



Department of Community and Human Services
Behavioral Health and Recovery Division

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-263-9100

206-296-0583 (Reception)

206-205-1634 (Clinical Services)

King County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB)

March 5, 2026- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Board Members: *Dae Degrate, David Sullivan, Jasmeet Singh, Kevin Host, Kristina Sawyckyj, Lyscha Marcynyszyn, Mustafa Mohammed, Nancy Dow, and Stacey Devenney*

Board Members not present: *Lucas Sherman*

Guest: *Trevor Stuart, Erin Reinhart, Natalie Neumiller, Sabina Perry, Erin Hamilton, Clarissa Perez, Mariann Colonna, Andie Huston, Emeka Alozie, Sarah McCauley, Natalia Chacon, Rebekah Woods, Savannah Mitchell, Kathleen Murphy, Freyton Castillo, Christena Coutsubos, Laura Smith, Rey Cassidy, Sharon Turner, and Denille Bezmer*

BHAB Board Meeting

The King County Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting, including board members, staff, and the public, was called to order at 11:35 am.

Welcome & Introductions

Jasmeet Singh welcomed everyone.

- Community members and guests introduced themselves.
- Public Comment Sign-up: via Teams chat

Business Board

Approval of the Minutes for February 5, 2026

The board approved the February 5, 2026, meeting minutes.

Prepared By: Savannah Mitchell

Attested by: Kathleen Murphy, Board Liaison

Approved: 04/02/2026

Department of Community and Human Services
Behavioral Health and Recovery Division

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-263-9100

206-296-0583 (Reception)

206-205-1634 (Clinical Services)

Governance

Administrative Items & agenda review

Jasmeet Singh welcomes everyone and reviews the meeting agenda

Co-Chair Announcements

Catherine Schley (District 5) – will not be moving forward with board nomination.

Financial disclosure forms are due for board members on March 13th at 5:00pm. Kevin Host reminded board members to add a photograph to their board member profiles on the BHAB website.

Susan McLaughlin is serving as DCHS interim director and will no longer be joining the BHAB board meetings. Savannah Mitchell will be providing support for recording minutes for BHAB board meetings. Isabel Jones and Denille Bezemer will be stepping into interim roles within BHRD and will be joining board meeting in the capacity that Susan previously held. Kathleen Murphy will continue to support the board in same capacity as she previously held.

Mobile Response Stabilization Services (MRSS)

Rebekha Woods presented a high-level overview of Mobile Response Stabilization Services (MRSS). Please see highlight below:

- MRSS delivered in 3 primary service areas within King County
- Currently contracted with one MRSS provider
- Centralized MRSS dispatch
- MRSS available now for entirety of King County
 - Increased from one central site to 6 sites
- Mobile Outreach
- Overview of MRSS Workflow

Rebekah Woods provided time for Q & A for the board.

Prepared By: Savannah Mitchell

Attested by: Kathleen Murphy, Board Liaison

Approved: 04/02/2026

Department of Community and Human Services
Behavioral Health and Recovery Division

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-263-9100

206-296-0583 (Reception)

206-205-1634 (Clinical Services)

Post Crisis Follow-up Program (PCFU) - Crisis Care Centers (CCC) Initiative

Freyton Castillo gave the board an overview of PFCU by providers with expertise in Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS). See below.

- Background
 - Crisis Continuum
- PFCU Overview
 - Crisis Care Model- all roads lead to post-crisis follow-up
 - Vision and goals of PCFU are to support ongoing recovery with an emphasis on CLAS, create and serve as a bridge to link individuals with ongoing community-based services. DCHS aims to provide ongoing partnership and support
 - Current scope and priorities: Target population are adults 18 and older and Crisis Care Center referrals. Service Delivery is a short term service meant to last between 30 and 90 days to link to mental health, substance use, and other social services with a high touch point and multiple engagement types.
- Awarded Contracts

Freyton Castillo provided time for Q & A for the board.

Legislative Update

Christena Coutsoubos provided an update on the 2025 short session in Olympia. Christena highlighted currently in week 8 of 9, BHRD is reviewing 70 policy bills but there's overall less policy attention to behavioral health than in previous years. Dead priority bills include Involuntary Treatment Act. Priority bills still alive include Good Samaritan protection, WQA thriving strategic plan, and AI chatbot companions. Funding bills in the behavioral health realm include funding health insurance premium assistance, local funding flexibility (millage), and millionaire's income tax. Looking ahead to week 9 will include a lot of floor

Department of Community and Human Services**Behavioral Health and Recovery Division**

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-263-9100

206-296-0583 (Reception)

206-205-1634 (Clinical Services)

voting. Positives include no cuts to reimbursement rates or BHASO flexible funds, investments to prepare for HR1 changes. Concerns include sunseting Apple Health Expansion, significant cuts in prerelease services. Next for budget will be working to align House and Senate budget bills through a budget conference that operates behind closed doors.

Crisis Care Center Levy Updates

Idabelle Fosse presented high-level CCC levy updates to the board which included operating status updates in four zones- North: Kirkland is open, Central: Seattle sited on First Hill, South: operator selected, East: RFP is open with a hope to select in fall 2026, YOUTH: RFP to release in 2026. Early impacts show more people are getting care they need and new capacity across the behavioral health system including 3300+ people served through 4900+ visits to Connections Kirkland in 2025. Outpatient provider capacity is increasing. Connections Kirkland is the first Crisis Care Center in King County and is being highly utilized. Still working with the City of Seattle to get the Polyclinic site up and running with the hope of opening next year, working on community engagement and looking at renovation needs. Community Advisory board and Good Neighbor Policy to be in place prior to opening. Aristo and Thunderbird Treatment Center awarded funding.

MIDD Update

Laura Smith provided the board with an update on MIDD. MIDD is a key funding stream for the Behavioral Health System and comes from a sales tax levied in the early 2000s and brings in approximately 100 million dollars yearly which makes up about 14% of King County Behavioral Health revenue. Key updates include council voting to renew the MIDD for an additional 9 years. Anticipate Executive to send new implementation plan to council in 2026. MIDD 2 remains in effect until replacement is approved. Working closely with Executive's Office to align the plan with the Executive's vision. Working with MIDD Advisory Committee to redesign current structure to open engagement opportunities. Laura advised the board on how to sign up for updates.

Department of Community and Human Services
Behavioral Health and Recovery Division

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-263-9100

206-296-0583 (Reception)

206-205-1634 (Clinical Services)

Public Comment

Public Comment from a recent patient at Connections Kirkland who had a negative experience, reported feeling a lack of support during a mental health crisis. The meeting time ran out and the citizen was given contact information to continue the discussion.

Jasmeet Singh requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:34 pm.