bridges the gaps between the historical founders of the center and that of new and emerging communities in a changing landscape.

**The CASC Board of Directors strives to represent the racial, ethnic, geographic, social, and economic diversity of the residents of King County, as well as a broad base of community interests.**

**The Board consists of up to nine (9) volunteers, including retirees, who have the knowledge, expertise, and specific skills to benefit CASC. Board members must be 50 years or older and reside within King County.**

Prospective board members should hold a broad vision for the potential and development of CASC. Our legacy of community service began in 1968 when African American civic activists observed that the Central District needed a place for our elders to meet and socialize. From the beginning, The Central has been a place of support, community, fellowship, and celebration. The role of board membership is competency, to provide policy and fiduciary oversight in the interest of The Central.

THE GREAT DIVERSITY OF MEMBERS, PROGRAMS, ARTS, CULTURE, MUSIC, FOOD, EDUCATION, ACTIVITIES AND THOUGHT CREATES A THIRST FOR LEARNING NEW THINGS WHILE ENGAGING IN BOOK CLUB, CURRENT EVENTS, AND HAVING FUN AT THE CASC. THE BOARD IS WORKING TO ASSURE A STABLE, LONG-TERM, STRONG FINANCIAL BASE TO ENABLE CASC TO THRIVE AND REACH SENIORS.



**Terms of Office:** Appointed members serve at least one three-year term, with a maximum of two consecutive terms but must rotate from the Board for at least one year following two consecutive terms. Board members are not compensated for their work on behalf of CASC. They serve on a volunteer basis.

**Time Commitment:** This is an active, working board; and members are expected to contribute to both Board and committee work. Board members will be expected to attend activities during the year, established by the Board of Directors and CASC staff, including Board Orientation and planning retreats. Board members are expected to make an annual monetary pledge, to participate in board and committee meetings, regular events and periodically shoulder other workloads as an active board member, committee chair, or member.

Upon acceptance as a board member, members are required to sign a commitment agreement and agree to a Washington State Patrol background check.

If you are interested in getting involved, but don't have the time to serve as a member of the Board, you are invited to express interest in serving on a Board Committee, which will provide valuable input to CASC from a variety of backgrounds.

Please send this form with an updated resume and a cover letter describing why you qualify as a board member and what contributions you can make.

Check all boxes representing your skills and prior experience:

- [x] Community development/outreach
- [x] Fiscal management
- [x] Free-speech issues and activism
- [x] Fundraising and fund development
- [ ] Personnel and Human resources
- [ ] Legal issues
- [x] Media literacy
- [ ] Facility management/capital needs/planning
- [ ] Nonprofit management
- [x] Public relations and marketing
- [x] Strategic planning
- [x] Volunteer program development
- [ ] Social media experience
- [x] Community education & training
- [ ] IT and Technology knowledge
- [ ] Senior programs, special needs
- [ ] Health and Wellness

Name: Cynthia del Rosario

Business Affiliation: Retired / UW

Address: [redacted] Seattle WA 98122

Work phone:

Home phone: [redacted]

E-mail: [redacted]

Education & Training: UW

See resume

How are you familiar with CASC?

Elders

Lifetime Member

Memberships and volunteer involvement in CASC, charitable/professional/community/civic organizations:

See resume

Membership of any City, County, or State boards or commissions and dates of terms:

See resume

**Demographic Information** (please check all that apply)

- [x] Seattle ☐ King County/City _____
- ☐ North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West ☐ Central

**Race:** [x] White ☐ Black/African American

- [x] Asian/ Pacific Islander ☐ Hispanic/Latino
- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native ☐ Other_____

**Cultural Affiliation:** ☐ LGBT [x] Biracial

- [x] Multicultural

*(see other side)*

*Cynthia del Rosario*
[redacted]

Dear Central Area Senior Center (CASC) Board of Directors:

As a CASC Slider and a Lifetime Member, I have built meaningful friendships and a strong connection to CASC, inspiring me to help shape its future. I am applying to serve on the Board of Directors, bringing my lifelong ties to the Central Area and Seattle, my dedication to community service and nonprofit organizations, and over 30 years of experience at the University of Washington. I would bring both a community member's perspective and a professional commitment to collaboration, equity, and accountability.

