

## **Human Rights Board**

### **Applicant Package - Citizen at Large, Alternate**

Human Rights Board -

3 Citizen at Large, 1 Alternate

#### **Terms**

- 24 Jun 2025 - 31 May 2028

#### **Positions Available 4**

#### **Number of applicants in this package 5**

- Atkins, Rachel
- Costas, Pablo H
- Engativa, Andrea
- Lindberg, Soorya
- Schuler, Jessica

**Name:** Atkins, Rachel

**Address:** 13510 NW 1st Ln Apt 209, Newberry, FL, 32669

**Email:** rachelatkins29@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Human Rights Board

**Primary Phone:**

540-820-0978

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

Trained in Mental Health First Aid

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

Previously appointed to City of Locust Parks and Rec Advisory Board in Locust, NC- did not get to serve due to move to Gainesville

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

Due to my career in public and private education, I understand the value of education as a human right. I centered my master's thesis on sustainable global development and the impacts that worldwide pandemics have on the progression of human rights. Additionally, my family is a multi-racial, multi-ethnic family that includes immigrants. I understand the importance of inclusivity and safety for our community members. I believe these personal lived and educational experiences will allow me to contribute meaningful to the board.

**Please Agree with the following statements:**

**I understand this application is the property of Alachua County and subject to public records laws. I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. I understand that Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Guidelines for Citizen Advisory Boards and Committees". I understand that some boards and committees require Financial Disclosure (Chapter 112, Florida Statutes) and I am willing to file if required. I affirm that my personal and business (if applicable) affairs within Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations?:**

Yes

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Do you currently hold any publicly elected office in the State of Florida?:**

No

**Note:** This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board

**Have you, as yourself or as an employee, agent or consultant for another person or legal entity, transacted business with the authority within the last 3 years?:**

No

**Employer :**

PAX- Program of Academic Exchange

**Occupation:**

Senior Student Support Specialist

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**I do hereby attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:**

- 1. I have maintained good moral character throughout my personal and professional life.**
- 2. I have not engaged in any conduct or behavior that would reflect adversely on my honesty, integrity, or ethical standards.**
- 3. I have not been convicted of any felony or misdemeanor involving dishonesty, fraud, or moral turpitude.**
- 4. I have adhered to all applicable laws and regulations in my personal and professional dealings.**
- 5. I strive to uphold the principles of fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my interactions.:**

Yes

**Time of Submission:** 03/13/25 3:13:01 PM

**Name:** Costas, Pablo H

**Address:** 1930 SW 65th Drive, Gainesville, Florida, 32607

**Email:** pablohcostas@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Human Rights Board

**Primary Phone:**

(352) 871-1064

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

Human Rights activist in Bolivia

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

None, this is my first

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

Diversity

**Please Agree with the following statements:**

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Yes

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Do you currently hold any publicly elected office in the State of Florida?:**

No

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**I do hereby attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:**

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- 5. I strive to uphold the principles of fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my interactions.:**

Yes

**Time of Submission:** 03/11/25 9:46:42 PM

**Attachments**

**Name:** Engativa, Andrea

**Address:** 3652 SW 24th Ave, Gainesville, FL, 32607

**Email:** engativa.av@ufl.edu

**Board Name:** Human Rights Board

**Primary Phone:**

5613098628

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

Fellow, Teach For America Ignite – Engaged in educational equity initiatives, teaching students from underserved communities and advocating for accessible learning opportunities with county school boards. Intern, Rural-Urban Community Connections Project (UF/IFAS Extension & Polk County Farm Bureau) – Conducted stakeholder analysis and research on rural-urban issues, gaining insight into policy impacts on marginalized populations. Generation Vote Campaign Fellow – Worked on voter engagement initiatives to increase civic participation, focusing on historically disenfranchised communities. General Body Meeting Director, PorColombia UF – Strengthened community ties and led initiatives to promote cultural awareness and inclusivity among the University of Florida Colombian population. Garber Grant Recipient – Received funding to support preparation for law school admissions, selected based on outstanding commitment and consistent engagement within the First Generation Lawyers general member populace. Global Gators Connect Scholar – Assisted international students in adapting to life in Gainesville by fostering cross-cultural connections, helping them navigate local resources, and ensuring they felt welcomed within the UF community. Beyond120 Experiential Scholar – Recognized for excellence in experiential learning through internships, research, and community engagement within Gainesville and beyond.

