

June
2015



Health & Human Services Transformation Update

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How are health and human services changing?

King County is transforming health and human services by building equity in our community, working in new ways and investing in what works. The work highlighted below demonstrates some of the strides we are making to implement the [vision](#) of the Transformation Plan.



The Fruits I Could Bear: Health and Human Services Transformation

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

ACCOUNTABLE COMMUNITIES OF HEALTH

ACHs under design across the State

Across Washington, nine regions that together cover the entire state are in the process of developing partnership structures called Accountable Communities of Health or ACHs. Washington State's [Healthier Washington](#) initiative is supporting the development of ACHs, part of its strategy to build healthier communities through a regional, collaborative approach. ACHs are defined as "a regionally governed, public-private collaborative or structure tailored by the region to align actions and initiatives of a diverse coalition of participants in order to achieve healthy communities and populations." Fundamental to the ACH is recognition that no one sector alone can create lasting, transformative changes in health and health care. More information about the ACH initiative, including an ACH readiness proposal framework, is available on the [Washington ACH website](#).



Washington ACH Pilot and Design Regions

Interim Leadership Council launches in King County

ACH design work is underway in the King County region and is building in part on the vision and structures launched under the King County Health and Human Services Transformation Plan. A multi-sector [ACH interim leadership council](#) has come together to oversee the next phase of ACH development work towards achieving consensus on a future governance structure, administrative roles, an approach to a future regional health improvement plan, and other elements.

The leadership council met in May and June, with six more meetings planned for 2015. At its June meeting, the council adopted its [charter](#), which will guide the work of the council this year. Meeting dates and locations, materials, presentations, and other resources can be found on the [King County ACH website](#). If you plan to attend meetings of the interim leadership council as a guest, please let staff know in advance by writing to hhstransformation@kingcounty.gov. Public Health-Seattle & King County is serving as the ACH design phase convener to support the work of the interim leadership and its workgroups. We look forward to keeping you informed on key developments through future updates.

Learn more about the Healthier Washington Innovation Plan

You can find information about all aspects of Healthier Washington, including the ACH initiative, physical and behavioral health integration, the statewide set of common core performance measures, and the prevention framework on the [Healthier Washington website](#).

As part of its Medicaid transformation, Washington is planning to pursue a [Global Medicaid Waiver](#) to accelerate delivery system transformation, and provide the level of investment needed to scale

and spread transformation efforts. A recent webinar and concept paper break down what a global waiver is and how it would work, a set of proposed investment domains, a proposed coordination role for ACHs, the timeline and engagement opportunities, and more. The State is seeking stakeholder feedback. If you want to receive future communications about the global waiver process directly, including notices of upcoming public forums, join the state's Feedback Network. Send a quick "sign me up" message to healthierwa@hca.wa.gov.

Questions or comments about King County ACH developments? Contact [Janna Wilson](#) or [Gena Morgan](#).

PHYSICAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTEGRATION

Design Work Launched

King County has convened, with community partners, a small "kitchen cabinet" to help launch a Physical/Behavioral Health Integration Design Committee. The first meeting of the kitchen cabinet will be in late June where members will work to finalize a membership list and draft charter for the Integration Design Committee. The committee will be a multi-sector, community-based partnership that will work together over the next year to design the critical components of a fully integrated system of care for the region. Once the design work is complete, the group will develop key milestones and a timeline for a phased approach to full integration sometime over the next few years (and before 2020, as mandated by legislation). The Physical/Behavioral Health Integration Design Committee is a formal subcommittee of the King County Accountable Community of Health (ACH) (see above for more on King County's ACH).

In January 2015, King County engaged a consultant - Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. (TAC) - to provide an analysis of the potential roles for King County in a fully integrated managed care system and provide recommendations about the optimal role for the county. TAC interviewed a number of community stakeholders, consumers, and county staff and also completed a national scan of different models of integrated care. Results of the TAC report will be shared with King County leadership and presented at one of the early Integration Design Committee meetings to inform the overall design planning.

Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) for King County Region

King County is preparing to become the Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) for the King County region by April 1, 2016. As a BHO, the County will be able to achieve fully integrated mental health and substance use disorder treatment services under a single managed care contract with the state. Providing integrated mental health and substance abuse treatment services will move our region one step closer to whole person care resulting in better health for the clients we serve, a better experience and reduced duplication and costs. King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse & Dependency Services Division is working with our network of community behavioral health providers to be prepared to provide integrated care. This includes developing new benefit models, new payment structures, integrated data systems, and developing new capacities and expanding our network to include Inpatient Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Services.

Focus groups to engage individuals who are participating in services are occurring over the coming months. We are also working with both the King County Mental Health Advisory Board and the King County Alcohol and Substance Abuse Administrative Boards to design a future, single integrated Behavioral Health Advisory Board for our region.

