



**Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD)
Oversight Committee
December 8, 2016
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. networking lunch
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
King County Chinook Building Rooms 121 & 123
Meeting Notes**

Members: Anita Khandelwal (designee for Lorinda Youngcourt), Ann McGettigan, Anne Burkland (designee for Patty Hayes), Judge Barb Linde (by phone), Darcy Jaffe, Dave Asher, Doug Crandall, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Judge Johanna Bender (Co-Chair), Judge Ketu Shah (designee for Judge Donna Tucker), Lauren Davis, Lea Ennis, Leesa Manion (designee for Dan Satterberg), Lynne Robinson, Merrill Cousin (Co-Chair), Mike Heinisch.

Other Attendees: Alex O'Reilly, Betsy Jones, Chris Verschuyt, Dawn Walters, Ellie Wilson-Jones, Emmy McConnell, Gail Stone, Hana Mohamed, Josh Wallace, June Lee, Kelli Carroll, Kayla Valy, Kimberly Cisson, Laurie Sylla, Ross Marzolf, Steve Andryszewski, Susan Schoeld, Titus Chembukha.

1. Welcome and Introductions, Co-Chair Bender

Members and guests introduced themselves by name and organization. Co-Chair Bender welcomed all attendees to the meeting. She asked those who had come to the meeting today to give public comment to sign in on the pink sheet at the back of the room. Public comment is limited to two minutes per person or three minutes per organization. Co-Chair Bender announced Judge Barbara Linde is rotating onto the Superior Court Representative for the committee, so this is Judge Bender's last meeting.

2. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

No revisions were requested and there was consensus approval of the minutes for July 28 and August 25, 2016.

3. Financial Update, Steve Andryszewski, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)

Mr. Andryszewski referenced the 2015/2016 MIDD Financial Plan handout. King County is in month 24 of the 24-month cycle; the report is updated only through October, due to a time lag in receiving invoices from service providers. The green column titled "2015/2016 Estimated" shows where it is anticipated King County will be at the end of the biennium. Meanwhile, the department is working to become more robust in the process, coordinating monthly meetings with MIDD team lead members for information/updates on provider spending. The process is continually being improved upon and Mr. Andryszewski and Ms. Carroll have a goal for more strategic use of unexpended fund balance; the quicker over- and underspends are recognized, they can be brought before the committee for reaction.

During the Behavioral Health & Recovery Division's (BHRD) MIDD Leads meeting on December 7th, instructions were given on yearend processes. Leads are expected to have in-depth conversations with providers on what 2015-2016 year end numbers will look like. The 2015-2016 budget is expected to be expended at approximately \$125 million, which leaves an \$11.8 million fund balance. The fund includes: services stabilization pool of \$895,000, which this committee recommended; \$6.3 million in revenue reserves; and the rainy day reserve of \$4.6 million (the reserve policy will change on January 1 to an expenditure reserve of \$11 million).

Co-Chair Bender asked why the undesignated fund balance of 2017/2018 is so low; Mr. Andryszewski answered the Service Improvement Plan (SIP) programs the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis forecasted revenue into new services, less the new rainy day reserve. Therefore a large undesignated fund balance is unexpected at the beginning of the period.

Mr. Heinisch asked why the "2015/2016 Estimated" column is not carried down to the Ending Undesignated Fund Balance row. Mr. Andryszewski answered that all funds is all programmed, therefore it is zero.

Councilmember Asher asked what the revenue growth is based on. Mr. Andryszewski answered the economic forecast is from King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis. The sales tax MIDD is based on is forecast through 2022 and updated forecasts will be received three times per year, in March, July, and August. Councilmember Asher asked if the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis has ever forecast a recession. Ms. Carroll explained the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis was created in 2014, but in 2008 the State Department of Revenue projected the reductions due to the economic downturn. Mr. Andryszewski also explained the reason the Office of the King County Executive wanted this to move from a revenue-based expenditure reserve to an expenditure-based revenue reserve (and increased from \$6 million to \$11 million) was to protect this fund and providers from a potential recession.