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

n/a

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

As a young resident of Alachua County, I am eager to contribute to the Human Rights Advisory Board by representing the rights and needs of a broad range of constituents. Since moving to Gainesville, I have intentionally immersed myself in the community, using my fresh perspective to foster connections and drive positive change. Through consistent volunteer work with Project Downtown and Habitat for Humanity, I have worked closely with those most disenfranchised in our community, gaining firsthand insight into pressing human rights issues. I have engaged with individuals experiencing housing and food insecurity, as well as economic hardship, deepening my understanding of challenges related to affordable housing, access to resources, and systemic barriers to upward mobility. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to advocating for fair housing, economic equity, and expanded resource accessibility. I am dedicated to upholding and advancing equality for all citizens and would work to address discrimination as mandated by Chapter 111 of the Alachua County Code. With strong public speaking skills and a talent for facilitating discussions, I can foster productive dialogue to ensure that human rights standards are not only upheld but also effectively implemented and accessible to all residents. Beyond my community involvement, I am actively engaged in student life at the University of Florida, serving on the board of the Colombian Student Association and previously holding leadership roles in the Hispanic Student Association's dance team and the First Generation Lawyers student organization. These roles have strengthened my ability to collaborate, advocate for stakeholders, and navigate diverse perspectives—skills that are essential for this position. My academic focus on political science and public policy has equipped me with an analytical and interdisciplinary approach to evaluating human rights concerns, bridging my role as a student with that of an emerging professional. I recognize that UF's excellence is deeply rooted in the strength of Alachua County and its residents. In this role, I can leverage both my professional background and personal experiences as a community member to protect individuals from discrimination and promote a county where equal opportunity, fairness, and human dignity are safeguarded through informed policy recommendations. Gainesville has given me invaluable opportunities and a strong sense of community, and I am eager to give back by serving on the Human Rights Advisory Board. This position would not only allow me to further my experience in government and civic leadership but also enable me to make a direct, positive impact on my neighbors and fellow residents.

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No

**Note:** This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board

**Have you, as yourself or as an employee, agent or consultant for another person or legal entity, transacted business with the authority within the last 3 years?:**

No

**Employer :**

Teach for America IGNITE

**Occupation:**

Fellow

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

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- 5. I strive to uphold the principles of fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my interactions.:**

Yes

**Time of Submission:** 03/23/25 4:44:10 PM

**Attachments**

- Advisory Board Resume.pdf



# Andrea V Engativa

Gainesville, FL 32607 | [engativa.av@ufl.edu](mailto:engativa.av@ufl.edu) | <http://www.linkedin.com/in/av-engativa>

## Education

**University of Florida** | Gainesville, FL

*Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & Government*

- International Relations Certificate | Legal History Certificate

## Professional Experience

**Teach for America IGNITE** | Remote

*Tutoring Fellow (6th grade Math, 8th grade Algebra, SAT Math)*

*Aug. 2024 – Present*

- Deliver targeted tutoring to groups of 2 to 4 middle or high school students per session, reinforcing mathematical foundations and cultivating long-term academic success through improved testing strategies and scores.
- Develop tailored curricula and lesson plans in collaboration with site leaders, undergoing continuous professional development to improve communication strategies and student outcomes.

**Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences UF Extension** | Remote

*Project Intern*

*May 2024 – Aug. 2024*

- Conducted stakeholder analyses and designed interview materials to assess the roles of local, county, and state officials in fostering economic interdependence within the nation's fastest-growing county.
- Developed strategic deliverables on shared rural-urban community interests, emphasizing agricultural sustainability and infrastructure investment to reduce disparities in economic performance and growth.

**Hurricane Cafe** | Juno Beach, FL

*Server & Bartender*

*July 2022 – Aug. 2023*

- Trained and supervised 10+ new employees on menu knowledge, service protocols, and bar procedures, ensuring consistency with established service standards and enhancing front-of-house performance.
- Ensured quality control of complex food and drink orders for 200+ parties daily, guaranteeing accuracy, timely delivery, and aesthetic presentation to enhance guest satisfaction.

## Leadership Experience

**PorColombia UF (Colombian Student Association)** | Gainesville, FL

*General Body Meeting Director*

*July 2024 – Present*

- Plan and execute themed monthly meetings highlighting Colombia through well-researched history and interactive activities; updating audiences of 40 to 60 students on events while increasing member engagement and cultural appreciation.

*Assistant Treasurer*

*Jan. 2024 – July 2024*

- Established partnerships with local businesses and organizations to facilitate fundraising events, allowing for improved event programming, greater student involvement, and increased philanthropy for service projects in Colombia.

**First Generation Lawyers UF** | Gainesville, FL

*Director of Professional Development*

*June 2024 – Dec. 2024*

- Organized professional development workshops to equip general members with essential skills for the law school admissions process, job applications, and experiential learning opportunities.
- Coordinated professional guest speakers of diverse legal backgrounds to present at monthly meetings, encouraging active members to foster unique career connections and mentorship opportunities.

**Sabor Latino UF (Hispanic-Latine Student Association Dance Team)** | Gainesville, FL

*Treasurer*

*July 2024 – Dec. 2024*

- Oversaw \$2,000 budget, allocating funds for costumes and rehearsal provisions for over 40 dancers in competition training.

## Volunteer Experience

**UF Brown Center for Leadership and Service** | Tampa, FL

*Florida Alternative Breaks Service Trip Member*

*Mar. 2025*

- Participated in a week-long service trip to study the long term impacts of hurricanes on affected communities and contribute to recovery efforts, learning about emergency management strategies, government aid programs, and nonprofit involvement.
- Partnered with United Way Suncoast and local aid organizations in multiple volunteering shifts to engage with community members and help address food insecurity, housing inequality, and animal welfare efforts.

**Project Downtown** | Gainesville, FL

*Volunteer*

*Feb. 2024 – Present*

- Serve food and drink to 40+ homeless community members, helping with setup, distribution, and clean-up every weekend

**Damas Católicas en Acción Ch. 1** | Palm Beach Gardens, FL

*Youth Engagement Lead*

*Dec. 2024 – Present*

- Spearhead the launch of the parish's first youth scholarship program, providing \$500 in financial support for 5 high school seniors pursuing post-baccalaureate education.
- Establish application process and eligibility criteria to empower youth in accessing higher education opportunities.

*Volunteer Organizer*

*Oct. 2022 – Sep. 2023*

- Standardized volunteer onboarding to boost membership and engagement, expanding the event volunteer force by 35%.
- Led and managed volunteer committees for fundraisers and events, increasing annual fundraising revenue by \$4,000.

**Skills:** ArcGIS, Stata, R, Microsoft Office, PencilSpaces, ServSafe Food Handling

**Languages:** English (C2) | Spanish (C1) | Portuguese (A2)

**Awards:** Florida Academic Scholar, Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar, Panhellenic Alumnae of Palm Beach County Scholar, Garber Grant Recipient, Global Gators Connect Scholar, *Beyond120* Experiential Scholar

**Name:** Lindberg, Soorya

**Address:** 16630 NW 173rd Terrace, Alachua, FL, 32615

**Email:** soorya.lindberg@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Human Rights Board

**Primary Phone:**

407-925-6976

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

Project Management Professional (PMP)

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

N/A

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

I bring experience in organizing complex systems and a passion for making information accessible and inclusive. I'm committed to helping others feel heard and would contribute a thoughtful, equity-focused perspective to the Board.

**Please Agree with the following statements:**

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Yes

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No

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- 5. I strive to uphold the principles of fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my interactions.:**

Yes

**Time of Submission:** 04/18/25 10:07:15 AM

**Attachments**

- Soorya Lindberg - Application, Human Rights Board.pdf

Soorya Lindberg  
16630 NW 173<sup>rd</sup> Terrace  
Alachua, FL 32615  
soorya.lindberg@gmail.com  
(407) 925-6976

April 18, 2025

Jacqueline Chung  
Equal Opportunity Manager, Alachua County  
12 SE 1st Street, 1st Floor  
Gainesville, FL 32601

RE: Application for Citizen-at-Large Position – Alachua County Human Rights Board

Dear Mx. Chung,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving as a Citizen-at-Large on the Alachua County Human Rights Board because I recently moved to the area and have fallen in love with the sense of community, the local events, and—most of all—the people who make this such a meaningful place to live. I am eager to contribute my skills, time, and perspective to support the Board’s mission to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all people in Alachua County.

My professional background is in project and content management, and I hold a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute. This credential reflects a globally recognized standard for ethical leadership, structured problem-solving, and effective decision-making—skills I apply with care and precision in every project I lead. For over a decade, I’ve led cross-functional teams and implementing systems that bring clarity to complex information. I specialize in organizing collaborative efforts with transparency, empathy, and impact—skills I believe are directly applicable to the responsibilities of the Human Rights Board.

Every protection outlined in the Human Rights Ordinance is deeply important. While I value them all, I feel particularly drawn to the Board’s efforts in housing rights, public accommodations, and disability rights—areas that shape how people live, move, and belong in our community. These aren’t abstract policy areas to me—they’re tangible, everyday rights that reflect our shared humanity.

Having just moved here, I got involved in local government meetings as soon as I could, eager to contribute and better understand our community’s challenges. That experience quickly showed me how difficult it can be for residents to feel confident participating in public discussions. In response, I began creating resources and suggested talking points to help others speak up. Helping people feel seen, heard, and valued is something I care deeply about—and it’s at the heart of why I want to serve in this role.

I would be honored to contribute my energy, voice, and commitment to the Human Rights Board, and to support its vital work in protecting and promoting the dignity of all residents of Alachua County. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,  
Soorya Lindberg

# Soorya Lindberg, PMP

**Versatile Project Manager with 10+ years of experience** leading cross-functional teams, translating complex challenges into actionable plans, and delivering results on time and under budget.

**PMP certified** for a thorough understanding of project management methodology and processes.

 [LINKEDIN.COM/IN/SOORYA](https://www.linkedin.com/in/soorya)  [SOORYA.LINDBERG@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SOORYA.LINDBERG@GMAIL.COM)  407-925-6976

- |                            |                         |                      |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| • Ethical Leadership       | • Civic Engagement      | • Content Management |
| • Inclusive Systems Design | • Process Improvement   | • Empowering Others  |
| • Accessible Communication | • Resource Coordination | • Removing Barriers  |

## Experience

**MANAGER, CONTENT CONFIGURATION**, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing 2018 – Present

*Trusted to implement a centralized content management system to increase transparency, reduce information silos, and ensure equitable access to accurate, up-to-date content—directly supporting \$30M+ in annual revenue tied to K–12 educational materials. By streamlining internal processes and improving response quality, this work helped school districts across the country make informed purchasing decisions that impact students, educators, and communities.*

- **Designed and implemented a centralized repository** to make institutional knowledge more accessible and consistent, enabling broader team participation and efficiency.
- **Created training materials** to guide and empower others, reduce barriers to entry, and ensure successful system adoption for staff with varied technical backgrounds.
- **Built and maintained a content database containing thousands of records** from hundreds of proposals, ensuring access to critical information previously siloed across individual contributors.
- **Led a cross-departmental initiative to improve responsiveness / communication** via Salesforce Chatter feature between internal experts and public-facing sales, resulting in a 13% drop in unanswered inquiries.

**PROJECT MANAGER**, Platinum Creative at Full Sail University 2012 – 2018

*Led a creative team of writers, designers, videography personnel, and developers for a multitude of deliverables.*

- **Streamlined project delivery** by breaking down complex ideas into clear and concise tasks while coordinating the flow of all creative and production processes to boost project completion dramatically.
- **Maximized project efficiency** by leading cross-functional teams on digital and print projects, including email campaigns, website updates, landing pages, mobile app updates, marketing collateral, brochures, billboards, etc.

**PROJECT MANAGER**, Bayat Foundation 2010 – 2012

*Project manager of non-profit for fundraising activities online and by mail for fundraising goals by taking over leadership of event / activity planning and execution, working closely with CEO and international partners.*

- **Established and maximized organizational exposure** by implementing a comprehensive social media engagement plan, through consultation with leadership and external partners.
- **Overseeing all communications**, including press releases, email campaigns, print materials, and website launches to promote awareness, outreach, and exposure.

**EVENT COORDINATOR**, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Florida 2007 - 2010

*Served as the sole event coordinator and engaging young professionals for a nonprofit supporting families in need.*

- **Coordinated logistics for private and public events** with 30–2,000+ attendees, supporting fundraising, awareness, networking, and recognition goals. Designed collateral and signage, managed silent auctions.
- **Managed community outreach programs** and third-party initiatives to support engagement and visibility

## Education

**Agile Hybrid Project Pro certification** | Project Management Institute – 2023

**Project Management Professional certification** | Project Management Institute – 2019

**Bachelor of Science, Liberal Studies** | University of Central Florida – 2005

## Activities

<i>Chamber Diplomat Board Secretary</i>	2023-Present
<i>National Content Writer Magazines/Online</i>	2023-Present
<i>Publishers Director Local Publication/Online Nationally</i>	2023-Present
<i>Publishers Assistant Local Publication/Online Nationally</i>	2023-Present
<i>Board Member Gainesville Opportunity Center/Clubhouse Community</i>	2022-Present
<i>Boy Scouts District Board</i>	2022-2024
<i>Editor of a local magazine</i>	2021-Present
<i>Rotary Speakers Chair for Gainesville Rotary Club</i>	2023-2024
<i>Rotary Foundation Board Member / Foundation Board of Directors</i>	2020-2022
<i>Rotary Board Member Events / Board of Directors Seafood Event</i>	2020-2022
<i>Beyond Bourbon / RMHNCFC Co Chair &amp; Auction Chair</i>	2019-2022
<i>Rotary Board Member / Rotary Club Gainesville Board of Directors</i>	2019-2021
<i>Gainesville Chamber Member &amp; Diplomat – Cabi Style with Leza</i>	2019-Present
<i>Rotary Club Member / Rotary Club Gainesville Rookie of the Year 2018</i>	2017-Present
<i>Ronald McDonald Advisory Board / RMHNCFC</i>	2016-Present
<i>Bourbon &amp; BBQ Board / RMHNCFC Fundraising Auction Chair</i>	2016-2022
<i>Take Stock in Children Mentor / Alachua County Take Stock</i>	2016-2019
<i>Junior League Links Committee / Junior League of Gainesville</i>	2010-2018
<i>Treasurer / Gainesville Juniors Volleyball Club</i>	7/2012-2018
<i>Life on 24<sup>th</sup> Magazine Content Coordinator</i>	7/2014-2016
<i>Lunch Mom for Varsity Volleyball / PK Yonge High School</i>	8/2013-11/2014
<i>Concession Stand Parent Volleyball / PK Yonge High School</i>	8/2010-11/2010
<i>Team Mom / Gainesville Juniors Volleyball Club</i>	2008-2018
<i>Grant Reviewer / Lawton Chiles Elementary School</i>	8/2011-5/2012
<i>Teacher Luncheon Coordinator / Eastside High School</i>	8/2009-5/2013
<i>Teacher Appreciation Coordinator / Howard Bishop Middle School</i>	8/2006-5/2009
<i>President of PTA / Howard Bishop Middle School</i>	8/2007-5/2009
<i>Treasurer / Howard Bishop Middle School</i>	8/2006-5/2009
<i>Yearbook Parent / Lawton Chiles Elementary</i>	8/2004-5/2005
<i>Homeroom Mom</i>	8/2000-5/2012
<i>Homeroom Coordinator</i>	8/2002-5/2003
<i>Treasurer / Lawton Chiles Elementary</i>	8/2003-5/2004

**Name:** Schuler, Jessica

**Address:** 2018 NW 31st Avenue, Gainesville, Florida, 32605

**Email:** mashuplove@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Human Rights Board

**Primary Phone:**

7863123170

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

I'm just a human rights advocate, activist and volunteer that believes it's more important now than ever to get involved in representing humanity. I've worked for organizations such as the Alteria M. Woods Organization, Our Santa Fe River, the Amndmnt Collective, PaliLiberation and others.

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

None

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

If selected, I would bring a deep commitment to equity, a strong understanding of community dynamics, and a creative yet practical approach to problem-solving. My background in advocacy and nonprofits gives me insight into how systemic inequities affect marginalized populations in Gainesville, particularly around issues like housing, healthcare access, policing, and public safety. As a citizen at large, I can offer a grounded and community-centered perspective - listening to those whose voices are often left out of policy discussions and bringing those concerns into board dialogue. I'm particularly passionate about creating more inclusive systems that not only protect human rights but also affirm dignity and belonging for all people, especially those who have historically been underserved or overlooked. Additionally, I have experience in graphic design and video editing, which I believe can help strengthen the board's visibility and connection to the broader community. I'm committed to collaboration, integrity, and action; and would work to help ensure Gainesville continues moving toward becoming a truly inclusive and equitable city for all its residents.

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Yes

**Employer :**

Self-employed

**Occupation:**

Creative Director

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**I do hereby attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:**

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Yes

**Time of Submission:** 04/10/25 8:58:14 PM