



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

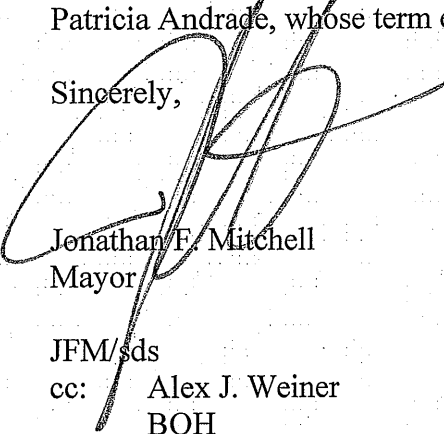
June 15, 2023

City Council President Linda M. Morad and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Morad and Honorable Members of the City Council:

I am submitting for your approval the **APPOINTMENT** of **ALEX J. WEINER** of 8 Lynwood Street, New Bedford, MA to the **BOARD OF HEALTH**. Mr. Weiner will be replacing Dr. Patricia Andrade, whose term expired in February 2022. This term will expire in February 2025.

Sincerely,


Jonathan F. Mitchell
Mayor

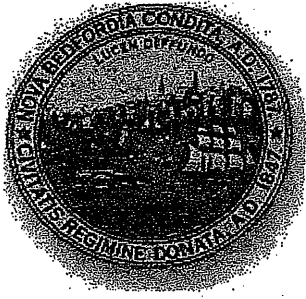
JFM/sds

cc: Alex J. Weiner
BOH

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
NEW BEDFORD, MA

2023 JUN 15 PM 12:15

CITY CLERK



**CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
BOARD & COMMISSION APPLICATION**

The Mayor is seeking citizens who wish to serve on City Boards and Commissions established to assist and advise the City on specific matters. Please complete this application in full (attach a resume and other information which may assist the Mayor and the City Council in making its selection) and file it with the Mayor's Office. The Mayor reserves the right to reject any application. Some appointments are subject to confirmation by the City Council.

Board/Commission applying for: (see reverse side) Board of Health

Name: Alex J. Weiner Email: [REDACTED]

Home Telephone: [REDACTED] Work Telephone: _____

Residence Address: 8 Lynnwood Street Zip: 02740

Present Occupation & Place of Employment: Nurse Practitioner at Blackstone Valley CHC in RI

Educational Background: MSN Yale University, MPH Drexel University, BS Psych UMass Amherst

Memberships in Community Organizations or Professional Groups:
New Bedford School Based Health Center Planning Committee, Previously worked with the local CHNA

City Boards and/or Commissions on which you have previously served:
N/A

The reasons why you wish to be considered for appointment by the Mayor:
See attached

Please detail specific areas of expertise:
See attached

Please detail specific areas of interest:
See attached

Available for meetings in the daytime evenings both (check one)

Resident of the City since what year: 1987

Appointees and incumbents may be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest, as required by the City Council Rules or the Mayor. The statement may require a declaration that you have no interest in conflict with the City of New Bedford. Please return your completed application to the Mayor's Office, 133 William St., Room 311, New Bedford, MA 02740.

Applications will be kept on file for two years.

**I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING
INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

Signature of Applicant:  NP Date: 7/7/21

New Bedford Board of Health Application

Dear Mayor Jon Mitchell and Members of the Search Committee,

Please accept my application for appointment to the New Bedford Board of Health. My name is Alex Weiner, and I am a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) with an additional Master's in Public Health. I have always had a deep appreciation and love for New Bedford, I grew up right across the street from Buttonwood Park, and just recently bought my first home, a two-family on Rockdale Avenue in the West End. I currently work as an FNP in Pawtucket, RI for Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, a Federally Qualified Health Center which serves residents of Pawtucket and Central Falls, RI. I work with folks in primary care along their lifespan to improve their health. While I enjoy working individually with patients, I am eager to serve New Bedford and utilize my expertise and passion for public health and health policy. Serving the New Bedford Board of Health would allow me to engage with our government and community in a way that positively impacts the health of our city's residents, visitors, and businesses.

I was able to attend a Board of Health meeting during COVID via Zoom and watched the Board navigate complex public health issues caused by the pandemic. Specifically, the meeting involved the re-opening of a restaurant/bar that did not follow local, state, and federal protocols. The Board considered a variety of factors in calculating what fines would be applied to the business and whether or not they would be able to re-open safely in the near future. In this way, I was able to witness the Board respond to an ongoing health crisis and manage the various and ongoing effects it had on the city's businesses and residents. I believe my background in health policy and management translates well to understanding our local public health issues and provides a solid foundation for responding to the variety of challenges brought to the Board.

