

Denis Elliott, Running for CoC Governance Board Vice Chair

Service and helping others was I think something instilled in me by my mom at an early age. I come from a lower middle class background so time and energy was often the most people in my type of family could offer on a regular basis. Mom became the Den Mother for my Cub Scout Pack when our first one was killed in a car accident, and once a month our Den meeting was held a couple of blocks away on Main Street where we volunteered working with Jackson County children with Cerebral Palsy. It was both an eye opening and rewarding experience, and I guess it stuck with me. It would lead to working in social services as an adult, and even in other jobs I either via work or other avenues engaged in helping others. Once again my life is such that while I can't usually come up with monetary donations, I can offer other things to help people and it feels good to give something to others, especially since others have helped me in difficult times. "Pass it on" is a philosophy to live by.

I've had an interesting life and career with a range of experience. That experience includes social services, counseling, work in the private sector, non-profit work for conservation groups, working for a Town govt. in northern Virginia managing an Enterprise Fund (we generated our own revenue instead of relying on appropriations from the Town's budget) and military service in the Marines. I have management experience in all of those types of work, and with one association and for the Town of Herndon basically created something from scratch that turned out quite well. One common thread through the various types of work I've done and positions I have held is working both within my own organization and with outside groups and organizations to coordinate services.