

Application

Profile

If you have any questions or difficulty submitting this application, please reach out to Alex Guzhnay at aguzhnay@newhavenct.gov or call 203-946-7670.

Jessica

First Name

M

Middle
Initial

Bialecki

Last Name

jessbialecki@gmail.com

Email Address

252 Alden Avenue

Home Address

Suite or Apt

New Haven

City

CT

State

06515

Postal Code

What ward do you live in (optional - please select ward if you know)?

☒ Ward 25

Home: (203) 687-5309

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Are any of the above number a cell phone number?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If so, which? Also, is it okay to send a text message?

(203) 687-5309; yes

Are you currently employed by the City of New Haven or the New Haven Public School System?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Social Impact Partners

Employer

Director of Early Childhood
Education

Job Title

To see our list of Boards and Commissions please click here: <https://newhaven-ct.granicus.com/boards/w/976a34cad711af7c/boards>

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Civil Service Board: Submitted

Is this an appointment or reappointment request? *

☒ Appointment

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve. Please attach any of the follow:

Resume, Curriculum Vitae (CV), Professional Bio, or a Statement of Interest.

[Resume - Bialecki_Jessica.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

If not submitting a Resume or CV, please submit a ~150 word Statement of Interest as to why you are interested in serving on your selected boards/commissions. If you have uploaded a resume OR you are seeking reappointment, you can write n/a.

n/a

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I would be honored to serve on a New Haven board or commission. As a New Haven native born and raised in a family deeply committed to public service, my roots in this city run deep. Today, I am proud to be a New Haven homeowner, raising my young children here alongside my wife, which further fuels my dedication to our city's future. I have also dedicated my career thus far to public service, working as a civil servant at both the municipal level in New York City and the federal level in Washington, D.C. These experiences have given me a firsthand understanding of government operations and policy, as well as a profound belief in the power of civic engagement. I am eager to bring my professional background and deep-seated love for my hometown to this role, working collaboratively to strengthen and support the New Haven community.

Why do you believe you would be a good fit for your selected board and commission(s)?

I believe I am an excellent fit for the Civil Service Board because my entire career has been built on the principles of public personnel administration, organizational governance, and merit-based systems. Having served as a civil servant at both the municipal level in New York City and at the federal level in Washington, D.C., I have a deep, practical understanding of civil service rules, personnel regulations, and the importance of fair, transparent hiring and promotion practices.

Do you have any time commitments that would prevent you from participating in board/commission meetings? Meeting times can be found by visiting newhavenct.gov/boards, but most are usually once a month for 1-2 hours.

No conflicts

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be politically proportionate, per State Statute on minority party representation (CGS § 9-167a). What is your political affiliation on your voter registration (i.e Democrat, Republican, Unaffiliated, Independent, etc)?

Democrat

In order to stay compliant with our city's charter, are you registered to vote in New Haven?

☒ Yes ☐ No

We strive to maintain diversity in all of our Boards and Commissions. These questions are optional and if you volunteer the information we will only use it to ensure that our boards and commissions are diverse.

Ethnicity

☒ Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

☒ Female

How did you hear about serving on our Boards & Commissions?

Chief Administrative Officer Justin McCarthy

JESSICA M. BIALECKI

(203) 687-5309 • jessbialecki@gmail.com

www.linkedin.com/in/jessicabialecki

EXPERIENCE

Social Impact Partners, Westport, CT

Director of Early Childhood Education

August 2025 – Present

- Lead design and implementation of Social Impact Partners' comprehensive early childhood education strategy, aligning with the organization's broader economic mobility goals.
- Advise senior leadership at the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood and other key stakeholders to implement the state's Blue Ribbon Plan to transform Connecticut's system for early childhood education and care by 2030.

Office of Head Start, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.

Policy and Planning Division Director

December 2023 – July 2025

- Supervised large team of federal staff, contractors, and fellows to manage all policy development and implementation for the Head Start program, providing high-quality early education and comprehensive services to 800,000 children and families each year across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and six territories.
- Directed annual budget planning process, resulting in over \$12 billion in appropriations in FY 2024 and FY 2025.
- Managed all legal and legislative inquiries, including oversight and technical assistance requests from Congress.
- Oversaw coordination of 54 Head Start State Collaboration Offices, facilitating cross-sector partnerships between Head Start agencies and other state entities providing services to young children and their families.
- Led development and rollout of first large-scale updates to the Head Start Program Performance Standards since 2016, including historic advances in workforce compensation, mental health, and other quality initiatives.
- Oversaw implementation of changes to eligibility policies for Tribal Head Start and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, dramatically increasing access to culturally responsive programming for young children and their families.

