

From: [Amie Ashton](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Causey & Goodman to HRC
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 8:29:34 AM

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Honorable City Council,

I am writing to support Miles Goodman and Katie Causey for HRC.

Both of these applicants have long wanted roles on HRC, they've reviewed the work plans and watched HRC meetings. These are two applicants with backgrounds we almost never see on Palo Alto's commissions, but are two individuals whose lived experience in Palo Alto is directly impacted by HRC's work.

Council's priorities include renter protections and youth mental health and the city is successful at addressing these issues when they appoint renter and youth voices in government. In addition Palo Alto's housing element was recently deemed not compliant due to in part how underrepresented communities are often not given a voice on housing issues in Palo Alto.

Miles Goodman is 23, a renter, a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an active musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology. His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is 29, a proud member of the LGBT+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree on focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's spent 6 years working with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations - helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity. HRC has been requesting further knowledge of the issues renters in Palo Alto are facing and Katie's background is perfect. She has worked with HRC and city staff before and has a vast knowledge of the landscape renters in Palo Alto are navigating as a former staff member of the Palo Alto Renters' Association. She's done the hands-on work at nonprofits serving our most vulnerable Palo Altans.

Miles Goodman and Katie Causey offer deeply needed perspectives on HRC and show our young people in Palo Alto that you can take a variety of different life paths in Palo Alto, be from different backgrounds and still reach leadership roles in Palo Alto.

Council has seen first hand that when candidates apply to HRC and are rejected they often do not reapply - meaning historically when a marginalized voice applies to this role, council often does not get another opportunity to appoint that voice again - please don't miss this opportunity to elevate the voices directly impacted by HRC's decisions.

Thank you,

Amie Ashton

From: [Ali Sapirman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Supporting Community College Voices
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 11:49:33 PM

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Dear Palo Alto City Council,

I'm a local young person who graduated from our community colleges before transferring to a university and graduating - they changed my life and are a valuable safety net supporting vulnerable community members.

Youth mental health is one of Palo Alto City Council's priorities this year, and in Palo Alto it has been critical to show young people there is not just one path to leadership and success. Our community colleges play a critical role in supporting local youth and I don't believe Palo Alto has had a recent community college student on their Human Relations Commission.

I believe you should consider Miles Goodman, a recent community college student, for the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission as this is a much needed and valuable perspective on HRC.

In solidarity,

Ali Sapirman

--

Ali Sapirman
(Pronouns: They, Them, Their)
California Campus Camp Training Program Intern
FA Political Action Committee Intern
FACCC Student Engagement Intern
De Anza College|Philosophy & Public Policy Major
alisapirman@gmail.com|407.739.8818

"We all do better when we all do better" Paul Wellstone

From: [Leah Cowan](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Recommending Katie Causey for HRC
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 10:41:33 PM

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Greetings City Council,

I as a Palo Alto resident and regional advocate would like to recommend Katie Causey be appointed to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission.

As a renter, I want to see representation of another renter on the HRC. Nearly half of all Palo Altans are renters yet the representation on various committees are disproportionately represented by homeowners. Having seen her work advocating for families like mine who have been residents of low income housing, I know vulnerable families in Palo Alto will have a voice with her on the HRC.

Katie ran to a school board member and demonstrated an excellent understanding of the struggles our community's families like mine. As a Palo Alto resident who grew up here, she can identify with our young residents.

Katie is in touch with issues that impact seniors as well, advocating for policies that help Seniors in Palo Alto like mine age in place in a stable renters market.

Katie Causey is a young voice who is in touch with the issues that impact all Palo Altans from the youngest like my son in TK to my parents in their 70s. Her relationships in the nonprofit world and her deep understanding of complex public policy make her uniquely qualified to add tremendous value to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission. Please consider appointing her.

--

Leah S. Cowan
937 Stanford Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94306
650.248.4561
leahscowan@gmail.com

Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly. -John F. Kennedy

From: [Marina D'Arrigo](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for the Appointment of Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 9:40:47 PM

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Dear Members of the Palo Alto City Council,

I am writing to express my support for the appointment of Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission. As a resident of Palo Alto, I believe that having two underrepresented young people on the commission would help secure votes on important decisions related to climate change, policing, and serving the most marginalized community members.

Miles Goodman and Katie Causey are both highly qualified applicants who have shown a strong commitment to the betterment of our community. Miles, a 23-year-old renter and graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, has worked in food service and mental health nonprofits, supporting youth and young adults in Palo Alto. His background in social dynamics, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie, a 29-year-old member of the LGBTQ+ community, was born and raised in Palo Alto and has lived in the city her entire life. She holds a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level and has spent 6 years working with our local nonprofits and faith-based organizations. Her experience in supporting Palo Alto youth and those facing housing insecurity is invaluable as HRC makes decisions related to renter protections and youth mental health.

Having reviewed the work plans and watched HRC meetings, both Miles and Katie have shown a deep interest in serving on the commission and bringing their unique perspectives to the table. Their backgrounds are exactly what we need on Palo Alto's commissions to ensure that the voices of all members of our community are heard.

I urge you to appoint Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission. Please do not miss this opportunity to elevate the voices directly impacted by HRC's decisions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marina D'Arrigo

From: [Isabella Pistaferri](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for Miles Goodman and Katie Causey for HRC
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 9:28:55 PM

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Greetings Palo Alto City Council,

My name is Isabella Pistaferri and I am a resident of Palo Alto who attended Nixon, JLS, and Gunn growing up and am currently in my second year at Stanford University. As an invested member of the Palo Alto community and active Palo Alto constituent, I am reaching out to voice my overwhelming support that the Palo Alto City Council hire Miles Goodman and Katie Causey for Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission positions. Not only do I believe Katie and Miles possess ample experience and drive to work for the HRC, but also additional positive characteristics which would contribute to their thriving in the role.

I strongly believe that Miles and Katie represent strong candidates for the position given the nature of the HRC's dealing decisions on climate change, policing, and identifying how to serve the most marginalized Palo Alto community members. As someone who has worked alongside Miles and Katie in the past with the goal of furthering social justice initiatives (from Title IX advocacy to running campaigns favoring the greater platforming of minority voices in Palo Alto local government) I can confidently attest to Miles' and Katie's genuine passion for and dedication towards these issues, alongside justice and equality—characteristics which I believe crucial for individuals wanting to work for the HRC to possess.

I also can attest to the fact that Miles and Katie are pillars of the community, and deeply care about being connected to their constituents and incorporating feedback from those they aim to serve: the people of Palo Alto. These candidates are empathetic people who have gone out of their way in the past to interact with Palo Alto students, for example, for feedback on how to better PAUSD's Title IX's system. I also believe that these qualities of regularly interacting with and caring about the opinions of one's constituents as a government worker is extremely important, if not crucial.

I also believe that as younger candidates for the position who have attended school in Palo Alto relatively recently, that Miles and Katie can offer greater understanding and insight into contemporary issues relevant to Palo Alto—mental health (which feels increasingly important to me as Stanford has experienced several student suicides in recent years, reminding me of the suicide clusters PAUSD schools experienced when Miles and Katie were in school), the modern tech industry, or greater awareness on social movements.

Further, I would love to see more LGBTQ+ representation in Palo Alto city government branches, as well as female and ethnic minority representation. Especially in a role such as the HHC, which must consistently keep in mind the intersectionality of society in regards to gender, sexuality, ethnicity,

and class. As members of many of these marginalized communities, Miles and Katie are sure to keep intersectionality in mind due to their more personal connection to these values.

Thank you so much for your consideration. I hope my message has helped you recognize how dedicated Miles and Katie truly are towards serving the Palo Alto community, and how great they would do so if hired for the HRC.

Best regards,
Isabella Pistaferri

From: [Alex Dersh](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Miles Goodman for Human Relations Commission
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 8:49:52 PM

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Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Councilmembers,

I grew up in Palo Alto and graduated from Gunn a few years ago. I am writing to ask you all to appoint Miles Goodman, a fellow Gunn alumnus who also grew up and lived most of their life in Palo Alto, to the Human Relations Commission.

I think his perspective is sorely needed on the Commission: a young, Black & mixed race, first-generation college student, LGBT+ and renter voice. I believe that this is especially needed given that we are in a period of the housing element process that involves lots of discussion around the history of how housing policies have impacted Black and brown communities in Palo Alto.

Additionally, the Human Relations Commission has been most successful in making policy when they have individuals with lived experience proximate to the issues the Commission often faces. For example, having a Black pastor was critical in their efforts to address anti-Black hate crimes, and having former residents of the President Hotel was critical in their efforts to address housing insecurity.

His voice would be valuable as well given the Commission describes their mission as being "To promote the just and fair treatment of all people in Palo Alto, particularly our most vulnerable populations."

I know this appointment process has been long and difficult - THANK YOU for your hard work reviewing applicants, and thank you to staff for making the City's functioning possible. I encourage you to appoint Miles Goodman, a fully qualified and prepared individual who has reviewed the Commission's work plans and meetings, to the Human Relations Commission.

Sincerely,
Alex Dersh

From: [Alex Dersh](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: New Commission Voices
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 8:46:27 PM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Councilmembers,

I grew up in Palo Alto and graduated from Gunn a few years ago. I am writing to ask you all to appoint Miles Goodman, a fellow Gunn alumnus who also grew up and lived most of their life in Palo Alto, to the Human Relations Commission.

I think his perspective is sorely needed on the Commission: a young, Black & mixed race, first-generation college student, LGBT+ and renter voice. I believe that this is especially needed given that we are in a period of the housing element process that involves lots of discussion around the history how housing policies have impacted Black and brown communities in Palo Alto.

Additionally, the Human Relations Commission has been most successful in making policy when they have individuals with lived experience proximate to the issues the Commission often faces. For example, having a Black pastor was critical in their efforts to address anti-Black hate crimes, and having former residents of the President Hotel was critical in their efforts to address housing insecurity.

His voice would be valuable as well given the Commission describes their mission as being "To promote the just and fair treatment of all people in Palo Alto, particularly our most vulnerable populations."

I know this appointment process has been long and difficult - THANK YOU for your hard work reviewing applicants, and thank you to staff for making the City's functioning possible. I encourage you to appoint Miles Goodman, a fully qualified and prepared individual who has reviewed the Commission's workplans and meetings, to the Human Relations Commission.

Sincerely,
Alex Dersh

Alex Dersh
alexdersh@gmail.com
1524, Huddersfield Ct
San Jose, California 95126

From: [Anika M](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Miles Goodman and Katie Causey for human relations commission
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 8:31:02 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Anika Misra and I am from Palo Alto. I am writing because I would like to see Miles Goodman and Katie Causey appointed to Palo Alto's human relations commission. It is important to me how both of these applicants have backgrounds that we rarely see in Palo Alto's commissions, but their lived experience in Palo Alto is directly impacted by HRC's work. They both provide perspectives that young people in Palo Alto need.

Regards,
Anika

From: [Patrick Ahrens](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support Letter - Miles Goodman
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 7:53:17 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

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Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, Councilmembers Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I am writing to support the appointment of Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission. Though many people have asked me to write letters of support for them, I only recommend those I feel are well-suited to the task. Miles is one of those exceptional people, so I highly recommend that he be allowed to earn your support and vote. After graduating from Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn - Miles became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco, where he would graduate Magna Cum Laude. We are very proud of him as a Foothill Alum!

It's so critical to show young Palo Altans no matter your life path; there's a path for leadership for you in Palo Alto. Palo Alto Human Relations Commissioners help ensure the most vulnerable Palo Alto community members have a voice and protection. They must know what it's like navigating affordable housing systems, going to a nonprofit for help, being in a neighborhood lacking resources - and the role that safety nets like our community colleges play in supporting vulnerable Palo Altans. Miles knows this firsthand.

