

<p><b>Revised Equity Definition for MIDD AC Consideration</b></p>	<p>The MIDD Advisory Committee, is an advisory body that ensures that the implementation and evaluation of strategies and programs funded by the MIDD Hsales tax revenue are transparent, accountable, collaborative, and effective.</p> <p>We believe that all community members should have access to behavioral health service that view their unique beliefs, cultures, identities, languages, lived experiences, and notions of health and well-being as strengths to promote recovery and resiliency and that are provided by staff that represent the communities we serve.</p> <p>Our society is rooted in historic and contemporary systems of oppression and racism that are reinforced by our behavioral health system and other systems that respond to behavioral health needs today. The inequitable distribution of benefits and burdens perpetuates avoidable health inequities in our community.</p> <p>Through intentional investments and partnerships with organizations committed to equity, the MIDD Advisory Committee commits to eliminating policies, practices, attitudes, and cultural messages that reinforce inequitable behavioral health outcomes by race, age, class, gender, and ethnicity.</p>
<p><b>Original draft definition as developed by Christina Caso</b></p>	<p>MIDD is continually working internally, with communities, and alongside other government agencies in a dynamic process to create a culture of behavioral health equity in King County.</p> <p>We acknowledge that the mainstream model of behavioral health care is rooted in historical and contemporary systems of oppression and power imbalances that have caused avoidable health disparities and an uneven distribution of benefits and burdens in our communities.</p> <p>We believe that all community members should have access to behavioral health services that view their unique beliefs, cultures, identities, languages, lived experiences, and notions of health and well-being as strengths to promote recovery and resiliency.</p> <p>Through targeted investments and partnerships with organizations committed to equity, MIDD aims to address disparities and improve behavioral health outcomes by allocating resources to the people and places that have the greatest need for them.</p>