



Seattle-King County CoC Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Date/Time

May 1st, 2024; 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Roll Call

Name	Present
Patricia Sam	x
Tamara Bauman	x
Kenyatta CarrollHillman	
Leeze Castro	x
Zsa Zsa Floyd	x
Marvin Futrell	x
Antoinette Lambert	
Dorsol Plants	x
Ruby Romero	x
Martha Sassorossi	x
Kristina Sawyckyj	x
Sherry Tillman	x
Galena White	x

- Roll Call – [11] members present – [2] members absent
- Quorum is (Met)

Land Acknowledgement & Theory of Change (Marvin Futrell & Zsa Zsa Floyd)

- **Land Acknowledgement:** The King County Continuum of Care Board acknowledges that we work on the unseated traditional lands of the Coast Salish peoples, especially the first peoples of Seattle, the Duwamish people. The original stewards of the land, past and present. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish tribe. This acknowledgement only becomes meaningful when combined with accountable relationships and informed action and is the first step in honoring the land that we today sit on and their peoples.



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- **Theory of Change:** If we create a homelessness response system that centers people who have lived experience of homelessness, then we will be able to meet needs and eliminate inequities, in order to end homelessness for all.

April 2024 Minutes Review

- Vote: Approved
- Motion: To approve April meeting minutes

Name	Present
Patricia Sam	X
Tamara Bauman	X
Kenyatta CarrollHillman	
Leeze Castro	X
Zsa Zsa Floyd	
Marvin Futrell	x
Antoinette Lambert	
Dorsol Plants	X
Ruby Romero	x
Martha Sassorossi	X
Kristina Sawyckyj	x
Sherry Tillman	x
Galena White	x

Welcome Interim CEO - Darrell Powell:

- Board Member Dorsol Plants- What do you envision for the future of KCRHA and the regional approach to homelessness in KC?
 - Interim CEO Darrell Powell- Supports the Mayor's ways of doing things. Acknowledges that while that is perceived as the best approach. Some of the previous steps of the KCRHA in the past couple years. We are here to execute the vision. Using lived experience and expertise and learned experience to move our vision forward.
 - Board Member Leeze Castro – Shared the history of the Youth Action Board that was replaced by the KCRHA.



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- Board Member Tamara Bauman – Asks that you do as much as possible to be sure that all of the boards meet together and that decisions are not made unilaterally. Wants to strengthen the infrastructure to support people with severe mental illness, people experiencing homelessness.

Public Comment & Responses to April Parking Lot Questions:

- Courtney Love from LEC – Reviewing the priorities list and is impressed with it and appreciates the work done on it. Asks to switch the root word of home to be changed to house.
- Jade Weiss Member of CoC – Gives kudos to the CoC & the CoC Board. Enjoys being able to take space to and hear from the community. Asks to take the replacement with home to house to the Continuum. Honors that language is important.
- Board Member Galena White – Wanted to make an announcement – Is grateful for the opportunity to serve on the CoC Board. They brought up ADA concerns with the board and KCRHA staff and asked for her ADA Requests to be completed. Asked for a private ADA Evaluator to come in to review KCRHA. Galena White is stepping down from the CoC Board.
- Kristina Sawyckj - Claims she hasn't been paid. Claims no ADA accommodations have been met.

Voting on the Local Values & Priorities – Kelsey Beckmeyer:

- She is reads through the Seattle King County Continuum of Care Board Values & Project Priorities.
 - 1) theory of change - If we create a homelessness response system that centers the voices of people who have lived experience of homelessness, then we will be able to focus on responding to needs and eliminating inequities, in order to end homelessness for all - in the planning, programming and evaluation of Continuum of Care services.
 2. Promote our mission to significantly decrease the incidence of homelessness throughout King County, using equity and social justice principles.
 3. Promote development of new permanent housing in underserved areas of King County.
 4. Promote anti-violent, human-centered wellbeing and partnerships with a Housing First and Harm Reduction approach instead of further perpetuation of undue burdens such as harmful displacement, fining, and imprisonment of our unhoused neighbors.