It is for these reasons that I offer the highest recommendation of Miles for this appointment.

Thank you so much!

Sincerely,



Patrick Ahrens

President, Foothill - De Anza College Board of Trustees

(Title for identification purposes only, speaking on behalf of myself)

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From: [Nicole Chiu-Wang](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Alums on HRC
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 3:46:06 PM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Hello Palo Alto City Council!

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission.

We need to show the young people in our community that their voices matter and they will be respected as leaders if they choose to step up to serve.

Both Causey and Goodman offer important perspectives that are not currently represented on HRC.

We don't often see young Palo Altans apply to these role and what a fantastic opportunity to show our current students examples of young leadership.

I'm excited to see what young people in this community can accomplish!

Nicole Chiu-Wang
votenicolecw@gmail.com
3320 Thomas Dr
Palo Alto, California 94303

From: [Robert Chun](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: HRC applicants
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 3:45:40 PM

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Dear City Council members:

My name is Robert Chun. I'm a local student and renter. I understand that the City Council will soon be considering appointments to the Human Relations Commission. As you consider the applicants, I urge you to prioritize the voices of younger, more diverse applicants -- in particular renters of color. That is precisely the lived experience we need on the HRC.

Warmly,
Robert

From: [Emma Casley](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Supporting Katie Causey and Miles Goodman for the Human Relations Commission
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 3:00:28 PM

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Dear Palo Alto City Council, I'm a PAUSD grad. My family has lived in Palo Alto my entire life - I want to express my gratitude for your diligent work in reviewing potential commissioners. With many community members ready to serve, I urge you to consider appointing Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the human relations commission. Causey and Goodman have personal and professional backgrounds that are crucial for HRC to navigate through the 2023 policy priorities. As recent PAUSD alumni, they offer a unique perspective and are examples of young leadership for our current students. It's not hard to find Palo Alto community members ready to serve their community! Unfortunately, as our commissions aren't paid these roles can skew toward homeowners, with graduate degrees, in high paying jobs - and we know how much we need lived experience of the Palo Altans who come from underrepresented communities, are renters, and work in service roles in our community. For the last year HRC has expressed further needing to deeply understand renter perspectives in Palo Alto as they prepare to handle navigating renter protections. It is rare to see young Palo Altans apply for these roles, and I believe it's a fantastic opportunity to showcase the potential of young leadership in our community. Both Causey and Goodman have demonstrated their passion and dedication to this work, despite being renters working hard in service jobs, because they have long prioritized serving the community that raised them. As members of underrepresented communities, they have first-hand experience in the issues that HRC focuses on. I believe that their appointment would be a positive step towards creating a more inclusive and diverse commission. Thank you for your consideration.

All the best,

--

Emma Casley
she/her

From: [Kelly Keith](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Palo Alto Human Relations Commission Candidate Support
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 12:21:20 PM

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Hello Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Councilmembers Burt, Tanaka, Lauing, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I would like to extend my support in electing Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to serve on Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission. My family has lived in Palo Alto for 3 generations- it's safe to say the changes we've seen throughout the years have been seen through a unique lens. I am a graduate of Palo Verde, JLS, and Palo Alto Senior High School. I went to the same schools as my mother and father, and saw the triumphs and stumbling blocks around our beautiful community.

I believe Katie Causey and Miles Goodman are two candidates that are extremely qualified for this position. These are two applicants with backgrounds we almost never see on Palo Alto's commissions, but are two individuals whose lived experience in Palo Alto is directly impacted by HRC's work. The council's current priorities include renter protection and youth mental health protection, and the city is successful at addressing these issues when they appoint renter and youth voices.

As a little background, Miles Goodman is 23, a renter, a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an active musician at Gunn, he became an honors student at Foothill transferred to USF, and graduated with a degree in psychology. His psychology degree, involvement in arts, and our local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles youth mental health in Palo Alto.

A little about Katie Causey-- she is 29, a proud member of the LGBT+ community, and she is born and raised in Palo Alto. She's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly, and she has a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's spent 6 years working with our local nonprofits and faith-based organizations. She thrives in positions helping community members navigate our city's resources, whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth, or those facing housing insecurity. I've worked with Katie Causey closely since 2018 and have not met anyone else with the same rigor, drive, and social poise she possesses. To say she would make a great addition to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission would be a severe understatement-- she is vital to the community around her.

Both Miles Goodman and Katie Causey offer deeply needed perspectives on HRC and show our young people in Palo Alto that you can take a variety of different life paths in

Palo Alto, be from different backgrounds and still reach leadership roles in the city.

The council has seen firsthand that when candidates apply to HRC and are rejected, they often do not reapply-- I urge you, please don't miss this opportunity to elevate the voices directly impacted by HRC's decisions.

Thank you for your consideration and the work you do to make Palo Alto the best it can be.

Respectfully,

--

Kelly Keith
(650) 213-2264
kellyeKeith4@gmail.com

From: [Elsie DuBray](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Miles Goodman and Katie Causey For HRC
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 10:14:41 AM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Palo Alto City Council,

My name is Elsie DuBray and I've been in Palo Alto for 5 years now as a student at Stanford University.

There are 2 recent PAUSD alumni applying for Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission - Katie Causey and Miles Goodman, they've grown up in this community - Goodman in Ventura and Causey near Greer Park - they take our bus lines, volunteer with our nonprofits, and work with our families and at our local stores.

The Human Relations Commission focuses on supporting our most underrepresented Palo Altans, but it's often hard to find community members with that experience who have the bandwidth to volunteer their time on the commission (illustrated by the fact that there aren't many applicants despite a massive amount of applicants for other commissions and the fact that once rejected we don't see applicants reapply).

We have two young Palo Altans from underrepresented communities, renters working hard in service jobs who despite all that took the time to review HRC meetings and work plans - because they love this work and have long wanted this role! That is amazing and I hope council appoints these two as commissioners!