My work in equity, education leadership, and policy has centered on turning a commitment to inclusion into practical programs and lasting partnerships. As Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Programs Manager at the UW Information School, I worked with a wide range of collaborators to create, fund, and implement programs supporting BIPOC and other underrepresented students and communities. Building a welcoming environment for prospective and current students, faculty, and staff required thoughtful listening, shared purpose, resourceful creativity, and sustained collaboration. These are strengths I would bring directly to CASC's Board.

My experience in marketing, customer service, and event management complements that background. I know how to build personal connections, organize competing responsibilities, and respond thoughtfully to changing needs. Together with my experience in program and budget development and management, these skills would help me contribute to the Center's community engagement, programs, and partnerships.

I would focus my board service on three interconnected priorities:

1. ***Community building***: Community is at the heart of CASC. I would draw on my outreach, collaboration, and program and budget management experience to strengthen connections and support programs that bring people together.
2. ***Financial responsibility and accountability***: CASC's financial difficulties demand focused action. Securing funding—including through grant writing—and managing budgets responsibly are essential to the Center's sustainability. I would bring my experience of funding programs and developing and managing budgets to this work.
3. ***Transparency***: Gaps in transparency are contributing to division, distrust, and in some cases, disinterest at CASC. I would make clear communication and accountability priorities of my service, with the aim of rebuilding trust and strengthening the community's confidence in the Center's future.

I would approach these priorities with preparation, sound judgment, and respect for differing perspectives. My experience navigating challenging situations and making thoughtful decisions under pressure has taught me the value of clear communication and steady collaboration. I am ready to put those skills to work in service of CASC's long-term sustainability.

CASC's mission of fostering friendship, healthy activities, and joyful experiences for diverse seniors gives this work its purpose. I want to help sustain a Center where community connection remains strong and thoughtful governance supports that mission.

Thank you for considering my application. I welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience and commitment to community can advance the Board's priorities. I am ready to contribute to CASC's next chapter with practical experience, collaborative leadership, and a clear commitment to its future.

Warmly,

[redacted]

*Cynthia del Rosario*

**Cynthia del Rosario**
[redacted]

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Education; Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
University of Washington College of Education (ABD)

M.Ed. Education; Curriculum and Instruction, Multicultural Education
University of Washington College of Education

B.A. Communication; Speech Communication & Organizational Development
University of Washington Arts and Sciences, Magna Cum Laude

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Programs Manager (July 2007-2024)
- University of Washington Information School (iSchool)

- Wrote grants securing nearly $1,000,000 in grants, funding, and graduate student research assistantships during nearly 20 years at the iSchool
- Provided staff support and equity and inclusion mentoring to iSchool student groups
    - Co-wrote several grants with student leaders to advance equity, social justice, and outreach to high schools with large BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) and other historically underrepresented, underserved and marginalized populations, while also supporting student leadership and professional development
- Implemented iSchool-wide community-building initiatives to attract, retain, and support diverse students, faculty, and staff
- Collaborated with iSchool program admissions committees on diversity in admissions
- Updated the iSchool's diversity-related web content
- Revised the Diversity Committee's mission and responsibilities
- Partnered with units and offices across UW on diversity outreach and other programs
- Partnered with local, regional, and national agencies, organizations, and higher education institutions to recruit, admit, hire, and support diverse students, faculty, and staff
- Developed programs and workshops to engage and maintain connections with iSchool alumni of color and other equity-minded alumni through professional development and mentoring
- Represented the iSchool at university, community, and professional events, including galas, conferences and other functions

Assistant to the Dean (2001-2007)
-University of Washington Graduate School: Graduate Opportunities & Minority Achievement Program

Co- Principal Investigator, University of Washington
- Office of Financial Management; Diversity Survey and Audit (2001-2002)

Adjunct Instructor, Pacific Oaks College Northwest, Seattle (1999-2003)
- Social and Political Contexts and Communications

Multicultural Alliance Teaching Fellow, The Bush School, Seattle WA (1999-2001)
- Taught Upper School history
- Served as faculty advisor to BRIDGES, the multicultural student group

University of Washington College of Education, Teacher Education Program
- Taught "Examining Racial Identity Development" (1998 - 2000)