As a member of the Board of Health, I would be eager to contribute to the vital decision making processes that characterize the position. If appointed, I would help to modernize public health in New Bedford and build a stronger relationship with various health and health adjacent organizations in the city. I would like to make the Board of Health more visible and accessible to the public. In doing so, I believe that our city's residents will feel more empowered and confident in promoting their own health and welfare, while recognizing the impact this Board has on the functioning and improvement of our City.

At Drexel School of Public Health in Philadelphia, PA I studied the inner-workings of health systems and considered ways to improve both their function and management through strategic health policy. For my Master's thesis I focused on Accountable Health Organizations (health systems organized to improve health and lower costs through better care coordination). I have additional experience in primary care innovation around models utilizing community health workers (CHWs). I worked as a community organizer and educator for a consumer health advocacy organization in Boston called Health Care for All and helped lead a statewide canvassing campaign to educate folks about the Affordable Care Act. I then worked as a Health Outreach Worker for Commonwealth Care Alliance in Boston doing home visits and helping people navigate the complex health ecosystem. I interfaced with a lot of social service organizations and learned intimately how these systems work. I then spent two years in New Haven while at Yale studying to become a Nurse Practitioner, organizing around CHWs in an effort to build supportive infrastructure i.e. a local organization on which CHWs could come together and share their ideas.

I am deeply interested in community health systems and community health redesign i.e. looking at best practice models to improve how care is organized and delivered, specifically for underserved people. I am also currently working through a federal grant to deliver substance use disorder treatment at my health center. I have also been working for the last 3 years to establish a school based health center at New Bedford High School. In this effort, I helped secure a grant which brought in the leading national school based health organization to consult the city and bring various stakeholders to the table. We are currently working on getting a memorandum of understanding between the NB School District and the GNBCHC. I am very excited at the possibilities for public health in New Bedford.

It would be an honor and privilege to serve the city of New Bedford on the Board of Health. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alex Weiner, MSN, MPH, FNP-C

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Alex J. Weiner MSN, MPH, FNP-C

8 Lynnwood St. New Bedford, MA | Cell: 781-552-1111 | 781-552-1111

EDUCATION

- Yale University, School of Nursing, New Haven, CT**
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) | Family Nurse Practitioner | Diabetes Care Concentration | Graduated May 2019
Certificate in Nursing, August 2017
- Drexel University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA**
Master of Public Health (MPH) | Health Policy and Management | Community Health | Graduated June 2013
Thesis: One Step Closer to Value: A Snapshot of Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)
- University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA**
Bachelor of Science in Psychology | Minor: Biology | Certificate: Culture, Health, and Science | Graduated May 2010
Commonwealth Honors College: Magna Cum Laude

APRN CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- Greater New Bedford Community Health Center - Adult Primary Care** Jan. 2019 - May 2019
- United Community and Family Services Health Center - Pediatric Primary Care** Jan. 2019 - May 2019
- Prime Healthcare, Endocrinology Office - Adult Specialty Rotation in Diabetes** Jan. 2019 - May 2019
- Connecticut Primary Care and Wellness - Adult Primary Care** Sept. 2018 - Dec. 2019
- Adult Primary Care Clinic at Yale SRH - Adult Complex Primary Care** Sept. 2018 - Dec. 2019
- Fair Haven Community Health Center - Adult & Pediatric Primary Care** Jan. 2018 - May 2018
- McDougal Walker Correctional Facility - Adult Primary Care** Jan. 2018 - May 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Family Nurse Practitioner, Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Pawtucket, RI** Sept. 2019 - Present
 - Provides whole person-centered care across the lifespan that focuses on the social determinants of health
 - Performs comprehensive history and physical exams for children, adults and the elderly
 - Manages multiple chronic diseases including hypertension and diabetes with the latest evidence based guidelines
 - Serves as a patient advocate for families navigating our complex health system
- Registered Nurse, Yale Health Center, Student Health, New Haven, CT** Nov. 2017 - Feb. 2019
 - Provided telephone and walk-in triage support to patients regarding symptoms and possible pathologies
 - Advised patients regarding home care and signs of worsening that warrant an office visit
 - Educated patients regarding sexual transmitted infections including prevention, testing, and treatment
- Registered Nurse, Bristol County Sheriff's Office, House of Corrections, Dartmouth, MA** Summer 2018
 - Provided daily medication treatment, emergency medical care, chronic disease management, detoxification, and prenatal care to inmates
 - Performed rapid nursing assessments on inmates during sick visits and advocated for timely care
- Health Outreach Worker, Commonwealth Care Alliance (CCA), Boston, MA** July 2014 - July 2016
 - Conducted one-on-one home visits with medically and socially complex individuals to learn their personal and medical histories, assess their bio/psycho/social needs, and connect them to community resources
 - Built genuine relationships with members, while utilizing motivational interviewing to guide them toward behavior change and improved health
- Community Education Coordinator, Health Care for All (HCFA), Boston, MA** Sept. 2013 - June 2014
 - Coordinated community events and forums with community-based organizations across the state of Massachusetts
 - Trained canvassers in door-to-door outreach to explain the changes in Massachusetts due to the Affordable Care Act
 - Delivered presentations on the ACA to consumers and community-based organizations to ensure optimum health insurance enrollment
- HIV/AIDS Case Manager, Seven Hills Behavioral Health, New Bedford, MA** Feb. 2011 - July 2011
 - Connected people living with HIV/AIDS to health service by coordinating medical treatment, referring to psychosocial options, and ensuring adequate housing and disability benefits
 - Led discussions with mentally ill adult men in a group therapy setting on topics ranging from philosophy to addiction
- Emergency Medical Technician, STAT New England Ambulance Inc., New Bedford, MA** July 2010 - Feb. 2011

- Provided emergent and non-emergent transportation from nursing home facilities to doctor appointments, dialysis treatment facilities and emergency departments of local hospitals

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Consultant, UN Special Envoy for Health, New Haven Community Health Worker Initiative Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2019

- Identified key CHW stakeholders in New Haven and organize a design session for a CHW Coordinator position
- Provided on the ground coordination and stakeholder support for the coordinator position
- Organized a CHW Networking Event for CHWs in New Haven in the Spring of 2019

US Health Justice Collaborative Community Organizer, Yale University USHJ Collaborative Jan. 2017 – Jan. 2019

- Designed and executed a "CHWs in New Haven" event where over 100 participants came to learn from two panels of speakers: CHWs and Major CHW Stakeholders from around the state including, Yale New Haven Health, local CHCs and the state policy makers on the State Innovation Model
- Co-developed speaker-series for the year and put together event: "Toward a More Just System: Primary Care, Population Health and Economic Reform" for over 100 key partners and players in the greater New Haven area

Primary Care Progress Chapter Leader, PCP at Yale University, New Haven, CT Nov. 2016 – May 2018

- Facilitated the creation of an inter-university *Hotspotting* program at Yale and Southern Connecticut State University to work with medically and socially complex individuals in New Haven
- Led the collaboration with other student-run patient navigator programs to build a more robust and integrated patient navigator program at Yale University
- Organized lectures and events across Yale University around primary care innovation and team based care

InciteHealth Fellow, Harvard Medical School, Center for Primary Care, Boston, MA Feb 2015 – March 2016

- Entrepreneurial healthcare fellowship for innovation in primary care which utilized the principles of Design Thinking to develop patient-centered solutions.
- Co-founded 'Caravan Prevention', an innovative primary care start-up that used a health coach model to improve preventive health screening rates in vulnerable populations

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Senior Clinical Team Member, HAVEN Free Clinic, New Haven, CT, Sept. 2016 – Present

- Interview patients to obtain a focused health history and physical exam leading to diagnosis
- Develop treatment plans with patient that includes pharmacological and behavioral interventions
- Offer referrals to services within and outside of the clinic to provide answers to questions and to address any future health concerns
- Mentor Junior Clinical Team members on obtaining a health history and performing a physical exam

MA Gubernatorial Campaign Organizer, Don Berwick for Governor, Massachusetts Oct. 2013 – Sept. 2014

- Spearheaded several organizing events in the South Coast region including two meet-and-greets and phone banking
- Organized a Millennial Policy Forum to highlight and connect the policy concerns of millennials to the campaign

Community Organizer for Health, Camden Churches for Organized People, Camden, NJ Jan. 2013 – June 2013

- Performed door-to-door outreach and orchestrated healthcare listening sessions in two large residential towers
- Created an online database (Trackvia) with the Camden Coalition for Health Care Providers (CCHP) to enter health workflow information in an effort to better coordinate care for high-utilization patients

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Family Nurse Practitioner, Licensed in RI	Current
Registered Nurse, Licensed in RI, MA and CT	Current
DEA-X, Medication Assisted Treatment X-Waiver	Current
Basic Life Support for Providers (CPR/AED), American Heart Association	Expires June 2020

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Representative for Student Government, Yale School of Nursing

Mental Health Task Force Member, Yale School of Nursing

Nutrition that Heals Lecture Series Team Member, Yale University

Member, Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioner Legislative Committee

Member, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners