

System of Care Advisory Council Biographies

Aprille Flint-Gerner

Serving SOCAC since February 2023



Representation: Oregon Department of Human Services – Child Welfare

I am on the Council:

I fundamentally believe we have a responsibility to work across systems to decrease the distance between children and their families and positive outcomes. I am on the council because Child Welfare has historically hoarded power, surveilled families, and criminalized parents in crisis unnecessarily. System involvement need not be traumatizing to children and separation for the purpose of keeping children safe, should be the absolute last resort. I want to provide the kind of leadership that helps to transform the child serving system and especially what should be the limited role child welfare plays.

Greatest hope for the Council:

A strong children’s system of care will help us all work together to minimize the traumas associated with system involvement, make sure that no one’s identity or place is a predeterminant for how they will fair in any of our systems and finally to ensure that children get the quality from our partnerships that they deserve.

Background:

I am the ODHS Child Welfare Director. Prior to this role, I served as Interim Child Welfare Director and Deputy Director with ODHS since 2020. I have over 25 years of experience working across systems that serve children. I have worked in academia, community mental health, and human services and have extensive experience in workforce development, development and implementation of human services practice models and technical assistance in system transformation in California and Nevada, prior to coming to Oregon. I received my bachelors and MSW at San Jose State University in San Jose, CA.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I am huge Ducks fan. My son played football for the Ducks and that makes me a motherducker!

- I have a black belt and helped open and run a still successful karate school in Oakland, CA and competed nationally.
- My husband and I are obsessed with the Bachelor and Bachelorette television shows. Don't judge us.

Adam Peterson

Serving SOCAC since December 2023

Representation: Coordinated Care Organization

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

Background:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Adam Rodakowski (he/him/his)

Serving SOCAC since December 2023



Representation: Agency that serves and supports youth and families

Why I am on the Council:

Having lived my entire life in Oregon, I'm committed to the health and wellbeing of the children in our state. I'm passionate about not only addressing needs for youth with the highest needs in our state, but also how we shift as a system to support those youth and their families earlier to help improve their outcomes in the future.

Greatest hope for the Council:

Creating meaningful, sustainable change to create healthier children and families in Oregon, while also understanding the need for action needed now for children with complex care needs.

Background:

I currently work for Greater Oregon Behavioral Health Inc.(GOBHI) leading our Therapeutic Foster Care Program, the Foster Plus collaborative (www.fosterplus.org), and the Oregon Kinship Navigator program (www.oregonkinshipnavigator.org). Additionally, I provide support to the Children's System of Care across Eastern Oregon. Prior to GOBHI I worked in a variety of roles with DHS Child Welfare and the Oregon Health Authority. I received my BS in Public Policy & Administration from Western Oregon University, and my Master of Social Work from Portland State University with a concentration on Practice and Leadership with Communities and Organizations.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I have a Corgi named Ferguson,
- Was raised on a Hazelnut farm in rural Oregon, and
- Enjoy finding places to explore nature in Oregon that don't have cell phone service!

Alisha Overstreet (she/her)

Serving SOCAC since August 2022



Representation: Family member - intellectual/developmental disability or mental illness

Why I am on the Council:

Family representative

Greatest hope for the Council:

My greatest hope for the council is that SOCAC can be a model on how to authentically include disenfranchised voices calling forth and disrupting power differentials in decision-making processes, elevating lived experience as an expertise, and including those of us directly impacted by systems from the very beginning of policy making.

Background:

I am a community member with over 15 years of lived experience navigating multiple systems on the local, state, and federal levels on behalf of several of my own family members. My interests include topics and areas relating to developmental disability services, mental health, the intersection between Law and Psychology, community accessibility, education, neurodiversity acceptance, living in varying geographical areas (i.e., urban vs rural), being bi-lingual in German, and among other things, the impact of public policy on those closest to the problems. Additionally, I have the privilege of serving in the roles of Vice-President and Secretary of Oregon Family Advisory Council (ORFAC), an organization striving to ensure Family Voice is equipped, elevated, and equitable in any decision-making processes affecting families and the youth they care for.

My active engagement, professional, and personal experiences bring forth unique insights to the complexities of inter-agency communication and collaboration from the perspective of an advocate, family member, community partner, and individual accessing services and programs. This, combined with my education in Forensic Psychology, M.S. and my unabating need to learn drives me to continue this work and challenge the status-quo using collaborative and inquisitive practices, while placing Lived Experience at the fore front.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- My career goal in high school was to become a Neurosurgeon, but I (not-so-secretly) dove into activities that often included public policy, government, and law during my Senior year such as Debate, and Model United States Senate.

- I am the parent of two furry-babies: Master Chief – our TeddyBear Rottweiler-mix, and Thurston – our slightly ornery Shih Tzu.
- I LOVE to learn – *it may actually be a slight obsession of mine*: Podcasts, Documentaries, Books, Self-guided courses, Scholarly and popular articles, government/community reports, policy updates, etc. with special interest in areas including True Crime, U.S. and State Constitution and History, Philosophical Thought, Public Policy, Disability, as well as the intersections of Psychology and Law.

Allison Stark

Serving SOCAC since December 2023

Representation: Organizations that advocate for families of youth

Why I am on the Council:

I've spent my entire professional career working in the disability and mental health service field. I have advocacy, provider, and state government experience. As the Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities for the State of Illinois I was heavily involved with systems change work including policy development, legislative engagement, consensus building, and most importantly making real impact on the systems of support impacting children and adult with disabilities. I am inspired by the SOCAC's centering of youth and family voices in the work and look forward to learning from others, engaging on issues, and developing strategies to move the system forward.

Greatest hope for the Council:

I think Oregon has a lot of opportunity for growth and change to better support kids with disabilities and mental health challenges across the state. I think the Council can be impactful in this space.

Background:

I am currently the Chief Executive Officer of Albertina Kerr. Kerr empowers youth and adults with developmental disabilities (I/DD) and mental health challenges to lead self-determined lives in their communities. Besides being a member of the SOCAC, I am also a Board member of the Arc Oregon and the Oregon Resource Association. I hold a master's degree from the University of Chicago, a bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a Nonprofit Management Certificate from Chicago's North Park University.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I love cats!
- I could eat cereal every day for every meal.
- I won a Sunny Delight (90s orange flavored drink) drawing contest in 4th grade and won a Sunny Delight calculator. I sometimes wonder what happened to the calculator.

Amy Baker

Serving SOCAC since March 2022



Representation: County mental health director

Background:

Amy Baker is the Executive Director of Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare and has been innovating and developing new programs and services in Clatsop County for the past six years. She has over 25 years of experience in the behavioral health field. Amy received her bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon and her Master's Degree in Social Work from Smith College School for Social Work in 1995. Her breadth and depth of experience in Oregon's behavioral health system has led to her passionate beliefs about to how improve Oregon's healthcare and safety net system for children, families, and adults.

Anderson DeBoise

Serving SOCAC since June 2024

Representation: Youth Advocate, REAP

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Andrew Grover (he/him/his)

Serving SOCAC since January 2023



Representation: Agency that serves and supports youth and families.

Why I am on the Council:

To help youth and families achieve their full potential we need a better System of Care...One with improved policy, funding, and coordination.

Greatest hope for the Council:

Steady progress toward a sustainable, healthy, and accountable system of services and supports. A system that can show it helps improve people's quality of life in a clear and compelling way.

Background:

- Current: Executive Director, Youth Villages Oregon
- 2006: Master of Public Health from Portland State
- Years before: Worked directly with kids and families in homes, communities, and residential programs.
- Long ago: a child who came up through the system. Personally, I spent years in residential, foster care, and juvenile justice programs.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- Building all the furniture in our family home (slowly)
- Slacklining clears my mind (sort of like tightrope walking but not so tight)
- Married with a college age daughter + two little ones (3- and 5-year-olds)

Annette Majekodunmi (She/her/hers)



Serving SOCAC since February 2020

Representation: Family member – foster care or juvenile justice

Why I'm on the Council?

