



**King County**

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**MIDD**

Supporting behavioral  
health and recovery

## MIDD: Grounding In

MIDD Advisory Committee Meeting

**January 26, 2023**

Presenter: Laura Smith and Steve Larsen, Co-Chairs

# MIDD Background – MIDD 1

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- **Local Sales Tax Option**
  - In 2005, Washington State Legislature granted counties authority for a 0.1% mental health/substance use sales tax.
- **[Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\) 82.14.460](#)** requires revenue to be used for:
  - providing new or expanded behavioral health programs and services
  - operation or delivery of therapeutic court programs and services
- **King County Council Authorizes Tax in 2007 (MIDD 1)**
  - Ordinance 15949 authorized the local sales tax, known as MIDD in King County
    - Adequate, stable public funding for community mental health services;
    - Timely, affordable, culturally appropriate access to mental health services that focus on recovery and resilience;
    - Improved community-based treatment programs to reduce costly incarceration and emergency room utilization;
    - A stable and well-trained workforce.
- The tax became effective April 1, 2008, with a sunset on January 1, 2017 unless renewed

# MIDD Background – MIDD 2

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- In August 2016, King County Council unanimously extended the MIDD behavioral health sales tax through 2025<sup>1</sup>.
- This second iteration of MIDD services (2017-25) is known as MIDD 2.
- MIDD 2 investments/evaluation guided by Council-approved plans:
  - Service Improvement Plan
  - Implementation Plan
  - Evaluation Plan

Plans are located on the [MIDD Website](#)



## MIDD Result

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People living with, or at risk of behavioral health conditions, are healthy, have satisfying social relationships, and avoid criminal justice involvement.

# MIDD 2 Policy Goals

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1. Divert individuals with behavioral health needs from costly interventions, such as jail, emergency rooms, and hospitals.
2. Reduce the number, length, and frequency of behavioral health crisis events.
3. Increase culturally appropriate, trauma informed behavioral health services.
4. Improve health and wellness of individuals living with behavioral health conditions.
5. Explicit linkage with, and furthering the work of, other King County and community initiatives.

# MIDD 2 Strategy Areas

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- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Crisis Diversion
- Recovery and Reentry
- System Improvement
- Therapeutic Courts



# Advisory Committee *Ordinance 18452, lines 122-148*

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- The advisory committee shall act as an advisory body to the county executive and council. The advisory committee shall conduct reviews, provide comment on and make recommendations on the mental illness and drug dependency tax-funded initiatives, services, programs and policy goals and consistent with the mental illness and drug dependency service improvement plan that is approved in accordance with Ordinance 17998.
- The advisory committee shall provide ongoing review, comments and recommendations on mental illness and drug dependency tax-funded programs until all sales tax revenues have been expended and the final evaluation of the mental illness and drug dependency programs and services has been submitted to the council.

# Advisory Committee *(continued)*

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The advisory committee shall:

- a. review and provide written recommendations to the executive and the council on the implementation and effectiveness of the county's sales tax funded programs in meeting the policy established;
- b. review and report to the executive and the council on, annual evaluation reports;
- c. review and make comment on emerging and evolving priorities for the use of the mental illness and drug dependency sales tax revenue;
- d. serve as a forum to promote coordination and collaboration between entities involved with sales tax programs;
- e. educate the public, policymakers and stakeholders on mental illness and drug dependency related efforts and groups; and
- f. coordinate and share information with other related efforts
- g. members will make decisions based on the best interest of King County and its residents; and will avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. *Added from KC Code of Conduct for Boards and Commissions.*



# MIDD Advisory Committee Guiding Principles for King County to Utilize in Developing and Implementing MIDD Activities *(as updated May 31, 2017)*

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- Responsive to significant environmental changes in federal/state policy and funding; filling gaps
- Driven by outcomes; informed by data
- Based in promising or best practices; evidence-based when possible
- Supports King County's vision for health care; reflects the triple aim: improved patient care experience, improved population health, and reduced cost of health care
- More upstream / prevention services
- Integrated, transformational services / strategies designed to serve our most disenfranchised populations
- Partnering between Criminal Justice system / human services with shared goal to divert and prevent justice system involvement
- Community-based organizations on equal status with County for compensation
- Open to new ways of achieving results
- Build on strengths of the system
- Self-sustaining; partnerships that leverage sustainability when possible
- Recovery focused
- Community driven
- Client Centered
- Common goal: "People living with or at risk of behavioral health conditions are healthy, have satisfying social relationships, and avoid criminal justice involvement."

# Advisory Committee “Prioritized” Principles

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In the Spring of 2020, AC members completed a survey to update the MIDD Advisory Committee Guiding Principles for King County to Utilize in Developing and Implementing MIDD Activities to reflect priority values members KC applied when considering funding decisions for the 2021-2022 MIDD biennial budget.

- Prioritizing Equity and Social Justice (ESJ);
- Driven by outcomes; informed by data;
- Integrated, transformational services/strategies designed to serve our most disenfranchised populations;
- Client centered;
- More upstream/prevention service; and
- Community-based organizations on equal status with the County for compensation.



Questions?