

Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Advisory Committee (AC) Meeting Notes April 22, 2021, 12:00-1:30 p.m., Meeting held via Zoom

Members/ Designees: Co-Chair Claudia D'Allegri, Co-Chair Judge Ketu Shah, Councilmember Brenda Fincher, Jeff Sakuma, Sunny Lovin, Victor Loo, Fartun Mohamed, Joshua Wallace, Barbara Miner, Laura Merchant, Trenecsia Wilson, Karen Brady, Mayor Gary Harris, Callista Welbaum standing in for Judge Susan Mahoney, Christina Mason designee for Barbara Miner, Brad Finegood designee for Patty Hayes, Tara Urs designee for Anita Khandelwal, Danielle Burt designee for Kailey Fiedler-Gohlke

Other Attendees: Suamhirs Piraino-Guzman, Robin Pfohman, Kimberly Cisson, Chelsea Walch, Halima Lozano, Kelli Carroll, Kelli Nomura, Steve Andryszewksi, Isabel Jones, Nicholas Makhani, Alex O'Reilly, Madeline Cavazos, Dave Murphy, Marc Seligson, Sherry McCabe, Barbara Tengtio, Daniel Story, Ely Hernandez, Heather Venegas, Jorene Reiber, Alexis Mercedes-Rinck, Peggy Papsdorf, Leandra Craft, Tepa Vaina, Fania S., Barbie Young, Grace Popoff, Jesse Benet, Pete DeSanto, Sam Porter, Susan Shoeld

Notes by: Chelsea Walch

Issues	Discussion	Action Items:
Welcome	Co-Chair Judge Ketu Shah began the meeting by greeting everyone and acknowledging that King County is on the traditional land of the Duwamish Tribe. Co-Chair Judge Shah provided an overview of how to use Zoom features and meeting logistics for members and other participants.	
Member/Staff Announcements	There were no announcements made.	
Review/Approve Meeting Notes	The March meeting notes were approved by consensus.	
Equity Grounding Moment	Co-Chair Judge Shah introduced the equity grounding moment and invited volunteers to share an equitable moment they experienced recently.	
	Brad Finegood shared comments touching on the recent guilty verdict of the Derek Chauvin trial and the community response around holding individuals accountable for the killing of people of color by white people. He shared the title of a book he is currently reading, <i>Four Hundred Souls</i> by Abraham Kennedy, highlighting how long different systems of oppression have been in place and how one must be assertive every day in their antiracist work.	
Public Comment	Co-Chair Judge Shah invited anyone interested to sign up in the chat box. There was no request for public comment.	
MIDD Financial Report	Nick Makhani, Finance Controller for the Department of Community and Human Services walked everyone through the highlights of the financial statements for this month.	
	He noted that the ending undesignated fund balance stands at \$8.8 million, as presented last month. Additionally, the rainy day reserves have been restored, which had previously been cut due to the COVID pandemic. He made note of the forecasted revenue for the '21-'22 biennium, which now exceeds'19-'20 actual collection. The current forecast totals \$146.6 million	

MIDD AC Meeting Page 1 of 4

of revenues, compared to \$155.5 million of collected revenues in the prior biennium - \$1.1 million higher.

Nick noted that in light of the financial health of the MIDD fund, the program can support additional appropriation while maintaining the required reserves.

Nick then presented the March 2021 financial plan. He pointed out the '21-'22 estimated numbers, including a \$146.6 million revenue forecast compared to the \$145.5 million collection in the prior biennium. These are final numbers. He called attention to Column 5, row 23, the fully restored rainy day reserve of \$12.7 million.

Sam Porter, Council staff, asked a question about whether the previous transfer from the MIDD Fund to the Behavioral Health Fund was changed at all. Steve Andryszewski responded that the \$15 million she is referring to has been built into the existing line items in the expenditure section seen in Column 5, but they can adjust the financial plan to call that out separately if that is easier for everyone to understand going forward. Brad Finegood requested that the finance team continue to call that out separately.