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5. Promote equitable access and service provision with an intersectional and an anti-racist approach, serving those who are historically marginalized and disproportionately impacted by the experience of homelessness in our community.
6. Develop a culturally responsive system that embraces equity, liberation and deeply supports the importance of our unique cultural histories and collective needs.
7. Maximize our community response to homelessness including leveraging as much HUD Continuum of Care Program funding to preserve continuity of services and supports in housing for program participants.
8. Grow a proactive, accountable system through transparent and ethical practices, guided by accountability to those we serve to ensure funding is clearly and thoughtfully allocated.
9. Prioritize projects that:
 - a. Elevate the voices of people with lived and living experience as experts in the development and implementation of planning, programming, and evaluation;
 - b. Focus on those who are currently experiencing literal² and chronic homelessness, including those who are “experiencing trauma or lack of safety related to, or fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous, traumatic, or life-threatening conditions”.
 - c. Actively participate in the Continuum of Care through demonstrable racial equity and social justice-oriented practices that center community and are in alignment with values of community accountability, housing first, trauma-informed care, harm reduction, prevention, and whole person wellbeing through focusing on what is meaningful to the individual;
 - d. Demonstrate commitment to power-sharing and deference to people with lived and living experience in organizational design and policy development processes through actions such as dedicated board seats or management positions;
 - e. Advance as a collective the goals of the CoC, including addressing racial disproportionality and achieving equitable outcomes for Indigenous, Black, Pacific Islanders and other people of color, trans individuals, broader LGBTQAI2S+4 communities, and people living with disabilities;
 - f. Advance as a collective the goals of the CoC to support our Elder community - which is the largest growing population of those experiencing and at-risk of homelessness - to access dignified, appropriate housing to thrive as they age.
 - g. Have positive outcomes, as defined by the participant, to permanent housing and subsequent stability, including economic stability, as the primary focus;



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h. Do not replace mainstream resources such as federally funded health insurance, cash benefits, and other federally funded behavioral health services;

i. Work to connect people served by CoC-funded programs with community based, culturally responsive resources;

j. Participate in the Homeless Management Information System with complete, high-quality data per both local metrics and HUD data standards;

k. Demonstrate alignment with HUD Housing First standards (including screening, program entry, person-centered services, and termination policies)

Questions:

- Board Member Leeze Castro – Personally does not think there needs to be a change in the language (house vs. home). Says a house is a structure and a home is a structure that they can live in that feels safe.
- CoC Member Jade – We are not the KCRHA, we are the CoC. Says that the CoC is in charge of the KCRHA. Asks to highlight that this is the HUD definition.
- Board Member Dorsol Plants – Understands the reason for changing the wording from homeless to houseless but is worried it might convolute the message as we take this document out into the community. Thinks it would be beneficial to maintain that standardized language.
- Board Member Patricia Sam – Wants to change to correct it to be culturally appropriate to say, African Americans/Black.
- Board Member Ruby Romero – Uplifts that people experiencing homelessness in King County average age range is 48 years old.
- CoC Member Jade – Asks if we have a criminalization section (#4).
- Member of Public Okesha Brandon - In D or E thinks there should be something for accountability for participation in the boards.
- Board Member Tamara Bauman – Supports and agrees with the use of language being critical. Cautions that we get bogged down on things that stop us from making progress. Reminds folks that our collected goal is to eliminate the industrialization of homelessness. While language is important, we need to be action oriented.

Motion: Moved to Adopt the Seattle King County Project Values & Priorities as Read

Vote: Approved

• Name	Approve
Patricia Sam	x
Tamara Bauman	x



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Kenyatta CarrollHillman	
Leeze Castro	x
Zsa Zsa Floyd	
Marvin Futrell	x
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Ruby Romero	x
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Sherry Tillman	x
Galena White	

Announcement for Upcoming Vote on Alternate Seat for GC:

- Next month we will engage on the seating of the alternate seat for the GC.

CoC Convening Update:

- The CoC Convening will be happening May 29th from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at St. Marks. We have a bunch of presenters coming to talk about a number of topics. We currently have 83 people RSVP'd in person and 26 virtual. Once we hit 100 people the RSVP will switch to virtual only.
 - Board Member Leeze Castro – Asks that we require that guests wear masks as a requirement for her coming.