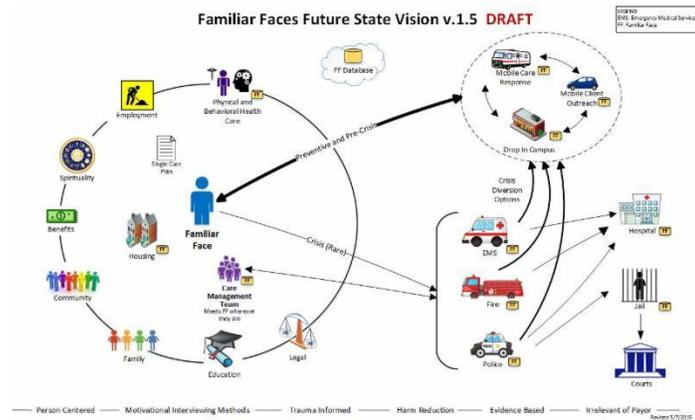
On July 1, 2015 the state Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery will release a Request for Detailed Plans. King County will be tasked with responding to this Request by October 31, 2015 to demonstrate our ability and readiness to serve as the BHO for the King County Regional Service Area.

For more information, please contact [Susan McLaughlin](#) or visit our [webpage](#).

FAMILIAR FACES

Future Vision developed

How can we better align and support the needs of adults who end up in our King County jail four or more times in a year who have mental health or substance use conditions? That was the question the Familiar Faces Design Team addressed at a 3-day Future State Mapping event in April. The Design Team was made up of over 30 organization/agency members from the health (physical and behavioral health providers and insurers), housing, and criminal justice sectors. The Design Team conducted multiple on-site process walks to observe the actual work as it is being done in various systems and gathered complementary data to inform the Current State Map, which was the basis for discussions on the future vision.



Familiar Faces Future State Vision

The Design Team utilized King County's principles of customer-focused [Lean](#) improvement to help guide their work. Lean's focus on removing inefficiencies is allowing the Design Team participants to identify new opportunities for improvement. Using Lean with such a large and diverse group as the Design Team is unprecedented in King County and has drawn [national attention](#).

Next steps toward implementation

A plan to implement this vision is being developed with consultation by a "kitchen cabinet" - a small group of leaders from involved sectors - which will be brought to the Familiar Faces Management Guidance Team. Much of this work directly links to physical/behavioral health integration and the work of the Accountable Community of Health. Embedding [Equity and Social Justice](#) in all aspects of Familiar Faces work is an important priority currently being given focus and attention, stay tuned for next steps.

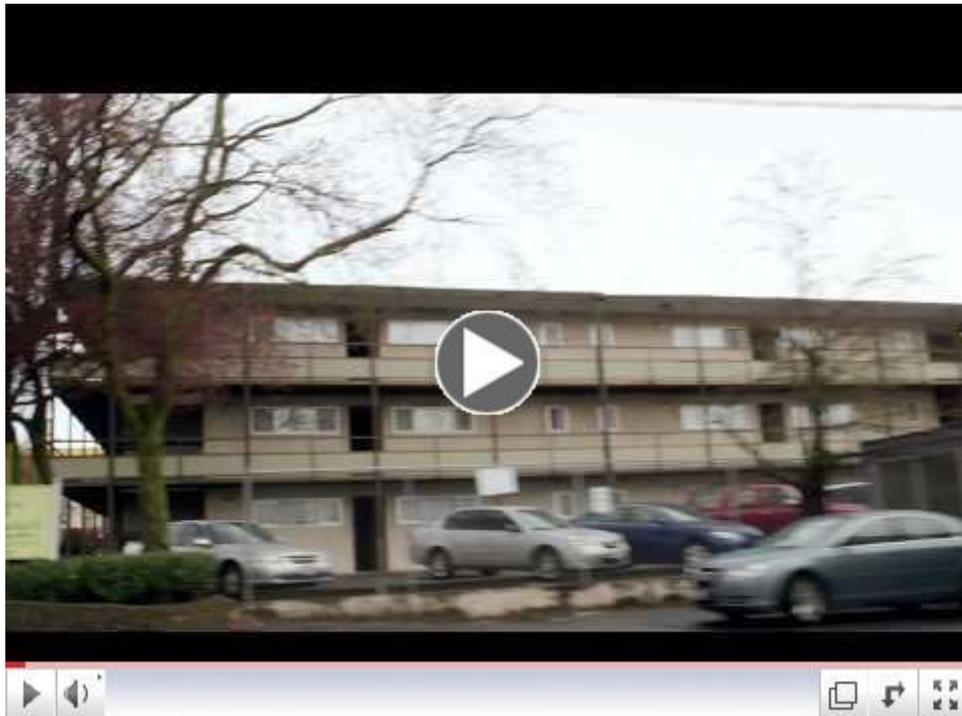
For more information, contact [Travis Erickson](#) or [Jesse Benet](#).