Thank you!

Elsie DuBray
elsiedubray@gmail.com
459 Lagunita Dr
Stanford, California 94305

From: [Zoe Zhang](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Commission Appointments
Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023 9:15:42 AM

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To the Palo Alto City Council:

Hello! I'm a graduate of PAUSD. Born and raised in Palo Alto, I did my entire K-12 in the district. I've lived here most of my life, and my family lives in midtown.

I wanted to first thank you and the city staff for doing an amazing job on recruiting so many applicants and taking the time and effort to review all of them.

The city has had several initiatives on belonging, diversity, and inclusion. As you appoint commissioners, I encourage you to think about the lived experience of applicants and how our commissions operate as incubators for leadership.

For example: a young woman from a marginalized background might not be able to afford a degree in urban planning. Though she might have a strong passion for it, she won't get the same opportunities as an applicant from a different background when applying for jobs. Joining our planning commissioners can give her the experience she needs to get more opportunities.

We've seen that firsthand with our own Vice Mayor, how he joined the human relations commission in his early twenties, and that there was a lot of hesitation about his age—and now he's an incredibly effective public servant.

I know we have several young people, PAUSD alumni, and applicants from underrepresented and nontraditional backgrounds applying to these roles who are deeply passionate about being quality commissioners. I hope you consider them, because I think they can do amazing things for our city! **I recommend Miles Goodman and Katie Causey.**

Thank you for your time,

Zoe Zhang

From: [Marisa Kanemoto](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Human Relations Commission
Date: Saturday, April 29, 2023 11:03:25 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express support for Miles Goodman and Katie Causey in their pursuits of appointment to Palo Alto's human relations commission.

I grew up in Palo Alto, and still live in the bay area. My mother still lives in Palo Alto. I attended Palo Alto public schools from K–12. I understand that youth mental health remains an area of concern for the city, and I believe that appointing two young people who lived in Palo Alto during the years in which that mental health crisis came to bear would be a tangible step toward progress on youth mental health issues.

I hope to see the City appoint two individuals whose lives and livelihoods are intertwined with the committee's work.

Sincerely,

Marisa Kanemoto

From: [Reid Kleckner](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: PAUSD Alumni on HRC
Date: Saturday, April 29, 2023 1:35:27 PM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Hello Mayor Kou and Palo Alto City Council!

I believe we have two recent PAUSD alumni applying for HRC Katie Causey and Miles Goodman - I think it would be incredibly valuable for current students to see alumni in this role! Palo Alto is known for its civic engagement and it's critical to create a strong pipeline for local youth to become involved in city leadership!

Having young voices from underrepresented backgrounds is so valuable to helping ensure issues facing young people are addressed in Palo Alto! Both of these two have a deep understanding of what students and young Palo Altans are facing and when we lift up young leaders - they help raise up even more young leaders!

Thank you!

Reid Kleckner
reid.kleckner@gmail.com
2491 BRYANT ST
PALO ALTO, California 94301

From: [Amelia Creemer](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Supporting Recent Alums On HRC
Date: Friday, April 28, 2023 5:52:25 PM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Palo Alto City Council Members,

I think the two recent PAUSD alumni Katie Causey and Miles Goodman should serve on our Human Relations Commission. It's really important that cities establish leadership pipelines for their young community members and underrepresented voices. Once you start bringing those voices to the table more follow in their footsteps! This is a great opportunity!

Particularly for two people who have either worked with our housing insecure populations or in demographics likely to experience displacement as we tackle renter and housing issues! Both these young people have long wanted to be on this commission and have a large understanding of how our local safety nets (our nonprofits and community colleges) supporting our most vulnerable residents work!

Thank you!

Amelia Creemer
amelia@zachary.com
4065 Campana Dr.
Palo Alto, 94306

From: [Meri Gruber](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Goodman, Causey for HRC
Date: Friday, April 28, 2023 9:53:40 AM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou and Council Members,

I am writing to request that Katie Causey and Miles Goodman be appointed to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission as the Commission tackles the 2023 policy priority of youth mental health and supporting renters. Causey and Goodman, renters and recent alumni of our local schools, offer a much-needed perspective of underrepresented voices in our community, especially those of marginalized communities - important when so many of our students are LGBT+.

Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, and has worked in food service and mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is an honors graduate with a degree in Psychology, with extensive experience in social psychology and the arts. His commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits will be invaluable to the HRC.

Causey is a lifelong resident of Palo Alto and holds a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She has extensive experience volunteering in our community and has worked directly with local nonprofits and faith-based organizations, including HRC. Her expertise in Palo Alto renters issues and eviction realities will be particularly helpful to the Commission.

I believe that having young Palo Altans like Causey and Goodman in leadership positions would be inspiring to other students in our community!

Thank you and the Council for your service to our community.

Best regards,
Meri Gruber

Meri Gruber
meri.gruber@gmail.com
4123 Briarwood Way
Palo Alto, California 94306

From: [Kyna Byrd](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Causey, Goodman For HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 9:44:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Council Members,

Thank you for your work serving our community and the time and effort you have put into narrowing down a wide applicant pool. Palo Alto is so lucky to have so many community members ready to step up and serve their community!

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission. When I look at neighboring cities like Mountain View they have prioritized their commissions being paths to leadership for those community members whose voice is not often heard and might not otherwise get the opportunity. We have no shortage of phenomenal community members in Palo Alto, but our renters, marginalized communities, and those working in our city's service industry often don't get represented on our commissions, despite being most directly impacted by their policies.

As council and hrc tackle the priorities of renter issues, housing insecurity, youth empowerment and mental health, and how flooding and heat waves due to climate change are impacting the most marginalized Palo Altans. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles the priorities of mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBT+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a

degree on focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent 6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

She's given presentations to HRC and worked with commissioners on renter issues. As the commission supporting our nonprofits her perspective is deeply needed on HRC.

HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

Additionally I want to add that both Causey and Goodman both grew up in Palo Alto neighborhoods on the edge of the city where community members are often isolated from the rest of the city - Causey at Greer Park and Goodman in the Ventura and Charleston Meadows.

Both Causey and Goodman have demonstrated their commitment by reviewing HRC's meetings and the work plans of the past two years. They are ready to step into this role and their dedication is a testament to their passion for serving our community.

Council has acknowledged the reality that applicants if rejected don't reapply to HRC, and I worry council will not get another opportunity to bring this lived experience to the commission.

As council and HRC tackle critical issues such as youth mental health, housing insecurity, and climate change, it is essential that we have diverse perspectives at the table. Causey and Goodman's backgrounds align with council's priorities and will help ensure that all members of our community receive the support they need.

Thank you for your consideration of these two highly qualified candidates. I believe that their appointment to the HRC will have a positive impact on our community, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes they will bring.

Kyna Byrd
kynabyrd@gmail.com
19 Coleman Pl Apt 23
Menlo Park, California 94025

From: [Karen Tuzman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Causey, Goodman For HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 9:23:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Council Members,

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I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission. When I look at neighboring cities like Mountain View they have prioritized their commissions being paths to leadership for those community members whose voice is not often heard and might not otherwise get the opportunity. We have no shortage of phenomenal community members in Palo Alto, but our renters, marginalized communities, and those working in our city's service industry often don't get represented on our commissions, despite being most directly impacted by their policies.

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During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles the priorities of mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

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Both Causey and Goodman have demonstrated their commitment by reviewing HRC's meetings and the work plans of the past two years. They are ready to step into this role and their dedication is a testament to their passion for serving our community.

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As council and HRC tackle critical issues such as youth mental health, housing insecurity, and climate change, it is essential that we have diverse perspectives at the table. Causey and Goodman's backgrounds align with council's priorities and will help ensure that all members of our community receive the support they need.

Thank you for your consideration of these two highly qualified candidates. I believe that their appointment to the HRC will have a positive impact on our community, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes they will bring.

Karen Tuzman
karentkach@gmail.com
770 Chestnut St
San Carlos, California 94070

From: [Linda Henigin](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 5:13:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I am a parent in Palo Alto, and I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission. I would like to see these young residents serving on the HRC.

I believe that their perspectives are needed on the HRC. I want our town to be welcoming to everyone - young and old(er), owners and renters, service workers and retirees. Miles Goodman and Katie Causey know what that takes.

Thank you for your hard work serving our community, and for listening to youth voices.

Best,
Linda Henigin

Linda Henigin
linda@brail.org
2046 Edgewood Drive
Palo Alto, California 94303

From: [Mary Jane Moutsanas](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Nominate Goodman, Causey for HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 5:10:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Council Members,

Thank you for your service.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission.

We need a new generation of voices and those especially left out of decision-making in Palo Alto - young, renters, service industry. They are both highly qualified and I hope you will consider them.

Miles and Katey are both deeply invested in Palo Alto. Miles is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBT+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly.

I hope you will seriously consider their candidacies.

Sincerely

Mary Jane Moutsanas
College Terrace

Mary Jane Moutsanas
maryjane.marcus@gmail.com
2090 Cornell St
Palo Alto, California 94306

From: [William Giardino](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 4:03:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I am a student in Palo Alto and as the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission tackles the 2023 policy priority of youth mental health I believe it is critical that council appoints voices of young Palo Altans who have recently gone through our local schools.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

It is rare that City Council has the opportunity to appoint recent alumni who bring fantastic professional backgrounds and lived experience of LGBT+ and BIPOC communities. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles the priorities of mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

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She's given presentations to HRC and worked with commissioners on renter issues. As the commission supporting our nonprofits her perspective is deeply needed on HRC.

HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

It would be so exciting for students to see they have a future in our city's leadership! Thank you so much for your hard work serving our community and listening to youth voices!

William Giardino
willgiardino@gmail.com
685 High St., Apt. 2D
Palo Alto, California 94301

From: [Michelle Higgins](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 3:43:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

As the parent of 2 current Paly students and 2 graduates I know how important it is that our youth have a voice in decisions being made by the city to meet their needs.

As the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission tackles the 2023 policy priority of youth mental health I believe it is critical that council appoints voices of young Palo Altans who have recently gone through our local schools.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

It is rare that City Council has the opportunity to appoint recent alumni who bring fantastic professional backgrounds and lived experience of LGBT+ and BIPOC communities. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

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Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBT+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree on focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent

6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

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HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

It would be so exciting for students to see they have a future in our city's leadership! Thank you so much for your hard work serving our community and listening to youth voices!

Sincerely,

Michelle Higgins

1366 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto

Michelle Higgins

mich_higgins@hotmail.com

1366 MIDDLEFIELD Rd

Palo Alto, California 94301

From: [Jennifer Brito](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: In support of Goodman & Causey for the HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 3:42:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor, and Council Members,

I am long-time resident of and renter in Palo Alto. I believe it is important to hear diverse and representative voices on our Human Relations Commission. I want to live in a community where BIPOC and LGBTQ+ Voices are not just heard, but centered.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

It is rare that City Council has the opportunity to appoint recent alumni who bring fantastic professional backgrounds and lived experience of LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

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Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent 6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

She's given presentations to HRC and worked with commissioners on renter issues. As the commission supporting our nonprofits her perspective is deeply needed on HRC.

HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

Thank you for working toward having a community where people who traditionally hold less power in Palo Alto ... youth, people who are Black, Brown, Indigenous, and LGBTQ+ people are supported, seen, and valued.

Jennifer Brito
jenbrito11@gmail.com
345 Forest Ave
Palo Alto, California 94301

From: [sara woodham](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 3:34:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I am a parent in Palo Alto and as the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission tackles the 2023 policy priority of youth mental health I believe it is critical that council appoints voices of young Palo Altans who have recently gone through our local schools.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

It is rare that City Council has the opportunity to appoint recent alumni who bring fantastic professional backgrounds and lived experience of LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

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It would be so exciting for students to see they have a future in our city's leadership! Thank you so much for your hard work serving our community and listening to youth voices!

sara woodham
sawoodham@yahoo.com
130 Bryant St
Palo Alto, California 94301

From: [Medha Mandal](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Causey, Goodman For HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 2:38:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Council Members,

Thank you for your work serving our community and the time and effort you have put into narrowing down a wide applicant pool. Palo Alto is so lucky to have so many community members ready to step up and serve their community!

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission. When I look at neighboring cities like Mountain View they have prioritized their commissions being paths to leadership for those community members whose voice is not often heard and might not otherwise get the opportunity. We have no shortage of phenomenal community members in Palo Alto, but our renters, marginalized communities, and those working in our city's service industry often don't get represented on our commissions, despite being most directly impacted by their policies.

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Both Causey and Goodman have demonstrated their commitment by reviewing HRC's meetings and the work plans of the past two years. They are ready to step into this role and their dedication is a testament to their passion for serving our community.

Council has acknowledged the reality that applicants if rejected don't reapply to HRC, and I worry council will not get another opportunity to bring this lived experience to the commission.

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Thank you for your consideration of these two highly qualified candidates. I believe that their appointment to the HRC will have a positive impact on our community, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes they will bring.

Medha Mandal
medhamandal19@gmail.com
3421 Waverley St
Palo Alto, California 94306

From: [Noelle Langmack](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 2:14:55 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from nlangmac@alumni.nd.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

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During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

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Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent

6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

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It would be so exciting for students to see they have a future in our city's leadership! Thank you so much for your hard work serving our community and listening to youth voices!

Noelle Langmack
nlangmac@alumni.nd.edu
10 Eugenia Way
Hillsborough, California 94010

From: [Elizabeth Beheler](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: In support of Katie Causey for HR Commission
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 1:22:54 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from elizabeth.beheler@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

I support appointing Katie Causey to the PA Human Relations Committee. She brings a perspective from her generation which I believe needs to be encouraged in our city. She's been a thoughtful, knowledgeable, dedicated volunteer in both official and unofficial capacities in our community for years.

Thank you for your time and work,
Elizabeth Beheler
Palo Alto resident

From: [Kristi Iverson](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Supporting young adult candidates for the HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 12:14:39 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kristi.l.iverson@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Palo Alto City Council,

While I am no longer a resident of Palo Alto, I am a long time (32 years) member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto and am currently the chairperson of the UUCPA social justice committee. As such I am writing to support the candidacy of two young adults for appointment to the Palo Alto Human Rights Commission: Miles Goodman and Katie Causey. Both are long time residents of Palo Alto and active in justice issues locally. I think that having such young, engaged voices on the Commission would make a strong statement in favor of future generations of Palo Altans, and also would support Palo Alto's efforts to increase diversity within the city. I hope that you will carefully consider their applications for the HRC.

Respectfully,

Kristi Iverson

From: [David Creemer](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Students For Alumni on HRC - Supporting Goodman & Causey
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 11:26:26 AM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Council Members Burt, Lauing, Tanaka, Lythcott-Haims, and Veenker,

I am a resident in Palo Alto and as the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission tackles the 2023 policy priority of youth mental health I believe it is critical that council appoints voices of young Palo Altans who have recently gone through our local schools.

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission.

It is rare that City Council has the opportunity to appoint recent alumni who bring fantastic professional backgrounds and lived experience of LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles the priorities of mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree on focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent 6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based

organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

She's given presentations to HRC and worked with commissioners on renter issues. As the commission supporting our nonprofits her perspective is deeply needed on HRC.

HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

It would be so exciting for students to see they have a future in our city's leadership! Thank you so much for your hard work serving our community and listening to youth voices!

David Creemer
david@zachary.com
4065 Campana Drive
Palo Alto, California 94306

From: [Jennifer DiBrienza](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: recommending Miles Goodman for HRC
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 9:58:22 AM

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Good morning City Council members,

I saw that Miles Goodman recently had applied to be on the HRC and I wanted to write to express my support for his appointment.

As you may know, Miles is a graduate of our own Gunn HS. I first got to know Miles in the summer of 2020 when he was a student at USF and we were at the beginning stages of COVID and were dealing with the brutal murder of George Floyd. Miles was outspoken about the challenges and needs of under-represented people in our country and in our city specifically. As you may know, Miles is not only mixed-race but also identifies as LGBTQ+. Both of these groups are ones that the HRC has identified as needing more attention and support in our community.

I think the HRC, and the city at large, will benefit from Miles' voice on these issues.

Thank you so much for your consideration,

Jennifer DiBrienza

From: [Johannah Seah](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Miles Goodman and Katie Causey Appointed to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 3:26:05 PM

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Hello!

I am a senior at Palo Alto High School and I would like to see Miles Goodman and Katie Causey appointed to Palo Alto's human relations commission. I deeply care about the wellbeing of students, especially when it comes to mental health and inclusivity, and I believe having young, diverse members in leadership is imperative.

More on the candidates - both of them have long wanted roles on HRC, they've reviewed the work plans and watched HRC meetings, so I know they are well-equipped.

Additionally, they are two applicants with backgrounds we almost never see on Palo Alto's commissions, as well as two individuals whose lived experience in Palo Alto is directly impacted by HRC's work. **Council's priorities include renter protections and youth mental health, and we know Palo Alto is successful at addressing these issues when they appoint renter and youth voices.**

Miles Goodman is a 23 year old renter and graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn.

He's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an active musician at Gunn, he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is 29 year old, a proud member of the LGBT+ community, born and raised in Palo Alto. She's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly. She holds a degree on focused on working with communities of

different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's spent 6 years working with our local nonprofits and faith-based organizations, helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

Miles Goodman and Katie Causey offer deeply needed perspectives on HRC and show our young people in Palo Alto that you can take a variety of different life paths in Palo Alto, be from different backgrounds and still reach leadership roles in the city.

