



Seattle-King County CoC Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Theory of Change

If we create a homelessness response system that centers people with lived experience of homelessness, then we will be able to respond to needs and eliminate inequities, in order to end homelessness for all.

Land Acknowledgment

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.

Date & Time

October 7, 2026; 2:00 – 4:00 pm PT

Roll Call

Name	Present
Tamara Bauman	P
Amaiya Leonor	P
Elizabeth Maupin	P
Ruby Tuesday Romero	P
Kristina Sawyckyj	P
Victor Loo	P

Amy Thomas	P
Valerie Sasson	P
Rocco DeVito	P
Jen Carl	Absent
John Urquhart	P
Mercy Wainaina	P
Jack Harlan	P
Michael Pickett	P
Patrick Arney	P
Tina Browne	Absent
Nichole Alexander	P
Devin Konick-Seese	P

- Roll Call – 16 members present – 2 absent.
- Quorum Met – Yes

Meeting Minutes Review:

- Motion: Amend the agenda to approve minutes for the September Board meeting, and the two September Special Board meetings – Amaiya Leonor
- Second: Ruby Tuesday Romero
- The motion was approved by voice vote

Public Comment: No public comments were made during the meeting or submitted in writing.

Meeting Topic: Workgroup and Committee Updates:

COC Membership Convening

- The COC Membership Convening will be held **November 18 at South Seattle College**.
- A Save the Date announcement will be distributed soon and will include a registration link. Board members are encouraged to register and invite 2–3 guests from their networks and share the Save the Date.
- The convening is tentatively planned for 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m., consistent with previous convenings, though the schedule has not yet been finalized.



- Morning session: Focus on the Coordinated Entry System, with a presentation by Tom Regan and his team.
- Afternoon session: Planned to include:
 - A Point-in-Time (PIT) presentation, with details still being developed.
 - A listening session with representatives from the City and County. Planning details will be discussed with representatives at an upcoming October 21 meeting.
- Planning committee members Ruby Romero and Rocco Devito provided updates and noted that agenda development is still underway.
- The planning team is also considering whether the convening will offer a hybrid/virtual participation option.
- A question was raised about whether minutes or documentation will be taken during the listening session and whether there will be an opportunity to discuss the results at a subsequent meeting. Details have not yet been finalized.

Coordinated Entry Committee (CEC) – Submitted in writing by Tom Regan, KCRHA, Coordinated Entry System Manager

- There are 5 open positions on the committee
- The new assessments are under legal review before final testing and implementation
- The KCRHA Coordinated Entry and HMIS teams are examining how we manage growth of the HMIS system. The committee was asked to consider growth management strategies centered on gaps analyses by sub-region or sub-population
- The Coordinated Entry team has created policies for emergency VAWA transfers out of the Seattle/King County geographic region, as well as clearer definitions for intra-CoC transfers (within agencies or between agencies)

Next CEC Meeting – October 22, 2026– 10-11:30am

Charter Revision Workgroup Update – Victor Loo

- Kelsey and Victor had planned to reconvene the current Charter Revision Work Group, but the expedited NOFO release and deadline delayed that effort.
- The work group's goal is to finalize the draft charter revisions and bring the completed draft to the Board for review and consideration.
- The liaison will continue to track this work and ensure the charter revision remains on the Board's radar.

System Performance Committee (SPC) – Daniel Ramos III, KCRHA, Data Asset Manager



Coordinated Entry (CE) Coverage Analysis

- Daniel Ramos provided additional context on the Coordinated Entry (CE) system and noted that the current work with Tom Regan is focused on assessing CE coverage across King County, rather than simply managing growth.
- The analysis will examine geographic coverage, access points, hours of operation, assessment types, and whether CE services reach the full range of populations served by the system.
- The findings will be brought back to the Coordinated Entry Committee to assess whether current access points and services are meeting community needs.

System Performance Committee Leadership

- Kristina Sawyckj stepped down as co-chair of the System Performance Committee but will remain a committee member.
- The committee currently has an open co-chair position and will discuss the desired qualifications and selection process at its upcoming meeting.
- Daniel will continue to serve as a liaison between the committee and the COC Board during this transition.

HMIS Data and System Updates

- Effective October 1, a new “exit reason” data element was added to HMIS for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Permanent Housing (PH) projects. This complements the existing exit destination data and will provide additional information about why participants leave programs.
- The new data element is expected to generate approximately 1,000–1,500 additional data points by the end of 2027, providing valuable information for program and system-level analysis.
- The annual HMIS End User Survey is underway to gather feedback from approximately 1,300 HMIS users. Results will help inform system improvements, training needs, and the System Performance Committee’s annual work plan.
- A new HMIS interface has been launched following a multi-year improvement process with the vendor. Updates are intended to make the system more streamlined, accessible, and intuitive for users.

NOFO and HMIS Renewal

- The COC’s HMIS renewal application was submitted as part of the NOFO process, requesting \$403,000 in renewal funding. Daniel noted that this amount represents only a portion of the actual cost of operating and maintaining HMIS. It’s quite common that the



HMIS grant doesn't cover the implementation and some communities don't receive HUD funding at all.

- Daniel also noted a shift in the current NOFO toward increased emphasis on treatment and behavioral health services, including incentives related to project ranking and prioritization.
- The System Performance team is working with the City of Seattle to establish HMIS data collection and management processes for new shelter and behavioral health service projects. This work will help prepare for the anticipated expansion of behavioral health services in 2027.

