



KCRHA
King County Regional Homelessness Authority

21 June 2023

Joint Statement on the Continuum of Care Board

This Friday, June 23, the broader Continuum of Care (CoC) membership of Seattle and King County will convene to elect the individuals who will serve on the CoC Board. This Board plays an essential role in ensuring that our community receives federal funding from the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) through the annual Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) process, which will commence this July.

KCRHA would like to reaffirm our [statement](#) released on May 18, 2023 and encourage the CoC membership to strongly consider what qualities and working attitudes potential Board members and officers will bring if selected. Given the behavior at a recent public committee meeting by one of the CoC Board's Co-Chairs, and the political and media upheaval that rightfully followed, we feel that new leadership and culture is vital to refocusing the CoC Board on fulfillment of its primary functions.

A strong CoC Board provides the Continuum with oversight and governance in support of our region's commitment to making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. With new leadership in place, the CoC Board can refocus its energies on the upcoming application for over \$50 million in federal funding to reduce and prevent homelessness across King County.

KCRHA leadership, with support from Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell, King County Executive Dow Constantine, and Renton City Council Member Ed Prince, encourage the voting membership to consider the importance of electing a Board that will lead with empathy, build consensus, and focus first and foremost on our shared goal of bringing more people inside.

Signed,
Helen Howell, KCRHA Interim CEO

Co-signed,
Bruce Harrell, Seattle Mayor and KCRHA Governing Committee Co-Chair
Dow Constantine, King County Executive and KCRHA Governing Committee Co-Chair
Ed Prince, Renton City Council Member, Sound Cities Association, Governing Committee Co-Chair