Ms. McGettigan asked if there is a continued increase in this pool, are there plans for incorporating in those funds into additional services or strategies? Ms. Carroll answered yes and it is addressed in the SIP; additional funds are prioritized for provider economic increases. Everything else would roll into the fund balance process developed by the committee. Mr. Andryszewski noted one thing incorporated within MIDD 2 was projected economic increases for all initiatives going forward.

4. Action item: Co-Chair Election (County Government Seat), Co-Chair Cousin

As this was Co-Chair Bender's last meeting, she was presented with an award to recognize her outstanding service, including leading the committee through the difficult task of planning for MIDD 2. It was recommended that Judge Bender's replacement, Judge Linde serve as the County Co-Chair. No other nominations were made. Consensus was reached electing incoming member Judge Linde in serving as the new County Co-Chair.

5. Executive Steering Committee Update, Co-Chair Cousin

The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) was launched in November. The MIDD Committee Co-Chairs lead the ESC and the following people have volunteered to serve on it: Councilmember Robinson, Councilmember Asher, Ms. D'Allegri, Ms. McGettigan, Mr. Heinisch, Ms. Burkland, Ms. DeYoung, Ms. Manion, and Ms. Miner. The purpose of the ESC is to plan

items to present at the larger Oversight Committee meetings, using a similar process that was used in renewal planning. The MIDD Committee will receive regular ESC reports.

Ms. McGettigan reported on the first meeting of the ESC which took place in November. The ESS agreed to meet monthly, with time to consider and discuss issues. Ms. McGettigan also reported that the ESC discussed the outcome of the King County Council budget decisions (which will be discussed under the subsequent agenda item). The ESC discussed the desired operating values of the MIDD Committee, including an emphasis on candor and frankness, being willing to voice differing opinions openly in the MIDD Committee meetings so that deeper discussions can occur. Ms. McGettigan said there is a nice mix of folks in the ESC to provide a range of perspectives and concerns. She also reported it will work towards building trust in the Oversight Committee as a whole. Co-Chair Bender added one of the core values the ESC subscribed to is to view it as a cross-systems collaboration and to be clear with each other when speaking as the voice for particular stakeholders rather than someone invested in overall systems improvement. The ESC will be meeting again in January.

6. 2017-2018 Adopted MIDD Budget, Kelli Carroll, Strategic Advisor for the Behavioral Health and Recovery Division (BHRD)

Co-Chair Bender stated the King County Council adopted its budget a few weeks ago and it is similar but not identical to the spending priorities the committee identified through the MIDD 2 renewal process.

Ms. Carroll said there was a letter in the meeting packet that sent to providers last week, which included a summary level of detail around the Council's budget decisions. Also, the meeting packet contained an email from Council Staffer, Wendy Soo Hoo that provides more detail around the Council's changes.

Council changes include:

- Elimination of a proposed full-time equivalent (FTE) position in BHRD, which would have developed, implemented and maintained the the Consumer and Communities group called for in the MIDD Service Improvement Plan that was submitted to the Council in August.
- Modified the recommendation for compensating members of the recommended Consumers and Communities Work Group: the Council changed the recommended approach from paying for community member time to participate on the Consumers and Communities council to authorizing reimbursement for participant expenses only (i.e., transportation, childcare).
- The Emerging Issues Initiative was eliminated as an initiative as budgeted, but it was created as a reserve, as future financial plans will reflect. The Council wanted to make sure they can review and weigh in on any emerging issues recommended to be funded, via a supplemental request process.
- Reprogramming of \$1 million to support shelter costs. BHRD is working with the Council to better understand what this funds and how it will be operationalized.
- A special allocation of \$50,000 to Consejo Counseling and Referral Service (CCRS).

