

**Health Care for the Homeless (HCHN) Governance Council**

**February 26, 2024, 4:15pm-6:15pm**

**ZOOM Meeting: <https://kingcounty.zoom.us/j/97327979624>**

**Meeting ID: 973 2797 9624/Password: 054892**

**Phone: (253) 215-8782/Meeting ID: 973 2797 9624/Password: 054892**

**Agenda**

*GC Chair: Zsa Zsa Floyd*

*GC Vice-Chair: Maria Arns*

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Materials</b>
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b> 1. Welcome & Introductions 2. Minutes <i>Action: review and approve</i>	Zsa Zsa Floyd, Maria Arns	4:15		- HCHN GC Minutes_012224
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	All			
<b>RACIAL EQUITY MOMENTS</b>	All			- <a href="#">Why does White Dominant Culture mean in Organizations?</a>
<b>PRIORITY ITEMS</b> 1. Discussion – Recent Cold Weather Response	Miriam Kasaika, Mo Nyang, Tony Machaca, Semone Andu	4:45	Inform, Discuss, Approve	- Winter Weather Response - KCRHA_022624 - KCRHA Severe Weather Report Tier 3 011024_011724 - GC Cold Weather_2024-02-26
<b>REGULAR AGENDA AND BOARD PROCESS</b> 1. HCHN Committee Updates and Actions	Amanda Richer	5:30	Inform, Approve, Discuss	- CAG Membership Roster - Feb 2024
a. Behavioral Health Workgroup – 3/12				
b. Community Advisory Group – 3/6 <i>Action: approve membership roster</i>	Kristina Sawyckyj, Zsa Zsa Floyd			
c. Executive Committee – 3/13	Zsa Zsa Floyd, Maria Arns			
d. Racial Equity Workgroup – 2/26	Amanda Richer, Zsa Zsa Floyd			

Topic	Person	Time	Purpose	Materials
2. HCHN Admin Update a. Refugee/Immigrant Work Updates b. Communicable Disease Updates i. COVID c. Other Updates	Semone Andu			
3. Open Forum	All			
<b>ADJOURN</b>		6:15		

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, March 18, 2024, 4:15pm-6:15pm (Zoom Meeting)

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### **HCHN Governance Council Members**

- Amanda Richer, Consumer Representative
- Anita Souza, PhD, MA, UW School of Nursing
- Benjamin Miksch, Advocates for Human Potential
- Charese Jones, Neighborcare Health
- Dean Frazier, Molina Healthcare
- Debbie Adams, LMSW, YouthCare
- Giovanni Righi, UCLA, PhD Candidate
- Jeff Sakuma, City of Seattle Human Services Department
- Julissa Sanchez, CHOOSE 180
- Kristina Sawyckyj, Consumer Representative
- LaMont Green, DSW, LSWAIC, Lived Experience Coalition
- Leslie Enzian, MD, HMC Medical Respite Program
- Maria Arns, Consumer Representative
- Patricia Dehart, Consumer Representative
- Samhita Korukonda, Student
- Someireh Amirfaiz, Ed.D. MHP, Executive Director, New Americans Alliance for Policy and Research
- Zsa Zsa Floyd, Consumer Representative

### **MINUTES**

Monday, February 26, 2024  
Zoom Meeting

**Council Members Present:** Amanda Richer, Benjamin Miksch, Charese Jones, Dean Frazier, Debbie Adams, Giovanni Righi, Jeff Sakuma, Kristina M. Sawyckyj, LaMont Green, Maria Arns, Samhita Korukonda, Someireh Amirfaiz, Zsa Zsa Floyd

**Council Members Absent:** Anita Souza, Julissa Sanchez, Leslie Enzian, Patricia Dehart

**Public Health Staff Present:** Dedra Barrow, Denise Hawthorne, Halaysha Grant, Lorraine Twohey-Jacobs, Meg Chambers, Rekha Ravindran, Semone Andu

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

### *1. Welcome & Introductions*

Zsa Zsa Floyd welcomed attendees, including members of the CAG, to the meeting of the HCHN Governance Council (GC). Full quorum present.

