

My name is Lynnsey Erickson, I live at 240 Algoma Blvd. Apt. 310 in Oshkosh, and I'd like to represent you on the Oshkosh Food Co-op Board of Directors. I have been a member of the co-op since 2016 and am excited to continue helping grow the co-op as a board member.

My mission in life is to ensure that everyone, no matter what, has the opportunity to thrive. In my professional life, I'm a health educator at the Winnebago County Health Department, focusing on tobacco prevention, mental health and suicide prevention. Prior to that, I served as a Wisconsin HealthCorps AmeriCorps member for two years at the Winnebago County Health Department. I also work with the Wisconsin Women's Network as their Policy Institute Coordinator, ensuring that women throughout the state know how to effectively advocate for issues that matter to them. In my free time, I also mentor at the Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh and have volunteered my time with the Oshkosh Food Co-op to plan the last two annual meetings.

I'm excited for the opportunity to bring my organizational skills and perspectives about access to health to the Oshkosh Food Co-op Board of Directors. I bring an openness to new ideas and perspectives and am committed to working hard to see the Oshkosh Food Co-op doors open. I bring a community focus to all of my work, and I strive to think about and be conscious of how decisions affect all aspects of our community.

As I think about the future of the Oshkosh Food Co-op and the increasingly real presence it has in our community, I envision it being a community center for all residents. One of my favorite pastimes when I'm traveling is to visit local food co-ops and grocery stores. My favorite co-ops always have an authentic, local community feel. I get a sense of what it's like to live in that city or neighborhood while I'm visiting that co-op. I love seeing the local foods and the support for local growers and producers. That's why I want to be a board member and that's why the Oshkosh Food Co-op is so important to Oshkosh. I want to make stronger connections with our local growers and producers. I want to ensure that our food co-op reflects our community and our uniqueness as Oshkosh.

I envision our co-op as a place where all residents can go to be healthier and happier through local, healthy food, and as a cooperative, we have the power to create that kind of space. Cooperatives can be shaped by its member-owners and that allows us to create something that is uniquely Oshkosh. I believe the Oshkosh Food Co-op can be more than just a grocery store, it can be a community center where all residents feel welcomed and connected to their community.

Thank you for the consideration, and I look forward to building community and the Oshkosh Food Co-op!