BHRD is working to better understand how to effectuate the budget the Council has delivered. The leadership and staff of DCHS are committed to bring consumer voices and community perspectives to the work of this committee, however, DCHS will need to figure out a way to do so given constrained staffing and financial resources.

Questions and Discussion:

- Bellevue City Councilmember Robinson asked if the special allocation for CCRS went through the budget process with MIDD. Ms. Carroll clarified it was an allocation made by the King County Council so it did go through the Council budget process.
- Regarding the memo to providers, Councilmember Asher recalled discussing last year emphasizing and being more attentive to outcomes, but that does not appear in this letter. Councilmember Asher asked “Are we going to do that? How will it be tracked?” Ms. Carroll answered that part of the committees charge for the Council is to provide an updated Evaluation Plan. The attention to outcomes, data, and output will be revised in the first part of 2017 in preparation for that report. External and internal stakeholder processes will be conducted around those outcomes. June Lee is the new DCHS Evaluation Lead, and Ms. Lee and Ms. Carroll are working closely together to develop a timeline and a plan for a revised evaluation approach. The ESC will be helping determine the touch points for this committee and the touch points for external providers. Councilmember Asher acknowledged the ask for more data will have costs involved; those costs may constrain what the outputs can be. Co-Chair Cousin noted every program is already collecting and reporting data, but the question is whether they are collecting the right data. It is not in the letter to providers because it is vague at this point. Co-Chair Bender reminded the committee, the majority of programs with MIDD funding are also funded through other funding sources as well, therefore it is difficult to determine the exact way the MIDD funding created a specific outcome for a specific consumer; this will always be a limitation in the evaluation.
- Mr. Heinisch asked if there was a way the committee could have rallied behind the Consumers and Communities council or had a public comment. Ms. Carroll explained the Council’s budget process includes public hearings. There were three hearings on the Council budget; it is uncertain if anyone spoke in those meetings in favor of the Consumers and Communities Council.

Co-Chair Cousin noted explicit details about the CCRS decisions are unknown. Constituents speak to councilmembers and tell them what they need often. Councilmember Robinson commented, depending on what the allocation is for, and if CCRS needs a renewal of that funding, measurable outcomes around process gives the committee more leverage to recommend renewing those funds. Co-Chair Cousin reminded the committee that it is advisory and does not make the ultimate decisions on funding. Mr. Andryszewski noted he was told the CCRS allocation is for general facility management.

Co-Chair Bender stated in the ESC, members had talked about writing letter to the Council and are hoping to get input from the committee on that draft and the content of the letter, being mindful of the group’s position and explaining the validity of the committee’s processes.

Mr. Heinisch suggested including a statement in a letter around how important equity and social justice principals are to support when new ideas come up that represent that possibility. Ms. Jaffe suggested the letter be framed as trying to understand, as opposed to objecting or judging. Ms. Jaffe noted that the FTE staff for support of the Consumer and Communities council was also eliminated.

Co-Chair Bender is concerned over the question of the use of MIDD funds for capital improvements, due to the statutory limitations associated with the use of these funds, and wants feedback for that as well. Mr. Andryszewski clarified the CCRS allocation is for facility management (operating costs) and not capital improvements.

Ms. Davis questioned whether the Consumer and Communities council will happen at all now, without the FTE. Co-Chair Cousin answered that is this committee's role to determine if that is wanted in the work plan going forward, how can it be accomplished without additional staffing? Ms. Davis feels it is important and asked the committee to think about other ways to incentivize or support providers in supporting consumers to join.

Ms. McGettigan commented that during the briefing paper process a lot of committee members were involved in, there was community involvement throughout that process, and there was a resounding response stating if community involvement is wanted, new strategies for doing so will be needed. Paying a stipend is not unusual in federal grants, there is already precedent set. Without staffing and without some sort of compensation, the Consumer and Communities council may be ineffective. Co-Chair Cousin stated the community has said if these processes don't change, they don't feel they should give their time and thoughts anymore. Ms. McGettigan proposed if issue is bureaucratic in nature, a lot of providers are familiar with stipends or reimbursements; perhaps the resource can be directed through a provider entity who is focused on consumer activism.