### *2. Minutes*

GC members reviewed the minutes from the 1/22 meeting. Amanda Richer made motion to approve the minutes, Maria Arns seconded; vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **RACIAL EQUITY MOMENTS**

Rekha Ravindran shared a link to an [activity](#) about unpacking dominant cultural norms/practices, on behalf of the GC Racial Equity Workgroup. Zsa Zsa asked attendees to learn about and embrace other cultures.

## **PRIORITY ITEMS**

### *1. Discussion – Recent Cold Weather Response*

Semone Andu said that staff with the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) were invited to present about severe weather response, in recognition of the increasing need, and importance of this topic among attendees. He highlighted the hard work of KCRHA staff while also noting ways response planning can improve. Semone also shared a slide deck created by Lee Thornhill, CHS Data Manager, and Lorraine Twohey-Jacobs, HCHN Data Manager, on Public Health and HCHN's cold weather response/data, with a particular focus on the activation in January 2024. PowerPoint is attached.

Tony Machacha, KCRHA Capacity Manager, presented on KCRHA's role in severe weather response. He noted that severe weather response activities are a key part of KCRHA's 5-year plan, and that the agency is shifting focus to seasonal shelters. He

said included in this is identifying additional funding resources, implementing reimbursement processes, exploring partnerships to equip and deploy community volunteers, and partnering with additional shelter sites. PowerPoint is attached.

Semone facilitated a discussion for attendees to ask questions and give feedback on severe weather response. Attendees highlighted how response efforts have improved, and the ways climate change will increase need. They also noted the unique challenges of wildfire/smoke response, and strategies to keep communities updated on what resources are available. Attendees had questions about activation thresholds and how wind speed/chill factors in.

## **REGULAR AGENDA AND BOARD PROCESS**

### *1. HCHN Committee Updates and Actions*

#### *a. Behavioral Health Workgroup – 3/12*

Amanda said that Susan McLaughlin, Director of King County’s Behavioral Health Recovery Division (BHRD), joined the February meeting to share more about BHRD’s work and provided updates in response to the workgroup’s letter, including the implementation of the Crisis Care Center levy and ways to strengthen collaboration. They also discussed the need for more services to support people with traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

#### *b. Community Advisory Group – 3/6*

Zsa Zsa shared that the CAG roster was last approved in July 2022, and noted four new applicants interested in joining. Maria made motion to approve the CAG Membership Roster – February 2024, Debbie Adams seconded; vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Rekha said members of the CAG tabled with Public Health’s [Overdose Prevention and Response Team](#) at the recent Seattle King County Clinic, and expressed gratitude on behalf of the team. Zsa Zsa shared that CAG members were trained to respond to overdoses, and that many attendees stopped by their table for more information.

#### *c. Executive Committee – 3/13*

Rekha said the EC discussed upcoming activities for the year, including recruitment since many current members have terms that end August 2024. The EC also discussed the upcoming [National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium](#) on May 13-16; the GC Chair and Vice-Chair attend, and the CAG voted to send two additional members.

#### *d. Racial Equity Workgroup – 2/26*

Amanda said the workgroup discussed health disparities among BIPOC communities. She noted that she will be presenting on this topic at an upcoming [webinar](#).

2. *HCHN Admin Update*

a. *Refugee/Immigrant Work Updates*

Semone said that many asylum seekers/refugees who were originally staying at Riverton Church in Tukwila have branched out to other sites, including hotels and private homes. He noted helpful collaborations with existing and new partners to provide supportive services, but highlighted a lack of clear data on where people are located and what they need. He shared that King County and other organizations are continuing to work together to identify supports during warmer months.

Attendees discussed health disparities within the community and availability of trauma-informed, culturally competent services.

b. *Communicable Disease Updates*

i. *COVID*

Semone said that he and Dedra Barrow, Administrative Supervisor with HEART, will present at March's GC meeting about the team ending and how the transition will affect services moving forward.

c. *Other Updates*

Semone said that there is an upcoming Overdose Prevention training on March 21 and a Harm Reduction training on March 26; both trainings are open to staff, partners, and the public and will be held at the Chinook building.

Semone added that he anticipates having more updates about the Public Health budget at the end of March.

3. *Open Forum*

There were no updates.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

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**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, March 18, 2024, 4:15pm-6:15pm (Zoom Meeting)