Council has seen first-hand that **when candidates apply to HRC and are rejected they often do not reapply** - please don't miss this opportunity to elevate the voices directly impacted by HRC's decisions! Thank you!

Best,
Johannah Seah

Johannah Seah (she/her)
Palo Alto High School, Class of 2023
johannah.seah@gmail.com

From: [Joanna Gubman](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Causey, Goodman For HRC
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 9:25:21 AM

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Palo Alto City Council ,

Dear Mayor Kou, Vice Mayor Stone, and Palo Alto City Council Members,

I'm a Stanford alumna who continues to spend time in Palo Alto visiting friends and family, and I'm very excited to see these young renters stepping up. Please appoint them!!!

Thank you for your work serving our community and the time and effort you have put into narrowing down a wide applicant pool. Palo Alto is so lucky to have so many community members ready to step up and serve their community!

I am writing to ask council to appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to the Human Relations Commission. When I look at neighboring cities like Mountain View they have prioritized their commissions being paths to leadership for those community members whose voice is not often heard and might not otherwise get the opportunity. We have no shortage of phenomenal community members in Palo Alto, but our renters, marginalized communities, and those working in our city's service industry often don't get represented on our commissions, despite being most directly impacted by their policies.

As council and hrc tackle the priorities of renter issues, housing insecurity, youth empowerment and mental health, and how flooding and heat waves due to climate change are impacting the most marginalized Palo Altans. I believe Causey and Goodman having grown up in Palo Alto offer a much needed perspective of underrepresented voices that would deeply benefit HRC.

Miles Goodman is a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn, he's worked in food service and our mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. He is black/mixed race, a member of the LGBT+ community, and was the first in his family to graduate college. After being an accomplished musician at Gunn he became an honors student at Foothill College before transferring to the University of San Francisco - graduating in May 2022 magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology.

During his time at the University of San Francisco he was elected to student government where he specifically oversaw ensuring policy initiatives were taken to help transfer students, often overlooked, felt welcome in the University community.

His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all deeply needed as HRC tackles the priorities of mental health and youth empowerment in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is a proud member of the LGBT+ community, she is born and raised in Palo Alto she's lived in the city her entire life - she's a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly - she holds a degree focused on working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She's extensively volunteered in the city since she was a teenager and she's spent 6 years doing work directly related to HRC's scope - with our local nonprofits and faith based organizations. She has worked directly helping community members navigate our city's resources whether that's supporting Palo Alto youth or those facing housing insecurity.

She's given presentations to HRC and worked with commissioners on renter issues. As the commission supporting our nonprofits her perspective is deeply needed on HRC.

HRC has expressed a deep need in the last year for understanding the landscape renters in Palo Alto are facing and Causey brings an extensive expertise on Palo Alto renters issues and what the realities of Palo Alto's facing eviction are navigating.

Additionally I want to add that both Causey and Goodman both grew up in Palo Alto neighborhoods on the edge of the city where community members are often isolated from the rest of the city - Causey at Greer Park and Goodman in the Ventura and Charleston Meadows.

Both Causey and Goodman have demonstrated their commitment by reviewing HRC's meetings and the work plans of the past two years. They are ready to step into this role and their dedication is a testament to their passion for serving our community.

Council has acknowledged the reality that applicants if rejected don't reapply to HRC, and I worry council will not get another opportunity to bring this lived experience to the commission.

As council and HRC tackle critical issues such as youth mental health, housing insecurity, and climate change, it is essential that we have diverse perspectives at the table. Causey and Goodman's backgrounds align with council's priorities and will help ensure that all members of our community receive the support they need.

Thank you for your consideration of these two highly qualified candidates. I believe that their appointment to the HRC will have a positive impact on our community, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes they will bring.

Joanna Gubman
jgubman@gmail.com
120 Hancock Street
SF, California 94114

From: [Jessica Beeli](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Please prioritize underrepresented voices to HRC
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 7:13:01 PM

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As a resident of Palo Alto and someone with ties to the community, I urge the council to prioritize the appointment of underrepresented voices to the Human Relations Commission (HRC). Specifically, I recommend the appointment of Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to the HRC, given their backgrounds and unique perspectives.

As a renter, I understand how important it is for the HRC to address renter issues. Both Miles and Katie have expressed a strong interest in serving on the HRC and have closely followed its work plans and meetings. These two individuals have backgrounds that are rarely seen on Palo Alto's commissions, but their lived experiences in the community are directly impacted by the HRC's work. It is crucial for the council to appoint renter and youth voices, as these are priorities for the city.

The council should note that Palo Alto's housing element was recently deemed non-compliant due in part to the lack of representation of underrepresented communities on housing issues in Palo Alto. Therefore, the council must prioritize appointing underrepresented voices to commissions like the HRC.

Miles Goodman is a 23-year-old renter and a graduate of Barron Park, Fletcher, and Gunn. He has worked in food service and mental health nonprofits supporting youth and young adults since he was a teenager. As a member of the LGBTQ+ community and a person of black/mixed race, Miles offers a unique perspective to the HRC. His background in social psychology, involvement in the arts, and commitment to strengthening local youth mental health nonprofits are all much needed as the HRC tackles mental health and youth empowerment issues in Palo Alto.

Katie Causey is a 29-year-old proud member of the LGBTQ+ community who was born and raised in Palo Alto. She is a graduate of Ohlone, JLS, and Paly, and holds a degree in working with communities of different histories and backgrounds at the local level. She has spent six years working with local nonprofits and faith-based organizations, helping community members navigate the city's resources. Katie has also worked with the HRC and city staff before and has a vast knowledge of the landscape renters in Palo Alto are navigating as a former staff member of the Palo Alto Renters' Association.

