

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

**December 17, 2018, 4:15pm-6:15pm, King County Chinook Building (401 5th Avenue, Room 121)**

### Agenda

Topic	Person	Time	Purpose	Materials
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b> 1. Welcome & Introductions - TJ Cosgrove, Division Director, Community Health Services 2. Minutes <i>Action: review and approve</i>	Eleta Wright	4:15	Inform, Approve	
<b>PROGRAMMATIC ORIENTATION</b> 1. HCHN Direct Services Panel: Family Homelessness Programs 2. HCHN Program Navigation 3. Check-in	Michelle Bollinger, Bernie Creaven, Kiersten Mueller, Lee Thornhill, Eleta Wright	4:25	Inform, Discuss	
<b>REGULAR AGENDA AND BOARD PROCESS</b> 1. HCHN Committee Updates and Actions a. Community Advisory Group b. Program Evaluation Committee <i>Action: set Committee membership</i> c. Executive Committee	Kristina Sawyckyj	5:40	Inform, Discuss, Approve	
<b>OTHER ITEMS</b> 1. 2019 Meeting Schedule - March Strategic Planning Retreat	Eleta Wright	5:55	Inform, Discuss	
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	Eleta Wright	6:10	Inform	
<b>ADJOURN</b>	Eleta Wright	6:15		

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, January, 14 2019, 4:15pm-6:15pm at the King County Chinook Building (401 5th Ave., Seattle, WA 98104), Room 121

## **HCHN Governance Council Members**

- Anita Souza, PhD, MA, UW School of Nursing
- Cynthia Brown, MSN, The Sophia Way
- Eleta Wright, MSW, Nexus Youth and Families
- Greg Francis, Consumer Representative
- Janice Tufte, Consumer Representative
- Jeff Sakuma, City of Seattle Human Services Department
- Jodi Denney, North King County Community Medicine Team
- Katherine Switz, MBA, The Stability Network
- Kristina Sawyckyj, Consumer Representative
- Leslie Enzian, MD, HMC Medical Respite Program
- Marilyn Mills, Consumer Representative
- Melinda Giovengo, PhD, MA, YouthCare
- Michael Erikson, MSW, Neighborcare Health
- Michael Quinn, Plymouth Housing Group
- Rick Reynolds, Operation Nightwatch
- Samantha Esposito, Consumer Representative
- Tara Moss, LEAD
- Zachary DeWolf, All Home

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## **MINUTES**

Monday, December 17, 2018

King County Chinook Building (401 5th Ave., Seattle, WA 98104), Room 121

**Council Members Present:** Anita Souza, Cynthia Brown, Eleta Wright, Greg Francis, Janice Tufte, Jodi Denney, Kristina Sawyckyj, Michael Erikson, Rick Reynolds, Tara Moss, Zachary DeWolf

**Council Members Absent:** Jeff Sakuma (excused), Katherine Switz (excused), Leslie Enzian (excused), Marilyn Mills, Melinda Giovengo (excused), Michael Quinn (excused), Samantha Esposito

**Public Health Staff Present:** John Gilvar (ex-officio member), Jessica Knaster Wasse, Kim Nguyen, Lee Thornhill, Mia Shim, Rekha Ravindran, Sinan Demirel (consultant)

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

### *1. Welcome & Introductions*

Eleta Wright welcomed members to the meeting of the HCHN Governance Council (GC). Full quorum present.

Eleta congratulated the HCHN admin team for recently winning a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant supporting families experiencing homelessness. Jessica Knaster Wasse, HCHN Resource and Partnerships Development Manager, shared that the program is in partnership with Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) and operated by Catholic Community Services (CCS). She said the grant provides \$500,000 per year for five years to follow and provide services for homeless families with mental health and substance use disorder needs. She said the program estimates to serve 40 families per year and CCS is currently hiring staff. John highlighted this new program as an example of operationalizing some of the guidance provided by the previous HCHN Planning Council as part of its strategic planning work and prioritization of increasing access to behavioral health care for people with the greatest barriers to obtaining care in the

mainstream office-based community behavioral health system. The grant will also help HCHN to expand services in South King County, another Planning Council strategic planning priority.

Eleta introduced TJ Cosgrove, Division Director of Community Health Services (CHS), Public Health – Seattle & King County (PHSKC). TJ expressed his gratitude to members for their service. He shared about CHS’ purpose to assure vulnerable populations have access to health services, provided directly at Public Health clinics or via partner agencies. He looks forward to working with members to address questions and provide support.