Co-Chair Cousin commented instead of specific suggestions in the letter to Council, just state that the group had other ideas for what they were hoping to accomplish and whether the Council is willing to engage on that with the Oversight Committee. Co-Chair Bender suggested the ESC go back and begin to brainstorm what other opportunities can carved out without the planned resources.

Ms. Davis proposed if there is no opportunity to reconsider the funding, perhaps there could be a suggestion that the Consumer and Communities council participants be professionally employed peers.

Ms. Carroll noted in the work around developing the SIP, the feedback from communities was there are marginalized populations that don't receive services through providers and are greatly underserved across the continuum. If the main point of contact with consumers is through agencies, an important population is not being included.

Councilmember Asher asked how the ESC can be empowered to move forward with the interrogative portion of this letter to gain clarity, rather than waiting until January. Co-Chair Bender asked then if the ESC should begin drafting a letter for review. Councilmember Asher responded he thought it should be both drafted and sent, rather than waiting another month for the Oversight Committee to review it before sending. Co-Chair Cousin clarified Councilmember Asher's proposal was to streamline the process and not bring the letter to the

Oversight Committee for approval; have the ESC focus on writing a draft to Council, seeking points of clarification.

Ms. Carroll noted the Council is in recess for next few weeks. Co-Chair Cousin commented the next Oversight Committee meeting is at the end of January; it should be sent before then. Mr. Heinisch asked if it were possible to circulate a draft to the Executive Steering Committee over the next week for input. Co-Chair Bender responded there is not the bandwidth to do that draft in that amount of time, due to the time of year.

Ms. Manion commented, since the Oversight Committee is seeking information and not seeking to undo anything, there is not a huge urgency for sending the letter. She suggested drafting the letter and bringing it to the January Oversight Committee meeting for review by members, and there might be a response from Council by the February meeting to discuss and review.

Ms. Carroll suggested the committee clarify what it desires the letter to be: whether they are asking for clarification and what the purpose of that ask is, or whether the wish is to reiterate the values and guiding principles established by the committee for renewal and operating of MIDD. She wants the committee to be clear on the purpose of the letter and what is reasonable to expect in terms of response, if any, from the Council.

Co-Chair Bender commented some of the questions may be answerable through less formal channels. She asked in the group wanted to wait until the Co-Chairs and lead staff could glean from other sources. Councilmember Robinson commented the committee just wants to know how to best support their decision, but also be a part of it.

Co-Chair Cousin stated the ESC will draft a letter and bring to January Oversight Committee meeting. Co-Chair Bender added, the group wants information but also wants an opportunity to share why the process is valuable. Councilmember Robinson said she doesn't want to covertly chastise them. Co-Chair Cousin agreed.

Mr. Crandall stated it is a transparency issue; it sets precedence as a vehicle of going around the Oversight Committee to get funding for special projects. He feels it is the Oversight Committee's duty to say the committee has a transparent process, and this discredits that process to some extent.

Co-Chair Cousin suggested phrasing it in a way that spells out the values going forward include transparency, equity and social justice, collaboration, etc. and figure out how to move forward in that spirit together, while being careful with the tone of letter.

Councilmember Asher asked if the CCRS and shelter allocations are one-time funds or ongoing. Mr. Andryszewski answered there was no indication of them being ongoing.

Co-Chair Bender said due to the understandable disagreement in the room and that this is not time sensitive, the ESC should definitely bring back the draft to the Oversight Committee in January for feedback before sending the letter.