Miles and Katie offer deeply needed perspectives on the HRC and show Palo Alto's young people that it is possible to take different life paths, be from different backgrounds, and still reach leadership roles

in the city. The council has seen that when marginalized voices apply to the HRC and are rejected, they often do not reapply, meaning that the council misses the opportunity to appoint that voice again. Therefore, the council should not miss the chance to elevate the voices directly impacted by the HRC's decisions.

Thanks for considering,
Jessica

From: [Sonal Prasad](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: My Vote for Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 4:13:12 PM

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Hi,

My name is Sonal Prasad and I was raised in Palo Alto. I would like to see Katie Causey and Miles Goodman appointed to Palo Alto's human relations commission.

Both of these applicants have long wanted roles on HRC. They've reviewed the work plans and watched HRC meetings. These are two applicants with backgrounds we almost never see on Palo Alto's commissions, but are two individuals whose lived experience in Palo Alto is directly impacted by HRC's work. Council's priorities include renter protections and youth mental health and the city is successful at addressing these issues when they appoint renter and youth voices.

Miles Goodman and Katie Causey offer deeply needed perspectives on HRC and show our young people in Palo Alto that you can take a variety of different life paths in Palo Alto, be from different backgrounds and still reach leadership roles in the city.

Best regards,
Sonal Prasad

From: [Nancy Krop](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: HRC Appointments
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 3:59:39 PM

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Dear council members,

Please prioritize appointing underrepresented voices to the Palo Alto Human Rights Commission (HRC).

Consistent with that priority, I support the appointment of Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to the Palo Alto HRC.

Thank you
Nancy Krop
Barron Park resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Adam Schwartz](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Katie Causey and Miles Goodman for Human Rights Commission
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 2:36:57 PM

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Greetings:

I urge the appointment of Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission.

My family and I have lived in Palo Alto for nearly eight years. I follow local news and governmental affairs, and recurrently participate.

Katie would bring important perspectives to the HRC – as a younger person, a former candidate for local school board, a renter, and an LGBTQ+ person. For a long time, she has closely tracked the workings and issues in Palo Alto's various governmental boards and committees, so she is ready to hit the ground running. I have worked with her on local issues, and know her to be hard-working, informed, fair, thorough, and fast.

Miles Goodman would also bring important perspectives to HRC – as a young person, renter, LGBTQ+ person, and person of color. Further, he has expertise in mental health policy, based on his jobs and educational background.

Please appoint Katie and Miles to HRC! I'd be happy to discuss.

Sincerely,

Adam Schwartz

he/him

523 Channing Ave

773/251-3510

adamdschwartz@yahoo.com

From: [Sam Gersten](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Miles Goodman and Katie Causey for Human Rights Commission
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 11:26:04 AM

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I am writing to voice my strong support for Miles Goodman and Katie Causey to be appointed to the HRC. As a young renter and father of a young child, I think it is important to have representation from a diverse array of community members on the HRC. Miles and Katie bring diversity, decades of Palo Alto residency, strong community experience and track records of hands-on work to the table. Katie in particular has reached out to me since I've moved to Palo Alto and looped me into many community organizations - the hallmark of a great community leader.

Thank you,
Sam Gersten
2901 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

--

Sam Gersten
sam.gersten@gmail.com | 718-570-7661

From: [Kyna Byrd](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Request for commission appointments
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 11:02:16 AM

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I am a local student writing in to ask that in your commission appointments, you prioritize the lived experience of individuals from marginalized communities who are under representative on our commissions.

We're very lucky in Palo Alto to have so many enthusiastic volunteers ready to support our community. However it's very easy for the voices of white, homeowners, working in tech, from well known universities to be over represented - and that is simply not the experience of every Palo Altan.

It is often young people, people of color, working class and LGBT+ Palo Altans who provide our city's childcare, food service, rely on our affordable housing & public transit - they are directly impacted by the decisions of our commissions but often don't get a voice on our commissions.

I know Council has been faced with a difficult decision of narrowing down a large applicant pool of incredible candidates. Council has seen before however that when applicants are rejected they often do not reapply - meaning if there's an opportunity to support an underrepresented voice now - Council may not get that opportunity again. I ask that even if a Palo Altan doesn't have the perfect professional experience you give them this opportunity- I think you'll find they'll rise to the challenge.

Thank you,
Kyna Byrd

From: [Naomi Sterlingsdottir](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Support for HRC
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 8:54:38 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Miles Goodman and Katie Causey's appointment for Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission. As a PAUSD alum, I fully support these individuals as they are dedicated to their mission and striving to benefit our community as a whole.

I've known Miles for years and he has deftly advocated for mental health which is something we are in dire need of for our youth. As a Gunn Alum, I wish we were provided more mental health resources which could have helped my peers through their battles. He has great insight into our marginalized communities and has experienced first hand some of the issues he plans to resolve when appointed. Katie has spent 6 years working with local nonprofits which has greatly improved our communities by receiving city resources for both youth and those facing housing insecurity. With her expertise she is a perfect candidate with first hand experience helping those whose voices aren't being heard.

Not only have they made great accomplishments over the past few years, I believe they both will be a perfect fit for Palo Alto's Human Relations Commission due to their determination and dedication to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,
Naomi Sterlingsdottir
B.S Computational Mathematics
Northrop Grumman

From: [Jamie Barnett](#)
To: [Council, City](#)
Subject: Please appoint Katie Causey and Miles Goodman to HRC
Date: Monday, April 24, 2023 11:21:34 PM

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Council,

My name is Jamie Barnett and I'm a Palo Alto resident. I would like the council to appoint underrepresented voices to the HRC, especially Miles Goodman and Katie Causey. Both Miles and Katie have shown deep commitment to the HRC, have spent time reviewing its work plans and attending hearings, and bring unique voices and perspectives. They are part of a critically underrepresented, yet super important, slice of our community — youth and LGBTQ+.

Thank you for considering.

Best,

Jamie

Jamie Barnett, CISSP
jamie.barnett@gmail.com
social: @jamiembarnett
mobile: 650-862-3703