Seattle Public Library Collaboration

- The Seattle Public Library has reached out to explore ways to better integrate with the homeless services system as part of its ongoing policy review.
- Initial discussions are underway, with the potential for a pilot project by the end of 2027, pending the Library's internal review and approval processes.

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

- Regional reports from the 2026 Point-in-Time Count are being shared with community groups as part of an outreach and feedback process.
- Dr. Zach Almquist and Janelle Rothfolk are presenting regional PIT data to stakeholders, with the goal of incorporating feedback into the final report on the 2026 unsheltered PIT Count.

Next SPC Meeting – October 14, 2026 – 2-4pm

Co-Chair Update – Michael Pickett

Former Co-Chair Remarks

- Michael publicly thanked former co-chairs Ruby Tuesday Romero and Dorsol Plants for their years of leadership, service, guidance, and dedication to the COC Board.
- Ruby encouraged the Board to remain actively engaged during the current transition, particularly through stakeholder meetings with elected officials and community leaders. She noted that recent introductions to City and County Council members provided valuable insight into funding processes and emphasized the importance of maintaining these relationships.
- Dorsol thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and emphasized the importance of continued passion, leadership, and advocacy during the NOFO process and broader changes affecting the regional homelessness response system.



- Dorsol encouraged Board members to use their relationships and connections to engage elected officials, community leaders, and the broader public, and to support one another in communicating the importance of Coordinated Entry, HMIS, and regionalism in addressing homelessness in King County.
- Michael expressed appreciation for Ruby and Dorsol's leadership and for their encouragement to the Board to remain engaged and active during this period of transition.

Co-Chair Transition – Michael Pickett

- Michael provided an update on his transition into the co-chair role and his partnership with Victor Loo. He noted that their differing levels of experience and perspectives complement one another and expressed confidence in their ability to work effectively together.
- As part of his onboarding and engagement, Michael has been meeting with Board members, community partners, and other stakeholders to better understand the homelessness response system and build relationships.
- Michael has also participated in the County scoring process for the distribution of funds and plans to meet with City and County Council members in December to continue building relationships and engagement.
- Michael emphasized that he views the co-chair role as serving the Board and the COC more broadly and encouraged Board members to provide ongoing feedback on how he can be most effective in the role.

Discussion on Sharing Board Member Contact Information

- Original motion: Share contact information among Board members – Elizabeth Maupin
- Second: John Urquhart.
- Friendly amendment: Add the OPMA requirements/caveat – Ruby Tuesday Romero
- Elizabeth Maupin accepted the Friendly amendment.
- Motion to table: Ruby Tuesday Romero moved to table the amended motion so the details could be worked out and brought back to the Board.
- Vote on tabling: The chair determined that the motion passed by a majority. The exact vote count was not recorded.
- Final disposition: The amended motion was tabled. The Board did not approve or reject the underlying proposal to share contact information.



Meeting Topic: Youth Action Board (YAB) Presentation – Kiki

Serantes, KCRHA, Planning Manager, and Elias Shell, YAB Member

Youth Action Board (YAB) Overview and Update

- Kiki Serantes, Planning Manager with KCRHA, provided an overview of the Youth Action Board (YAB) and introduced Elias Shell, a current YAB member.
- The YAB is an advisory body composed of young people with current or past lived experience of homelessness. It provides youth perspectives and guidance on youth homelessness policies, programs, planning, implementation, and system improvement.
- The YAB currently has seven members, with capacity for up to 14 members, and includes a peer mentor role to support onboarding and leadership development.
- Key YAB responsibilities include:
 - Maintaining and updating the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan.
 - Providing input on youth homelessness programs, policies, and services.
 - Reviewing youth-related system performance and Point-in-Time Count data.
 - Providing technical assistance, accountability, and lived-experience perspectives.
 - Advocating for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness and helping connect young people to available services.
- Kiki noted that the current YAB membership is new, with all current members joining during summer 2026. Current priorities include recruitment, onboarding, leadership development, data literacy, and establishing a leadership structure.
- The YAB will review and update the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan, originally developed in 2017, to ensure its goals and priorities reflect current community needs.
- The YHDP Coordinated Community Plan focuses on making youth and young adult homelessness rare, brief, and one-time, with particular attention to youth and young adults of color and LGBTQ+ youth. The YAB will review the plan's goals, objectives, performance measures, and funded project strategies as part of the update process.
- YHDP-funded project areas include navigation and diversion, behavioral health crisis response, youth engagement, and bridge housing.
- Elias shared that he joined the YAB to bring his lived experience and advocate for improvements in youth homelessness services, particularly regarding case management, staff training, and the treatment of young people in shelter settings.



- Amaya Leonor, a former YAB co-chair who is aging out of the YAB, will serve as a peer mentor to support new members, leadership development, and the transition to new YAB leadership.
- Board members expressed appreciation for the YAB presentation and Amaya's continued leadership and mentorship.
- KCRHA is seeking an organization through a Youth Action Board Support and Collaboration NOFA to provide professional development, supportive services, meaningful engagement opportunities, and administrative support for YAB members. The contract is up to \$150,000 for one year, with applications due October 19, 2026.
- Kiki will work with KCRHA's External Affairs team to ensure current YAB information is up to date and available on the KCRHA website. The Board also requested additional information about the YAB Support and Collaboration NOFA.

CoC Board Meeting Adjourned -

- Motion: To adjourn – Michael Pickett
- Second: Elizabeth Maupin

Next Regular Meeting

November 4, 2026; 2:00 – 4:00 pm PT