Standing up the Ad-hoc Selection Committee for New Board Member Application Review:

- Kelse Beckmeyer - We put out and published that we are now accepting new Board members. The cut off is Friday, May 3rd, 2024. We are asking folks to submit applications. Duties weigh out to about 15 hours per month and at least two-year commitment. There is compensation of folks that have lived experience through completing a timecard. The selection committee will be made up of CoC members, staff and some board members.
- The first half of the convening will be voting for new board members.
- The selection committee will be reviewing new candidates



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- Vote on May 29th, 2024
- There is consensus that the committee is approved.

System Performance Meeting Part #1- Measure 1a, 1b, 2, & 7b – Ruby Romero:

- Next public System Performance meeting is the third Wednesday of the month from 2-4pm.
- Board Member Tamara Bauman - They start their meetings with a song. Tamara Bauman started off with a Redemption song by Bob Marley. “How long must we kill our profits while we stand inside and look.” “Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery none but ourselves can free our minds” We need to learn to think outside of what the norm has been. We need to decolonize our thoughts & create a culture change.
- We have been incorporating our community wellbeing into our workplan. We are developing the criteria and diving deep into the system performance .
- KCRHA Staff Daniel Ramos – For public members, we would love to have you join our SPC. It is the oversight body for the HMIS lead. Ensuring that the programs are funded, that we collect data, and analyze it. Especially looking for folks with lived or living experience or anyone that has any desire or passion for the work. Go to KCRHA and search System Performance Committee to find the application.
- Acronyms and Terms:
 - ES – Emergency Shelter
 - TH – Transitional Housing
 - SH – Safe Haven
 - RRH – Rapid Re-Housing
 - PSH – Permanent Supportive Housing (disability requirement)
 - PH – Permanent Housing – Housing Only
 - PH – Permanent Housing – Housing with Services (no disability requirement)
 - SO – Street Outreach
 - HMIS – Homeless Management Information System
 - PIT Count – Point-In-Time Count of Sheltered/Unsheltered Persons
 - Client Universe – All Clients belonging to the group of interest for the current metric
 - HUD – Housing and Urban Development (Federal Proponent)
- Background & Intent:
 - CoC’s consolidated redesign requires system-based thinking, planning and **evaluation**.
 - System Performance Measures **standardize guidance** for measuring how each CoC performs as a system.
 - Accurately assessing performance requires quality data from Projects/Providers



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- Data helps CoCs identify gaps in services and outcomes.
- Measure 1: Length of time people remain homeless.
 - Assesses goal of achieving quick and stable housing for Participants
 - Encourages communities to quickly re-house Participants.
 - Helps to discover Participants who have been homeless for long periods of time (detecting outliers)
 - 1) Add up time spent in ES and/or SH by each Participants during reporting period (days)
 - 2) Divide total from **step 1** by total days to obtain Average
 - 3) Calculate Median of days for all persons included (50th percentile value)
- Measure 1(a): Length of time persons remain homeless
 - Separated into Measures 1.1 and 1.3
 - 1.1 does **not** include time spent in TH
 - 1.2 includes time spent in TH
 - Median indicates anticipated time for any given person
 - Average detects very long or very short times (outliers)
 - Unsheltered time not required by HUD, but..
- Measure 1(b): Length of time persons remain homeless
 - Includes Unsheltered time (estimates where available)
 - Length of time reported directly by the Participants
 - Collected in addition to **M1a** (not required by HUD)
 - Incorporates Participants’ stories (self-reporting) into estimates
- KCRHA System Performance (M1)

Median LoT (from HMIS)			
Project(s)	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change
ES, SH	97	114	17
ES, SH, TH	118	133	15

Median LoT (from Assessment)			
Project(s)	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change
ES, SH	379	336	-43
ES, SH, TH	429	377	-52

- On average, there was an increase in the length of time individuals spent in shelters from FY 2022 to FY 2023 by 13 days.
- There was a decrease in the average days individuals reported spending (**M1b**) experiencing homelessness, prior to their housing move-in. This could suggest improvements aimed at reducing homelessness the duration overall may be working despite an increase in the time spent in shelters.
- Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness in 6,12,24 months.