I always want the parent voice to be heard. For so long we have been overlooked, especially African Americans residents. I'm inspired by families with lived experience with systems who want to change things to help others.

Greatest hope for the Council?

That we always consider those impacted by policies as we sit on the council. Last two jobs: Parent and Community Engagement Coordinator and Case manager with POIC in Multnomah County

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I love to travel. Amsterdam and London are always on my list.
- I Zumba at least 4 days a week for my Cardio.
- I'm a classic Movie fan.

B Grace Bullock, PhD (she/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since March 2020



Representation: Oregon Department of Education

Why I am on the Council:

I serve as the Director of Mental Health at the Oregon Department of Education. I am committed to working in partnership with youth, families, community, local and state partners to building linguistically and culturally responsive health and mental health systems that serve the needs of all Oregonians and ensuring that education systems are active participants in this process.

Greatest hope for the Council:

That we can continue to work collaboratively to align and seamlessly integrate the work of state and local agencies and community partners to create a system of care that serves Oregon communities equitably, and with fidelity. That we work together to dismantle the policies and practices that result in systemic oppression, discrimination, marginalization, and harm.

Background:

I am a psychologist, educator, and proven transformational leader with more than two decades of experience designing, developing, and evaluating innovative and sustainable, community-led programs, policies, strategies, and systems to ensure health, mental health, and education equity.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I am the author of the book, *Mindful Relationships: Seven skills for success- integrating the science of mind, body, and brain.*
- I am an avid musician, composer, and singer songwriter.
- I spend a great deal of time outdoors hiking with my dog, friends, and family.

Carissa Cousins (she/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since March 2023

Representation: Pediatric physician

Why I am on the Council:

As a pediatrician and child abuse physician, I have had the opportunity to view multiple systems in which families are involved. Being on the council is an opportunity to work with a team that works toward improving systems for families and a team that embraces learning from systems that work well.

Greatest hope for the Council:

My hope is that the council continues to address the needs of all families in Oregon so that all children have the opportunities to have optimal well-being.

Background:

I have been a pediatrician for over 20 years. Following residency, I worked in a pediatric ER for 8 years. I then spent time working with Doctors Without Borders. I moved to Oregon in 2011 and began working in primary care and child abuse pediatrics.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Declining to answer 😊

Cynthia Cecil

Serving SOCAC since September 2023

Representation: Tribal Representative

Why I am on the Council:

As an enrolled tribal member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, as well as the Clinical Director of Behavioral Health at Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center I feel I can bring a unique perspective to the Council in helping to address disparities and inequalities within the tribal population.

Greatest hope for the Council:

Work collaboratively with the SOC Team to address and combat inequities and disparities that do harm, creating a system that is all inclusive, fair, and respectful.

Background:

I received my Master's in Social Work in 2014 from Walla Walla University securing employment with Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center working directly in the Umatilla County School District with Native youth suffering from behavioral health issues. I obtained clinical licensure in 2017. After seven years in the schools, I made a very tough decision to move into management applying for the mental health manager position at Yellowhawk. In 2021 I became the MH Manager and in 2022 I applied for and became the Behavioral Health Clinical Director overseeing mental health and chemical dependency programs.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I love my three boys with a fierce passion.
- I am an avid traveler focused on making memories with my husband and children.
- I love music; if you visit me at home you can bet you'll hear classic rock in the kitchen, 80's rock in the bathroom, blues/hip hop on the porch.

Dan Thoma (he/him/his)

Serving SOCAC since January 2023



Representation: Commercial insurance

Why I am on the Council:

I have had positive experiences collaborating with other stakeholders to improve and integrate our systems of care. I would like to keep building on that to try to strengthen our delivery system, improve access and enable clinicians to do their best work.

Greatest hope for the Council:

That we produce concrete results.

Background:

For the past 13 years I've led Moda Health's behavioral health program. I also worked previously in community mental health on crisis and outpatient teams.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I'm recently experimenting with going without caffeine and tolerating it reasonably well.
- I love planting trees.
- I love Excel because I hate math.

Dana Hittle

Serving SOCAC since May 2024

Representation:

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Ebony Clark,

Serving SOCAC since July 2024

Representation:

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Emily Cooper (she/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since January 2021



Representation: Oregon's federally mandated disability protection and advocacy agency

Why I am on the Council:

I am the representative from Oregon's federally mandated disability protection and advocacy agency - Disability Rights Oregon. I have spent my entire career trying to improve systems that serve people with disabilities.

Greatest hope for the Council:

That we develop a unified and robust set of recommendations to improve the lives of young people in Oregon that we can both share with the Governor and take back into our respective organizations a la grassroots and tops!

Background:

I lead a team of attorneys and advocates who work to uphold the rights of Oregonians with disabilities. Currently, I am spearheading DRO's class-action litigation, including the *Wyatt v. Brown* lawsuit seeking a safer foster care system that provides youth the services they need to thrive, the *J.N. v. ODE* lawsuit pursuing more robust academic and behavioral services and supports enabling youth to learn during a full school day, and our ongoing monitoring of the *Lane v. Brown* case aimed at closing sheltered workshops so that individuals with developmental disabilities get competitive jobs in their communities.

Three Things That Are Fun or Interesting About Me:

- I am a new mom (you may have "met" Leah in our meetings) complete with mom jeans and jokes.
- I did cat rescue for several years and can still master a range of meows to entice many a cat from under a car/shed/pile of rubble.
- My greatest accomplishment is anytime a client is able to navigate a system successfully or get what they've asked for without my involvement based on their own mastered advocacy strategies.

Jacque Serrano

Serving SOCAC since June 2024

Representation:

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Jesus Nunez-Pineda (pronounced jee-zus) (I am gender fluid, so my pronouns change from time to time.)

Serving SOCAC since December 2023



Representation: Youth - intellectual/developmental disability or mental illness

Why I am on the council:

I am always excited to participate in anything that can make a difference. I am very passionate about improving the systems of care due to my prior involvement in certain systems.

Greatest hope for the council:

I know it is a bit cliché, but I just want to make a difference.

Background:

I am a youth peer support specialist. I am also involved with the YYEA committee, and with the Children's System Advisory Council (CSAC) from time to time.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I was born in Mexico.
- I love turtles.
- I have a dog named Coco.

Jill Archer

Serving SOCAC since August 2024

Representation:

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

Kyle Johnson (he/him/his)

Serving SOCAC since January 2023



Representation: Psychiatrist

Why I am on the Council:

For over 20 years, I have been a faculty member in the Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at OHSU. Since 2013, I have directed our consultation-liaison service responsible for assessing children and adolescents in psychiatric crisis presenting to our emergency department, pediatric floor, and pediatric intensive care unit. On a nearly daily basis, I face system of care challenges with patients and their families. I want to help develop a better system of care for youth and their families experiencing behavioral and mental health crises and challenges.

Greatest hope for the Council:

I hope our work will result in much improved communication between different levels of mental health care.

Background:

For over 20 years, I have been a faculty member in the Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at OHSU. Since 2013, I have directed our consultation-liaison service responsible for assessing children and adolescents in psychiatric crisis presenting to our emergency department, pediatric floor, and pediatric intensive care unit.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I am originally from Oklahoma.
- Enjoy kayaking.
- Once met Evel Knievel.