## 2. *Minutes*

GC members reviewed the minutes from the 11/19 meeting. Kristina Sawyckyj made motion to approve the minutes, Michael Erickson seconded; vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## **PROGRAMMATIC ORIENTATION**

### 1. *HCHN Direct Services Provider Panel: Family Homelessness Programs*

The GC welcomed Bernie Creaven, nurse/program manager with Country Doctor Carolyn Downs (CDCD), Michelle Bollinger, social worker with Kids Plus PHSKC, and Kiersten Mueller, mental health professional with CCS, to share about their work addressing family homelessness.

Bernie works with [CDCD](#)’s Families in Shelter program, which provides health services for homeless families in shelters and transitional housing sites in Seattle. She said some of the leading factors why families become homeless include chronic disease, lack of extended family support, evictions, and lack of affordable housing. She said homelessness can have significant impacts on a child’s health and development. She said being part of a larger network allows for multiple opportunities to collaborate with other HCHN programs, like Kids Plus. She highlighted some key strategies guiding CDCD’s work, such as building trusted relationships, incorporating a trauma-informed model of care, and meeting people where they are. She also spoke to some of the challenges, particularly around lack of affordable housing, transportation barriers, and overwhelming caseloads. She described some needs as additional [McKinney-Vento](#) advocates in the public school system, easily accessible mental health and chemical dependency services, support for diversion programs/eviction prevention, and early engagement with services.

Michelle works with PHSKC’s [Kids Plus](#) program, which provides health services and case management for children and families throughout King County. She said one of the biggest challenges is keeping track of where clients are residing to develop and maintain continuity of care/services; many families move frequently. She has also been seeing more cases of children diagnosed with autism and other sensory disorders. She also pointed out the need for shelters to allow families to stay long enough for direct service providers who are not present every day to establish trusting relationships with clients. There is a need for more mobile medical services for children to ensure access to vaccinations/developmental assessments.

Kiersten works with [CCS](#)’s Families in Shelter program, which provides health services for homeless families in shelters and day centers in South King County. She said this is a new program for CCS and connects people with resources, mental health, and substance use disorder services. She said the program is low-barrier so families defined as “at risk” are also eligible.

## 2. *HCHN Program Navigation*

Lee presented on HCHN Programs and Evaluation 101. PowerPoint is attached and highlights include:

- Services delivered directly by Public Health account for 60% of unduplicated clients.
- Patients are served across the lifecycle, including geriatric patients. An example of an HCHN program serving older adults is the Housing Health Outreach Team (HHOT).
- Many critical HCHN services offered (ex. outreach and case management) are not Medicaid reimbursable; Medicaid may kick in once patient is in treatment.
- Historically, programs are developed per the requirements and strategies dictated by a specific funder. The HCHN admin team finds a provider partner who can provide services within those parameters
- Priorities set by the GC inform the direction for program development and service expansion priorities.

## 3. *Check-in*

Eleta led an exercise to gather input on additional support needed for continued orientation to HCHN programs. Michael expressed appreciation for hearing directly from providers. He said it will be helpful to provide greater context for the panelists' comments, for example, more information on the program, the specific role of the panelist in that program, clients served, key activities/gaps, and how results are conceptualized. He suggested incorporating a visual component. Eleta suggested having GC members go to sites and learn about programs in person. She said members can report back lessons learned at future GC meetings.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### 1. *HCHN Committee Updates*

#### a. *Community Advisory Group (CAG)*

Kristina said the CAG is looking at hosting a meeting with South King County providers to identify opportunities to support better coordination of efforts and objectives among various programs and agencies. She said the February CAG meeting will be in Burien.

#### b. *Program Evaluation Committee*

Gregory Francis, Janice Tufte, Katherine Switz, Melinda Giovengo, and Michael Quinn all expressed interest in joining the Program Evaluation Committee. Rekha will send out a Doodle poll to schedule the first meeting in January.

#### c. *Executive Committee*

Eleta shared updates on racial equity work post HCHN's Annual Gathering in October. She said the HCHN admin team is working with Bernardo Ruiz and his team, who facilitated the Annual Gathering, to host caucuses by constituencies (by POC/white people) in January, February, and March. She said Bernardo and his team will facilitate these caucuses, with the goal to operationalize feedback in April. She said GC members are encouraged to participate.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### 1. *2019 Meeting Schedule*

Rekha said January and February GC meeting dates have been set. She will send out a Doodle poll to schedule the full-day strategic planning retreat next spring.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

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