#21

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Q1

Applicant Contact Information

Name	**Kelsey Simmons**
ZIP/Postal Code	**28803**
Email Address	**kelseysimmons.ks@gmail.com**
Phone Number	**8284077179**

Q2

Are you a native of Asheville, North Carolina?

Yes

Q3

Are you a current resident of Asheville, North Carolina?

Yes

Q4

If "Yes," how long have you been a resident of Asheville, North Carolina?

Over 20 years

Q5

If not a current resident of the City of Asheville, are you a current resident of Buncombe County?

Respondent skipped this question

Q6

If "Yes," how long have you been a resident of Buncombe County?

Respondent skipped this question

Q7

Do you support the City of Asheville's Reparations Resolution?

Yes

Q8

Have you been impacted personally by systemic racism in Asheville?

Yes

Q9

If "Yes," please provide a brief summary of one or more examples

When it comes to being impacted personally by systemic racism, I have been impacted in a few ways. When I was in the market looking for a home to buy, I was very limited with my options. Mainly because, during the 60's, there was a lot of redlining going on that prevented people of color from obtaining homes and buying homes in certain areas. I found a house in Shiloh, a historic black neighborhood and put in an offer the first day I saw it with the fear that I would have a hard time finding anything else available especially in predominantly white neighborhoods.

As a realtor, I also have experienced it being very hard to find clientele. After urban renewal happened, many people of color lost their homes. Which means there were less families of color who had a home to sell and even less families of color knowing what the first step is when buying a home. So with the lack of black homebuyers and sellers, it made it difficult for me to find clientele. Especially when most of the clientele in Asheville are middle to upper class white people who can afford the houses in this market and they prefer to work with someone who looks like them.

Q10

If "Yes," In which of the following categories have you been impacted personally by systemic racism in Asheville? (Check ALL that apply)

Economic Development,

Housing

Q11

If you have not been impacted by systemic racism personally, please describe your understanding of systemic racism in Asheville, North Carolina

Respondent skipped this question

Q12

Are you a resident or have you been a resident of any of the following impacted neighborhoods (Check ALL that apply)?

Shiloh,

Southside

Q13

If applicant is or has been a resident of a public housing community in Asheville, please specify which one(s):

Respondent skipped this question

Q14

Have you completed any cultural competency training programs?

No

Q15

Why are you interested in serving on the Community Reparations Commission?

For a number of years now, I have been able to bring positive, measurable change to this thriving city known as Asheville. My hope is to continue being a strong advocate in the community and provide the necessary opportunities needed to uplift people of color in Asheville. I would like to serve on this committee because I strongly support that with the combination of being a strong community advocate, knowledgeable with the essential elements of real estate, and my dedication to serving this community that I would be a beneficial asset to the Reparations committee.

Q16

List any special knowledge, qualifications, and/or experience in the five impact focus areas (and beyond) you will provide as a member of the Community Reparations Commission

Ever since 2013, I have worked with several non-profits that focus on these impact focus areas. These non-profits consist of the YMI Cultural Center, OpenDoors of Asheville, Just Economics, and Youth Empowered Solutions. I am also a realtor at Keller Williams, so I am very familiar with the current housing market conditions in Asheville and the obstacles that communities of color face when trying to become a homeowner.

I am also a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Asheville and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council of Buncombe County.

Q17

What do you hope to achieve by serving on the Community Reparations Commission?

As an Asheville native, I have grown up developing a great care and respect for Asheville accompanied with the desire to create a beneficial impact on this community. I hope to achieve the chance to provide beneficial opportunities for people of color in Asheville, especially when it comes to sustainable, affordable housing. Having a sustainable place to live greatly benefits the foundation of a family and it can also create generational wealth for generations to come. I know we will most likely not be able to provide people with affordable housing through this commission but we can provide the education around obtaining a home and the existing opportunities available to do so.

Q18

What impact focus areas are of the most interest to you? Please rank from 1st to 5th. If completing this form online, please click and drag in the order of interest.

Criminal Justice	**3**
Economic Development	**2**
Education	**5**
Healthcare	**4**
Housing	**1**

Q19

What do you believe your greatest contribution will be in serving on the Community Reparations Commission?

My greatest contribution will be being able to provide my experiences and education to the commission to find the most beneficial way to impact the communities of color through the decisions made by the commission.

Q20

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest (i.e. property interest, business interest, etc.) that exist currently or may arise during your service on the Community Reparations Commission if appointed?

No

Q21

If "Yes," please explain. Potential conflicts of interest may not preclude being appointed.'

Respondent skipped this question

Q22

Applicant Race (Check ALL that apply)

Black or African American

Q23

Applicant Gender

Female

Q24

Applicant Age

18-24

Q25

What language(s) is/are spoken at your home? Please check all that apply or use "other" to describe.

English

Q26

Do you have equipment and access to the internet to participate in remote meetings?

Yes

Q27

What day(s) work best for you to attend meetings on a consistent basis? (Check ALL that apply)

Tuesday,

Wednesday,

Thursday,

Friday

Q28

What time(s) during the work week work best for you to attend meetings on a consistent basis? (Check ALL that apply)

Mornings,

Afternoons

Q29

What type of support might be helpful to you if you are appointed to serve on the Commission (Check ALL that apply)?

No additional support needed

Q30

Additional Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q31

Signature

Name	**Kelsey Simmons**
Date	**1/14/2021**

Q32

Please list name, phone number, and email address for each of your endorsers:

Endorser 1:	**Takele Woldu, tkwoldu@gmail.com, 828-280-3052**
Endorser 2:	**Matthew Hendon, ablenspect@gmail.com, 828-215-2578**
Endorser 3:	**Mardi Harding, harmony_0003@gmail.com, 707-321-2956**