Connecticut Children's Museum, New Haven, CT

Executive Director

January 2022 – December 2023

- Led strategic planning, educational programming, and financial and administrative operations at acclaimed children's museum and birth-to-five child care center.
- Directed regional Early Childhood Resource Center, offering professional learning and other resources to support the administration of center-, home-, and school-based child care programs and continuous quality improvement.
- Managed innovative Family Child Care Tool Kit project in partnership with All Our Kin to increase the supply of qualified and licensed home-based providers in Connecticut and New York City.
- Member of Advocacy & Accountability Committee for New Haven Early Childhood Council.

New York City Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, New York, NY

Senior Director of Policy

March 2021 – December 2021

Director of Policy

January 2018 – February 2021

Associate Director of Policy

July 2017 – December 2017

- Administered policy support system for over 1,100 city-contracted early childhood programs, with a focus on staffing, health and safety, and other foundational quality and equity practices
- Developed and implemented strategy for the transition of over 100 central office staff, 350 center-based early childhood programs, and 1,700 network-affiliated family child care homes from the NYC Administration for Children's Services to the NYC Department of Education.
- Designed and implemented policy and operational recommendations for re-procurement of all city-contracted early childhood programs, including \$67 million in federally funded Head Start services.
- Created citywide 0 to 3 Advisory Group to provide input and feedback to decision makers on New York City's plan to support infants and toddlers in center-based and family child care settings.
- Led development of new birth-to-five quality standards (Early Childhood Framework for Quality), and managed creation of professional learning resources to support citywide implementation.
- Directed efforts to provide citywide emergency child care services for first responders in response to COVID-19.

Cambiar Education, New York, NY

Cambiar Catalyst Fellow (formerly the School Systems Leaders Fellowship)

August 2019 – October 2020

- Selected for national cohort of 18 senior PreK-12 school systems leaders focused on applied learning through seminars, school system visits, consultation and feedback cycles, and executive coaching.

All Our Kin, New Haven, CT

Independent Consultant

May 2016 – July 2017

- Researched and codified coaching practices of All Our Kin early childhood education consultants for dissemination to other regional and national organizations supporting family child care providers.
- Developed proposal and secured grant funding for new family child care mentor coaching pilot with New York City Family Child Care Networks operated by the NYC Administration for Children's Services.

Massachusetts Department of Early Education & Care, Boston, MA

Policy Fellow, Program Administration Division

January 2017 – May 2017

- Drafted key components of contract bid for distribution of Child Care & Development Block Grant funds.
- Developed models for cost of quality care and provided policy recommendations to the MA State Commissioner.

Zigler Center in Child Development & Social Policy at Yale, New Haven, CT

Independent Consultant

January 2016 – July 2016

- Collaborated with Dr. Walter Gilliam and Dr. Chin Reyes on the development of the Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning & Development (CHILD) toolkit, including a draft observational measure of early childhood classroom climate and associated training protocols and resources.

ReNEW Schools Charter Management Organization, New Orleans, LA

Founding Principal, ReNEW Schaumburg Elementary

July 2013 – May 2015

- Created and implemented vision and plans for grades PreK-2 in first year of school turnaround; selected by network to expand small school and direct grades PreK-3 for following school year.
- Hired and managed team of 34 staff members, and developed and managed \$2.8 million budget.
- Analyzed child data and supported staff in using formative data to inform instruction, leading to:
 - Highest citywide reading growth on STEP literacy assessment in first and second grade.
 - Nearly 40% more kindergarten students reading on grade level at beginning of second year.

Assistant Principal, SciTech Academy

August 2012 – June 2013

- Served as manager and primary instructional coach for second grade team, including three first-year teachers, leading to 43% increase in second graders reading on grade level from August to June.
- Collaborated with principal, staff, and families to build and maintain positive school culture systems.

Curriculum Coach and Founding Dean of Students, Reed Elementary

June 2011 – May 2012

- Designed curriculum materials and assessments for PreK-2 literacy and math across ReNEW Schools network, and worked with school leadership teams to implement teacher-specific development plans.
- Flexibly supported needs for grades PreK-4.5 at Reed Elementary in first year of turnaround.

Founding Kindergarten Team Leader, SciTech Academy

July 2010 – June 2011

Recovery School District, New Orleans, LA

First Grade Lead Teacher, Sarah T. Reed Elementary School

August 2008 – May 2010

EDUCATION

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA

Ed.M., Human Development and Psychology (Child Advocacy)

GPA: 4.00

May 2017

Urban Scholars Fellowship (full-tuition scholarship awarded to a select group of graduate students)

Yale University, New Haven, CT

B.A., Political Science with Distinction, Summa Cum Laude

GPA: 3.99

May 2008