

**Name of Nominee:**

Jason Vitello

**Nominee's Employer/Agency:**

Denver Public Health

**Nominee's County of Residence:**

Denver

**Nominee's Self-Identified Area of Public Health Expertise:**

Behavioral Health/Health Equity

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**For which position would you like to submit a nomination?:**

President Elect (3-year Term Commitment)

**Describe your background, education, and experience relevant to the CPHA Board. (200 words maximum):**

I began my public health career in 2016 at Denver Public Health and have worked in the areas of behavioral health promotion, equity, community engagement, and criminal justice reform. In the same year, I began my CPHA service as the first Director of Health Equity and founder of the Health Equity Coalition (HEC). At present, I serve as the first Health Equity Officer for CPHA and represent the interests of the HEC on the executive committee. My ultimate role is to work with board leadership to ensure that social justice, health equity and antiracist practices permeate CPHA organizational structure, committees, practice, communications, and activities. In addition to my formal public health duties, I am an adjunct professor at the University Of Denver Graduate School Of Social Work, an active community leader, and a national speaker. Prior to my career in public health, I was a social worker and therapist who provided advocacy and clinical care to disenfranchised individuals and families.

**What are your goals in serving on the CPHA Board? (150 words maximum):**

My primary goal as CPHA President will be to strengthen efforts to build a movement for health equity and social justice across Colorado. This will start with deepening our commitment to becoming an anti-racist organization by evaluating our current state and ensuring that principles of diversity, equity and inclusion are infused into our infrastructure and practices. I will also strive to equip and empower our members to be effective agents of change in this movement. Moreover, I will commit to open communication to hear their insights on how CPHA can grow and better meet their needs. Finally, I will continue to work with the HEC and other CPHA leaders to help build connectivity and coordination within the public health sector and beyond, to listen to the voices of the unheard, and to impact meaningful and measurable changes within our Colorado communities and legislature. And I hope we can have some fun along the way.

**What specific contributions do you expect to make to CPHA? (150 words maximum):**

CPHA is committed to becoming antiracist and our board has written into their strategic work plan the goal of „Building a public health movement.“ I am uniquely positioned to help lead us toward the realization of this vision. As a public health professional, academic, community leader, former clinician, and person of color, I bring a dynamic perspective as well as an ability to engage and galvanize stakeholders from multiple sectors. I possess a leadership style that values collaboration and the sharing of knowledge and power. Most importantly, I bring a commitment to collective liberation and an ability to facilitate difficult conversations, and ultimately personal and political change

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**Please use the scale below to indicate your level of experience with the following:**

- 0 No knowledge or experience
- 1 Some knowledge around this skillset but no experience putting it into action
- 2 Moderate knowledge and experience applying the skillset
- 3 Extensive knowledge and experience applying the skillset

**Accounting:**

1

**Community Organizing:**

3

**Event Planning:**

3

**Financial Literacy:**

2

**Grant Writing:**

3

**Legal:**

1

**Marketing/PR:**

2

**Organizational Management:**

2

**Public Policy:**

2

**Risk Management:**

2

**Strategic Planning:**

2

**In which areas of CPHA do you think you could make the most contributions?:**

I would continue to make significant contributions within CPHA as a visionary leader committed to health equity and social justice. I would further utilize my passion and skill as an effective

communicator in engaging and inspiring others from diverse personal and professional backgrounds to work together to achieve a shared vision.

**Which areas of CPHA's work would be more difficult for you to make contribution?:**

I would find it most difficult to contribute within the areas of legal and fiscal management. The success of teams is contingent on its diverse members being able to contribute according to their strengths and areas of specialization, and the CPHA board has proven to be such a team in my experience. However, while effective leadership entails being informed by the expertise of others, it also requires continued development and growth, and I am committed to and adept at learning whatever I need to know.