Co-design progress with local communities

Co-design work with the three place-based awardees is underway. The three communities are:

- SeaTac and Tukwila, through the nonprofit [Global to Local](#)
- Rainier Valley in southeast Seattle through [HomeSight](#), and
- White Center/North Highline unincorporated area through the [White Center Community Development Association](#).

[The Seattle Foundation](#) and King County are working with these communities to implement their strategies to improve local health, housing and economic opportunities. [Learn more](#) about the grants and profiles of the three initial grant recipients.



A [recent article](#) in the New York Times highlighted King County as one of the best places in the country for poor kids to grow up. Yet, [data](#) show vast inequities at the community level. Read more about [How a closer look at neighborhoods paints a different picture for our kids](#).

Living Cities proposal submitted

Communities of Opportunity received some national funding and technical assistance for planning activities from [Living Cities](#) this past year. On May 1, 2015 we submitted an application for an Implementation Grant. Awardees will be offered up to \$250,000/year in grant funds plus access to low-interest loans for three years; awards will be announced by mid-summer.

A team of 14 members from the Communities of Opportunity Interim Governance Group and staff will be attending a two-day Living Cities Learning Community workshop in Chicago June 23-24, along with teams from other Integration Initiative sites: Albuquerque, Baltimore, Detroit, Minneapolis/St Paul, New Orleans, Newark and San Francisco. The eight sites will be exploring how racial equity and inclusion, adaptive leadership and results based accountability can be used in their work to improve the lives of low-income people in their regions.

For more information, contact [Kirsten Wysen](#) or [Cheryl Markham](#).

BEST STARTS FOR KIDS

Ordinance being considered by Metropolitan King County Council

In his annual State of the County address on April 27, King County Executive Dow Constantine announced [Best Starts for Kids](#) - a proposal to help every child in King County get off to a strong start in life and able to achieve his or her full potential.

The County Council is reviewing the proposal at its [Budget and Fiscal Management Committee](#): The next hearing is Wednesday, June 24. Hearings are scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Council chambers on the 10th floor of the King County Courthouse, at Third and James in Seattle.

For more information, contact [Sheila Capestany](#).

YOUTH ACTION PLAN

County Council approves recommendations from Youth Task Force

The Metropolitan King County Council recently gave its unanimous support for the [Youth Action Plan](#) (YAP), a new set of priorities that will guide and inform the County's annual investment in programs and services for children and youth. Learn [more](#).

BUILD HEALTH CHALLENGE

Partners in Seattle's Chinatown-International District receive national grant award for health and housing innovation

A community-based effort led by InterIm Community Development Association (InterIm CDA), Public Health - Seattle & King County, and Swedish was awarded a national grant designed to support community collaborations to give everyone a fair chance to be healthy. The national BUILD Health Challenge grant will fund efforts to develop and deepen bonds and working relationships among neighborhood-based partners, the health care sector and local public health. The \$75,000 grant will bring partners together to focus on the underlying conditions that impact health in the Seattle neighborhood of Chinatown/International District. Learn [more](#).

PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTH

Local partners funded to improve nutrition, increase physical activity and reduce health disparities

Public Health - Seattle & King County, Seattle Children's Hospital, and the Healthy King County

Coalition received a *Partnerships to Improve Community Health* grant award to work with communities to increase access to healthy environments where people live, learn, work and play. This is the newest funding stream in the history of Healthy Communities work.

Over the next two and a half years, over \$3 million in federal funds will be provided to local agencies to carry out policy and systems changes to improve nutrition; increase physical activity; reduce health disparities; and decrease tobacco use and exposure. Awardees include school districts, cities in south King County, and community based organizations. See the complete list [here](#).

King County staff are coordinating to ensure place-based work streams are complementary and leverage opportunities for our communities.

For more information, contact [Sarah Ross-Viles](#).

COVERAGE IS HERE KING COUNTY

Transportation discounts offered to health insurance enrollees

King County's health insurance enrollment effort, led by Public Health's Access & Outreach team, has expanded to include a transportation discount program. The [ORCA LIFT](#) program offers discount transit fares for residents with low incomes. Anyone eligible for the ORCA LIFT card is likely eligible for one of the Healthplanfinder insurance offerings, particularly the expanded Medicaid (Apple Health) program. So, outreach staff (Navigators) from Public Health and several partner organizations are enrolling clients into both programs, at locations across the county. In many cases, they're able to leverage the demand for ORCA LIFT to recruit enrollees into Medicaid/Apple Health. The program also taps into the network created for the Affordable Care Act rollout. In addition, the ORCA LIFT pass lowers a potential barrier to health care access, by lowering the cost of transportation for clients who need to get to medical appointments. The creation of ORCA LIFT stems from a fundamental commitment to promote fairness and opportunity and to eliminate inequities in King County.

King County
hhstransformation@kingcounty.gov
[Website](#)

