



CLI

Community Leadership

Puget Sound Sage's Community Leadership Institute (CLI) is a fellowship program that resources, trains and places emerging leaders from low-income communities and communities of color to serve on strategic municipal boards and commissions.

Why?

We believe that communities of color in Seattle can prosper in place by harnessing market forces and public investment with their own vision for growth at the center of local planning. *If you're not at the table, you're on the menu.*

Barriers into positions of decision-making around long-term planning greatly hinder our capacity to influence planning, policy, and transportation in the region. People of color are consistently under-represented on the municipal boards, commissions and advisory bodies that influence major decisions at the local and regional level. The CLI changes that by resourcing, educating, and supporting leaders of color to be engaged in this way.

How?

The Community Leadership Institute is a six-month long fellowship that educates participants on:

- **Housing, climate, and labor justice**
- **Land use and planning**
- **Economic development**
- **Municipal budgeting, parliamentary procedures, and the art of politics**

The trainings lay the long-term groundwork for achieving solutions based on community needs by learning how to infuse a racial equity analysis at municipal boards and commissions.

By learning the "rules of the game" leaders can have confidence in their competence to have a strong voice at decision-making tables.



For more information about the Community Leadership Institute, contact Amanda Kim at amanda@pugetsoundsage.org or phone: Cell: (206) 519-7290.



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Who?

Candidates should meet the following criteria:

- 1 Currently living in King County or Pierce County.
- 2 Emerging leaders from communities of color and/or low income communities who are committed to racial/social justice. Applicants should be interested in civic engagement, careers in community leadership or public office, and should have relevant lived experience and/or professional experience.
- 3 Applicants should be able to commit to attending every CLI session each month and have the ability to and interest in serving on a municipal board or commission after graduation.

"The power behind each of these twenty future advocate commissioners expands beyond their individual representation to a truth-telling voice of the communities from which they are rooted."

– Justice Mary Yu

When?

Puget Sound Sage's 2020-21 CLI will launch in October 2020. Over the course of six months, CLI trainings will take place every first Saturday from 8:30am - 5:00pm and every third Wednesday evening from 6:00pm - 8:00 pm. Participants receive a stipend.

"As an immigrant and a refugee, many times you are reminded that you're not capable of doing much; you have this self-doubt. The CLI gave me this confidence: 'Yes, you can be something. You can make a difference.'"

– Abdi Yussuf, CLI Graduate

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