Judge Maurisa Gates

Serving SOCAC since December 2022



Representation: Judicial Department

Why I am on the Council:

I have worked on behalf of children for the majority of my almost 27-year career as a public defender when I was a lawyer. I saw how the lack of treatment resources in the communities where children reside and the barriers to treatment have impacted their lives, the lives of their families, and the lives of the community. Now as a judge, I continue to see the lack of options that I have when weighing what would best result in rehabilitation vs community safety. We as a country need to do better. I want to see Oregon do better and appreciate having a seat at the table to be a force for that to happen.

Greatest hope for the Council:

To have Oregon achieve a system of delivery of care that:

- Has facilities that are in the communities where patients reside that allow for acute, intensive, residential, and outpatient care.
- That has staff that is skilled, patient, culturally diverse (and is culturally aware) and appropriately compensated for the hard and important work that they do.
- That the appropriate level of care is available without delay for the person that is in need (not months of waiting or days/hours when in acute crisis).

Background:

I am a sitting judge in the Family Law Department of the Multnomah County Circuit Court. I was appointed in February of 2022, and began serving in March of 2022. I practiced law for almost 27 years before becoming a judge. My entire legal career as a lawyer was as a public defender. In that role, I represented both children and adults in need of legal assistance. I practiced criminal law and juvenile law (delinquency and dependency). I also represented adults whom the state was trying to involuntarily civilly commit to the Oregon State Hospital. While an attorney, I volunteered and served as a Pro Tem Judge for the Family Law Department's Judicial Settlement Conferences from 2020-2022. In addition, I have presented trainings for Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. I have also participated in mentoring programs for individuals interested in pursuing the law as a career.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- The late summer after graduating law school, I traveled around Europe for a month.
- I skydived once.

- The first time I did a trial, I did it representing the state as a Certified Law Student in the prosecutor's office.

Robin Henderson (She/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since February 2020



Representation: Psychologist

Why I am on the Council:

I first began working in adolescent residential services more than 35 years ago—and sadly, services are more fractured and disconnected than they were then.

I want to leverage all aspects of the system—payers, providers, patients, peers, and families—to help create a system of early identification, intervention and care that supports children and their families where they are at and breaks the cycles of poverty and homelessness that our youth grow into through our failing system.

Greatest hope for the Council:

Create a system of services that is dynamic, responsive, and focused on recovery, support and giving hope to our youth and their families.

Background:

I'm a psychologist by training, and currently serve as the Chief Executive, Behavioral Health for Providence here in Oregon. Prior to this, I was with St Charles Health System in Bend for 15 years serving in similar capacities.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I'm married with two amazing children—Bobby, my 19-year-old son and budding young psychologist, and Billie, my 17-year-old transgender wanna be family practice doc.
- Billie lives with anorexia, depression, and anxiety, and has high expectations of a better system in their future.
- I love to cook and am especially adept at the #artofpie.

Sandra Santos (She/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since March 2022



Representation: Oregon Youth Authority

Why I am on the Council:

I am the representative for Oregon Youth Authority on the council. I am the Assistant Director for Community Services with OYA. I have previous experience with Systems of Care and believe strongly that our child serving systems need to work together to improve access to services and meet the needs of our underserved populations.

Greatest hope for the Council:

That we would work together in a productive, forward moving manner to improve access to all child services. That youth who could more appropriately be served in a different system could get access to the services they need prior to being introduced into the Juvenile Justice system.

Background:

I am currently the Assistant Director for Community Services at the Oregon Youth Authority. I spent the last 15 + years at Washington County Juvenile Department. Prior to that I worked as a Clinical Social Worker providing individual and family therapy to Spanish speaking residents in Washington County. I have worked for not-for-profit social service agencies as well in my past, all of my career has been focused on working with youth and families in need of support and fighting for racial and social justice.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I was in the Peace Corps right out of undergrad and lived in Cape Verde, West Africa for over two years.
- I have two very large Olde English Bulldogs.
- I am an avid outdoors person and love hiking, biking, paddle boarding, walking etc.

Sonya Littledeer-Evans (she/her/hers)

Serving SOCAC since September 2022



Representation: County juvenile department director

Cultural Identity:

Indigenous (Raramurí, Osage, Cherokee), Irish

Why I am on the Council:

I am on the council because I hope to add voice, experience and a decolonized insight that can help to:

- Name and shine light on the structural inequities, so often hidden in plain sight.
- Interrupt the words, behaviors and decision-making that protect and keep these structural inequities in place.
- Create and/or rebuild community care that centers children, youth and families regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, disability, class, sexual orientation or beliefs.

Greatest hope for the Council:

Collective liberation

Background:

Drawing from her own experiences of poverty, discrimination, trauma, multicultural heritage and of going through the juvenile justice system, Mrs. Littledeer-Evans has been a motivational speaker, trainer, facilitator, classroom instructor and leader in her community for over 24 years.

She is currently the Deputy Director for Deschutes County Juvenile Community Justice. Having worked in Oregon's juvenile justice field 22, serving in roles such as detention worker, probation officer, supervisor, and administrator, she brings a wealth of knowledge of best practices, reform strategies and lived experience to the work. Mrs. Littledeer-Evans has led implementation of local and regional cutting-edge practices to improve outcomes for all involved, dismantle structural oppression and decrease disparate treatment in our systems and practices.

Mrs. Littledeer-Evans earned her BA Degree at the University of Oregon in Political Science with a Minor in Spanish and earned her Masters of Public Administration Degree through PSU in 2008.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- Was a referee for USA Amateur boxing,

- Competed in Arm Wrestling
- Owner and parent to two beautiful American Bulldogs – Clyde and Michá.

STAFF

Anna Williams (she/her/hers)

Role: Executive Director

Greatest hope for the Council:

My greatest hope for the Council is that we become a meaningful place for youth, families, providers, and state agencies to solve difficult problems together. My vision is that we identify strategies to move beyond crisis response and into system transformation as we work our way through 2023.

Background:

Born and raised in Wyoming, I have always looked at the world through a ‘small town’ lens. Growing up with a racially and religiously diverse family, I have always felt compelled to side with the under-dog when given the opportunity.

I attended the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Masters Degree in Social Welfare Administration. I then moved to Montana where I worked in residential treatment for youth and environmental politics. Life led me to Oregon, where I have lived with my spouse and children for the past 14 years. Prior to taking this role, I worked as an elected official, including serving as Chair of Oregon’s Human Services Committee in the House of Representatives, as well as serving on my regional Area Agency on Aging board and working as an advocate for survivors of sexual and domestic violence. I get excited about the connection between policy and practice and ensuring that everyone who lives in Oregon has the resources they need to thrive.

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I have a three-legged dog who I am incredibly fond of.
- I love dystopian futuristic fiction and spend too much time reading it.
- I have visited Yellowstone Park every year of my life.

Christy Hudson (she/her/hers)

Role: System of Care Transformation Manager

Greatest hope for the Council:

Equitable systems change for children, youth and families.

Background:

A public servant for my entire career, I started state service with Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division in 2009. Prior to my tenure at OHA, I worked in a variety of non-profit and educational settings, including reproductive health, refugee resettlement, K-12 and after school programs, HIV prevention, and residential treatment. I have a Masters in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and a bachelors in Health Education from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota (go Cobbers!).

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

- I lived in Namibia for 2 years.
- I'm allergic to saffron.
- I got a dimple in my right cheek when I ran into a cupboard as a child.

Joyleen Carter (she/her)

Role:

Greatest hope for the Council:

Background:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

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Corinna Hazard (she/hers)

Role: Administrative Specialist

Greatest hope for the Council:

Background:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

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Cody Welty (he/him)

Role: Research Analyst

Greatest hope for the Council:

Background:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me:

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Place holder, (Pronouns)

Serving SOCAC since

Representation:

Why I am on the Council:

Greatest hope for the Council:

Background:

3 things that are fun or interesting about me: