

**NAME:** Nicole Love Hendrickson  
**PARTY:** Democrat  
**SEEKING:** Gwinnett Commission Chair

**1. Why are you seeking your office?**

I'm a Social Worker, Community Advocate and Proud Gwinnettian. I am running to be the next Chairman of Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners because I feel that I can best represent the voice, values, and needs of our next generation. I bring two decades of community-based experience in the public and non-profit sector with the bulk of that in Gwinnett County directly serving the people. I am committed to working together to improve the lives of all Gwinnett residents and businesses to ensure a healthy community and a prosperous economy.

**2. What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I am not an establishment or career politician. I am an everyday citizen who has dedicated much of my life to serving the needs of people. I have had the recent opportunity to serve alongside the current Board of Commissioners as the Community Outreach Director, a position I was appointed to by Chairman Nash. I developed a platform to engage more residents in local government. I founded the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy which educates citizens about the role and functions of our government. This has given me an in-depth understanding and framework of running an efficient government and delivering quality (100)...

**3. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

As the new leader of the organization, I would look to raise the bar on performance as leave my own imprint on the role. While I have a vision for what I would like to accomplish, it is more important for me to strike that balance of building on what's working and changing what needs improvement. Externally, there is an overall perception of distrust of government. I would like to continue building on what I started at the county, by collaborating with our citizens to drive decision-making. It promotes transparency, builds public trust, and promotes good governance.

**4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

We need to promote better access to workforce initiatives that reach the populations that are not currently being served. I would like to improve access to workforce training and soft-skills development initiatives for low wage communities and young adults that lack adequate skills, so that it enables them to more fully participate in the surrounding economy. This includes but is not limited to expanding our public private partnerships,

making investments in early education and ESL programs, and expanding apprenticeship programs for enhanced skill development. I would also align with existing workforce efforts for effectiveness and efficiency.

**5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.**

We are fortunate that we only use sales tax for capital projects and don't rely on 100% of our conservative forecasts when budgeting. This will cushion us from some of the effect. We still should put all options on the table to jump-start the economy to assist small businesses, families and homeowners. I would institute a task force with public and private partners to examine the impact and develop innovative solutions such as micro and disaster recovery loans, assistance funds for non-profits that extend to our arts communities and waiving penalties for late tax payments, to name a few.

**6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background**

I am a native of Providence Rhode Island. I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of Rhode Island and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Georgia. I planted my roots in Gwinnett in 2006 and quickly became a part of the network of change makers. I co-lead various strategic grassroots and community planning efforts during my time here. I serve on a number of civic and philanthropic boards. I currently reside in unincorporated Lilburn with my husband and 6 year old son. You can learn more about me at [Love4Gwinnett.com](http://Love4Gwinnett.com).