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- Accesses housing solidity
- Encourages the community to pay attention to quality and fit as well as volume.
- Can help identify Programs and Projects needing special attention by flagging high rates of return.
- Provides information about positive and negative exits.
- Measure 2(b): Returns to Homelessness within 24 months
 - Count total Clients who exited PH >= 24 months ago
 - Count total Clients who were also recorded in any of SO, ES, SH, or TH projects within 24 months post-exit to PH
 - Divide step 2 by step 1 to obtain fraction (percent) of Clients who return to homelessness.
- KCRHA System Performance (M2): Returns to Homelessness in 6,12,24 months

Project Exited	Returns in Less than 6 Mos			Returns in 6 to 12 Mos			Returns in 24 Mos		
	FY 2022	FY 2023	% of Returns	FY 2022	FY 2023	% of Returns	FY 2022	FY 2023	% of Returns
SO	66	66	5.64%	51	53	4.53%	204	180	15.37%
ES	364	274	11.55%	70	129	5.44%	623	522	22.01%
TH	33	36	6.03%	10	24	4.02%	81	92	15.41%
SH	2	3	9.68%	1	0	0.00%	4	6	19.35%
PH	65	54	2.75%	40	45	2.29%	159	172	8.77%
TOTALS	530	433	7.06%	172	251	4.09%	1,071	972	15.85%

- The number of returns to homelessness within two years varied across different categories, with percentages ranging from 9% to 22%.
- The percentages varied between intervention types, but the count was overall down by 10% from the previous year's returns.
- Measure 7: Successful Housing Placements
 - Viewed with **M1** and **M2** to assess solidity of placements.
 - Measures positive exits, rather than all exits.
 - Measures movement through the continuum to PH, as well as placements from street outreach.
 - Continuously collected data is an important tool for assessing system effectiveness.
 - 1) Add Participants currently in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who exited in the current period.
 - 2) Add all Participants in ES, SH, TH, and PH-RRH who then exited to PH
 - 3) Divide step 2 by step 1 for percent of successful exits to PH



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Exits to PH	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change
Total	8,392	8,891	499
Positive Exits	3,277	4,036	759
% Successful	39%	45%	6%

Retained PH	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change
Total	7,874	8,141	267
Positive Exits	7,556	7,842	286
% Successful	96%	96%	0%

- For Metric 7b.1, the percentage of successful exits to PH destinations from emergency shelters, TH, and PSH increased by 6%.
- For Metric 7b.2, the percentage of successful exits or retention in permanent housing remained consistent at 96%.

Exits from SO	FY 2022	FY 2023	Change
Total	3,623	4,551	928
Negative Exits	1,092	724	-368
Positive Exits	1,481	2,932	1,451
% Successful	71%	80%	9%

- Metric 7a.1, the percentage of successful exits from SO to PH destinations increased by 9%.
- **Data quality is extremely important** for this measure to be accurate and that exits and exit destinations are recorded accurately in HMIS.
 - CoC Membership Jade – Wants to know what the subsections these measures. Asks that we put them on the slides.

Cross Cutting Policy Workgroup Update:

- We are still accepting applications to be a part of the workgroup. Encourages people to apply. If you've been paying attention to what needs to be changed. If you've had troubles with law enforcement, homelessness, etc., please apply. It is on the website if you go to the HUD CoC landing page and then scroll to CoC Workgroups and you will find it in there.
 - <https://kcrha.org/resources/continuum-of-care/>
- Board Member Tamara Bauman – Encourages people to apply to the CoC Board. If you really want to change the adverse conditions of our communities to uplift and empower marginalized populations, this is your opportunity to shine. We need to change the conditions of homelessness to make it an industry. We need to challenge the people who think criminalization of homelessness is the right path forward. She knows what it's like to



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navigate the system. We have to be better at a policy level. Push back against policies that keep people in poverty.

- Board Member Ruby Romero – We are #9 on the list of countries experiencing homelessness with India and Iran but our GDP is substantially higher.
- Member of the public - Okesha Brandon – We are not working against each other. We must realize that we all come from different backgrounds, stories, and levels of expertise. Welcomes other people’s way of expressing their selves. We are doing this for the greater good to make change.

Next Steps & Adjourn

- Next meeting: Wednesday, June 5th, 2024; 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM