

Kerri A. Cottle



Mayor's Committee on Disability
City of Santa Fe

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the Mayor's Committee on Disability. With a background that blends community leadership, education, wellness advocacy, and family engagement, I am eager to contribute my skills and lived experience to support the Committee's mission of eliminating barriers and ensuring equitable access for all members of the Santa Fe community.

As a person with dyslexia and a step-parent to a child living with a medical disability (Type 1 diabetes), I bring both personal understanding and professional dedication to issues of accessibility, inclusion, and support. These experiences ground my perspective and fuel my commitment to ensuring that city programs and services meet the needs of individuals and families navigating disability.

In my current role as **Representative for Santa Fe County on the Family Leadership Council of New Mexico (2025–2026)**, I collaborate with other family leaders to advocate for systemic change, elevate diverse voices, and strengthen services that directly impact families. This work reflects my belief in amplifying lived experiences to inform policy and practice.

I also serve as **Community Outreach Coordinator for the Santa Fe International Half Marathon**, where I lead efforts to expand community participation, build partnerships, and promote health and wellness across diverse populations. In addition, I volunteer as a **Liaison for the Santa Fe Sister Cities Committee (2023–Present)** and as an **Alumni Board Member for New Mexico Highlands University (2024–Present)**. These roles highlight my ability to build bridges, engage in cross-cultural dialogue, and strengthen community ties through service.

My professional background includes extensive experience in education, family wellness, and advocacy, including serving as a Learning Support Coordinator (case manager/Educator for students with disabilities) and working with early childhood and family intervention programs. I have collaborated with city and county organizations, foundations, and cultural groups to develop programs and events that are accessible, inclusive, and community-centered.

I am particularly drawn to the Committee's focus on studying issues in housing, employment, recreation, transportation, and human rights. These areas align with my values and professional focus: ensuring that all community members, regardless of ability, have equitable opportunities

to thrive. I also welcome the opportunity to contribute to subcommittee work on city projects, support outreach and staff training, and foster collaboration with other boards and committees.

It would be an honor to bring my passion for advocacy, my professional skills, and my personal perspective as both an individual with a disability and a caregiver to the Mayor's Committee on Disability. I am confident that my background and dedication to equity and inclusion can meaningfully support the Committee's mission.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and to contribute to enriching the Santa Fe community for people with and without disabilities.

Warm regards,
Kerri Cottle