Budget Discussion and Principle Prioritization

Co-Chair Judge Shah introduced the continued discussion regarding strategies for prioritizing budget restoration of initiatives that were previously cut due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He reminded everyone that this is an Advisory Commmittee, and as representatives of the community they are providing a big picture perspective and making recommendations for their constituents that they represent. He invited members interested in saying something or sharing the information they gathered from their constituents, to put their name in the chat box.

Sunny Lovin shared a few themes collected from Harborview Medical Center: 1.) reinstating funds for any programs that had been cut due to budget constraints; 2.) looking at crisis diversion and recognizing that the pandemic has had a significant impact on the populations they serve and there's a sense that there's going to be an influx in crisis services as things get back to normal; and 3.) recovery and reentry services as a priority.

Karen Brady, representative for the behavioral health provider community, shared overall results of the survey. She indicated that the feeling from the behavioral health community can be aggregated into three areas: 1.) the homeless population – both youth and adult – have been significantly impacted; 2.) substance use disorders have become a critical issue in the pandemic; and 3.) pediatrics in general (inability of children and youth to access behavioral healthcare when schools are closed).

Co-Chair Claudia D'Allegri added that the community health centers had participation in the survey from different executive directors that focused on very specific strategies similar to what Karen Brady discussed. They felt

MIDD AC Meeting Page 2 of 4

that there is a strong need for more behavioral health services at the level of community health centers, especially suicide prevention, domestic violence, and maternity support services.

Co-Chair Judge Shah added that he has spoken with some of the Therapeutic Courts that experienced some cuts and are hoping for renewal because the people served by these courts are exactly the populations the MIDD Advisory Committee has been talking about. Work has been done to analyze their effectiveness, especially the Adult Drug Court and Regional Mental Health Court, and this has shown that because their access to housing and treatment through community-based organization has led to big reductions in recidivism and increases in recovery and sobriety.

There was a question as to whether Community Court is coming back to Burien. Callista Welbaum answered that the Community Court closed down do to decreased funding and the answer to that question is dependent on funding.

Councilmember Kathy Lambert offered agreement and praise for the Community Court system and the great outcomes born from the work that is done there.

Christina Mason, Drug Court Program Manager at the King County Department of Judicial Administration, shared information gathered on behalf of the Adult Drug Court and King County.

Victor Loo shared that it's important to prioritize funding for the organizations that serve the populations comprised of immigrants, refugees, LGBTQ and BIPOC individuals. Victor commented that he hopes the funding goes to the organizations that have staffing that reflects the lived experience and provide culturally adequate and linguistically competent care. Victor shared that he thinks it's important to increase access and address disparity issues in South King County, as it historically lacks access and resources.

Members were directed to participate an online survey through Menti to select five principles for prioritization.

Equity Framework - Workplan Development

MIDD Steering Committee members, Alexis Rinck, Fartun Mohamed, Brad Finegood and Halima Lozano presented an update on priority goal areas and activities of the Equity Framework Workplan Development that the Steering Committee has been working to put together.

Co-Chair Claudia D'Allegri asked about an equity tool being available for the Committee to utilize when making decisions. Halima replied that there are certainly some evaluation components and they're hoping to be able to pull in what they're finding and learning into the Evaluation Advisory Group.

MIDD AC Meeting Page 3 of 4

Community Briefing: UTOPIA	Tepatasi Vaina, Program Director of UTOPIA Washington (formerly known as UTOPIA Seattle) and Case Manager Fania Sipili gave a presentation on the UTOPIA Washington organization and the programming it offers to not only King County residents, but communities Washington-wide. Founded in 2009, UTOPIA is a queer and trans people of color-led, grassroots organization. UTOPIA that works to create a safe space for members of the Pacific Islander LGBTQI community.	
Agenda Items for May/June Meeting	Please email Robin Pfohman with any desired agenda items for the May/June meeting.	
Adjourned	1:30 PM	
Next meeting	Thursday, June 10, 2021, 12:00-1:30 p.m., Zoom	

MIDD AC Meeting Page 4 of 4