7. 2017 MIDD Oversight Committee Work Plan

Ms. Carroll discussed the work plan. There are a few levels:

- Work plan for the Oversight Committee
 - Trainings on race and equity;
 - Anti-racism training;
 - Training on evaluation, data, and reporting to help scope the expectations around how it has been used, how it may be used in the future, and the role evaluation plays with MIDD, Best Starts for Kids (BSK) board, and the Veterans and Human Services Levy (VHSL);
 - Contemplating the name change for the Oversight Committee;
 - A joint meeting with the Behavioral Health and Advisory Board (BHAB) potentially in early April;
 - A joint meeting with VHSL board, Children/Youth BSK Advisory board, BHAB, and others, where the boards can co-convene and discuss shared outcomes and intersections of work.
 - Look at operating roles and make needed changes.
- Board-level of work plan is in development.
- Another level of work plan development related to the national election and potential implications for changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its impact on MIDD. BHRD had proceeded creating an implementation timeline for expected RFPs on the initiatives; BHRD will now plan for different scenarios and what those impacts might be on implementation timelines. There will be more information at the January and February meetings. Planning for alternatives is needed, should there be changes from Washington DC. The County, the Executive, and DCHS, are committed to continuing to serve those who need the help, regardless of their status and will work to ensure upstream work and recovery and reentry services continue to be funded.

BHRD will be identifying touchpoints around the implementation report due in August 2017 to Council on everything done to implement MIDD 2 and how the Oversight Committee will be involved with the Evaluation Plan development. It is likely there will be a facilitated discussion in early 2017 with Christina Hulet, with the desire to refocus work on system improvements, outcomes and evaluation, learning about initiatives, and bringing group back together to focus on the joint work. Also to revise the committee's values and guiding principles.

Councilmember Robinson asked if it is the committee's role to understand the best practices or approaches to certain issues. Ms. Carroll answered the role of this committee is advisory in nature; to advise the Council and Executive on the work. There is a department full of subject matter and best practice experts who can bring things to the committee to educate and share the newest thinking on subjects. Councilmember Robinson wondered if it would benefit the committee to have staff inform the committee on best practices for the issues. Ms. Carroll commented with the renewal work over, the committee will be getting back to structured updates from staff and programs around their work, including best, promising, emerging, and evidence-based practices. Councilmember Robinson noted she would value those updates.

Mr. Heinisch asked if new members will be joining the committee in January. Ms. Carroll answered the Council has not yet taken action on the legislation that proposed new members to the Oversight Committee. Given the funding changes to the Consumer and Communities council, that legislation will have to be revised. Ms. Carroll will be meeting with all committee members individually to go over the role of the Oversight Committee, so members are fully prepared to engage and ask questions.

8. Public Comment

Hana Mohamed is a student at the University of Washington and lead researcher for the Somali Health Board. She advocated for the health needs of East African communities. Much like other refugees, Somali and East African communities have a history of trauma, and face a new onset of challenges upon arrival in the United States; this has a huge impact on their mental wellbeing. They are currently doing a research study looking at the perceptions of mental health in Somali community and are finding the community views mental health in a very binary perspective: people are either healthy or need hospitalization. It is a very faith-based community; mental health issues are seen as a loss of faith and punishment, or it is a type of spiritual possession, and community members go to their religious leaders for help. Providers are in a position to be helpful, as second to religious leaders, especially providers are who community members. However, community members express themselves in terms of physical symptoms rather than psychological symptoms; there is also a high prevalence of substance use, particularly in the youth community, which leads to a higher arrest rate involving domestic violence and Driving Under the Influence charges. Overall, they have been trying to collaborate with the local community with outreach and youth groups, but they are limited in resources and can't target what they would like to do, particularly since there is a lot of stigma. They want emphasize supporting organizations led by community members, as they are aware of the situation and are very dedicated.

9. Updates

Ms. Carroll thanked Chris Verschuyl and Haley Raspet for their amazing work yesterday on the 20th Annual Behavioral Health Legislative Forum. There was over 1,100 people committed to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 26, 2017
King County Chinook Building, Rooms 121 & 123
401 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. ~ Networking Lunch
12:15 p.m.-2 p.m. ~ Meeting