



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)

August 6 2026- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Board Members: *David Sullivan, Kevin Host, Kristina Sawyckj, Lyscha Marcynyszyn, Mustafa Mohammed, Sarah McCauley, Stacey Devenney, Jasmeet Singh*

Board Members not present: *Dae Degrate, Sabina Perry*

Guests: *Savannah Mitchell, Mark Cooke, Kathleen Murphy, Sharon Turner, Rebecca Mendelsohn, Laura Smith, Julian Saucier, Trevor Stuart, Mariann Colonna, Idabelle Fosse*

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

Kevin Host welcomed everyone.

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

Approval of the Minutes for July 2, 2026

The board approved the July 2, 2026, meeting minutes.

Prepared By: Savannah Mitchell

Approval Date: 9/3/2026

Attested by: Kathleen Murphy, BHAB Liaison

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Administrative Items & agenda review

Kevin Host reviewed the meeting agenda.

Co-Chair Announcements

Jasmeet Singh will retain her seat on the MIDD Advisory Committee through the end of her term on the Board.

Co-chair elections will be held in the fall to replace Jasmeet Singh. Members interested should reach out to Kevin Host, Jasmeet Singh, or Kathleen Murphy.

The Kirkland Connections CCC site visit will occur this fall. A date and time survey will be emailed to members.

Crisis Care Center (CCC) Annual Report Feedback & Certification (Rebecca Mendelsohn and Mark Cooke)

Rebecca Mendelsohn and Mark Cooke presented a draft of the CCC FY2025 Annual Report. BHAB has the responsibility to review and certify the annual report. The review process consists of reflecting on the previous year's process/plan for the coming year, attending the BHAB board meeting and providing updates, sharing an initial draft for board feedback, and finally in late July/August the board receives an updated draft and a summary of changes for certification. Rebecca and Mark met with the board last month and received feedback, then met with the DCHS director to receive further feedback which they've incorporated into the report. Currently the report is with the Executive's Office. The incorporated feedback covered many language clarifications. Mark noted that the annual report will be available online via a dedicated website. The board is now asked to certify the current version of the report. The board voted and certified the FY2025 Crisis Care Center Annual Report as presented.

Applicant Introduction and Virtual Ballot Vote (Kevin Host and Jasmeet Singh)

Jasmeet Singh introduced Trevor Stuart to the board and provided information about Trevor's background and highly recommended Trevor as a board member, Trevor spoke about the personal interest he holds in the work that the board does and reiterated his interest in being a member. Kathleen Murphy went over

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the process in which new board members are nominated and added. Board members were then sent a virtual ballot to anonymously vote to approve or decline Trevor Stuart's application for board membership. The board members present unanimously voted to move Trevor Stuart's application forward in the board member appointment process.

Breaking the Cycle Initiative (Susan McLaughlin)

Susan McLaughlin provided an overview of the Breaking the Cycle Initiative which was established as an initiative by Executive order in 2026. A Breaking the Cycle Workgroup and Cycle Policy Team will be created which will use data to drive results to open and fund more supportive housing. The workgroup will develop policy, structural, and funding recommendations to approve outcomes and coordination in homelessness and behavioral health. The final report recommendations will be informed by listening sessions, a technical subgroup, and a leadership workgroup. The final recommendation report will be submitted in November after a timeline of activity that began in July. The population of focus is individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness and involved in at least two systems involving care. Susan explained the need to break the cycle and that crises reinforce each other. Susan asked the board for feedback about the initiative and asked for information about barriers to services and room for improvement in the systems, a board discussion ensued. Susan thanked the board for the insightful and valuable feedback and noted she will return with more information as the process progresses.

Crisis Care Center Levy Update (Idabelle Fosse)

Idabelle Fosse gave updates to the board on the Crisis Care Centers especially as it relates to community engagement, she noted there an open house at the Broadway site in July with 173 attendees. Community update meetings are happening monthly, with the next one scheduled for August 17th at 2pm. On September 11th there will be an event in Renton, and another community update meeting in September following up on South King County. Idabelle shared photographs from past community engagements which have been very successful.

Behavioral Health Bridge (previously MIDD) Update (Laura Smith)

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Laura Smith provided the board with the Implementation Plan Update that was transmitted on 7/1 to King County Council. Key changes included a new name (King County Behavioral Health Bridge), updated investment priorities, updated strategy areas, and procurement process and timeline. The next step is to prepare to support the Council's process as the implementation plan now sits with King County Council for final approval. The most recent action was a discussion during the Health, Housing, and Human Services committee (HHHS) on July 23rd. The next step is a briefing during the Regional Policy Committee on August 26th. Laura noted that DCHS staff currently receive about 30 questions a week from council staff about the implantation plan. The team will return to future board meetings to keep the board informed on status updates.

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

Kevin Host requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 pm.