



## PHPDA Governing Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 3, 2025

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

**Location:** Quarters 2 Building, Pacific Tower, 1200 12th Ave S., Seattle, WA 98144

**Virtual Location:** Meeting ID - 878 4201 1777

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87842011777?pwd=V9DUYMDqMaZbevamLuM2pXXZH8qGrq.1>

**Phone Option:** +1 253 215 8782

**Password:** 918007

MEMBERS PRESENT		NOT PRESENT	ALSO PRESENT	
Douglass Jackson	Doris Koo	Paul Feldman	Christina Bernard	Nicole Porcello
Martine Pierre-Louis (arrived 7:51am)	Nancy Sugg	Bob Cook	Blishda Lacet	Michael Finch (arrived at 8:31am)
Nick Ramirez	Sue Taoka		Nadine Chan	Whitney Regan (left at 8:36am)
			Denise Stiffarm (arrived at 8 :26am)	Daniel Zavala from Department of Commerce (arrived 7:58am, left 8:29am)
			Diane Pietrowski	

### Call to Order

Douglass Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:32am. A quorum was present. There were no public comments. Special guests, representatives from Seattle-King County Public Health, attended the first portion of the meeting. The Program Committee Chair and the Acting Executive Director spoke with them previously and invited them to attend a Council meeting.

### Grantmaking & Program

#### *Discussion with Seattle-King County Public Health to Inform Grantmaking*

- The Program Committee Chair introduced the two representatives of King County Public Health to the Governing Council:
  - **Nadine Chan:** Division Director, Health Sciences
  - **Blishda Lacet:** Regional Health Administrator and Section Manager, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, Health Sciences
- The Public Health representatives led a presentation and conversation surrounding the exploration of the question: where should PHPDA focus their funding right now and in the long term to help the health and wellness of King County?
- The representatives presented an overview of data points from the King County Community Health Needs Assessment.
  - They release this Assessment every three years, completing it in partnership with various health systems and hospitals in the area.



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- The current Assessment report focused on data collected from 2021 to 2022, but the representatives noted that the trends from the report persist today. Much of the data focused on issues stemmed from results of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Notably, COVID-19 impacts in King County disproportionately affected the health and mortality of people of color and residents of South King County. It also had disproportionate impacts on economic, social, and health factors.
- The representatives touched on changes in King County's population and demographics, which are important to note in the context of the data, including an increase in the number of residents that identify as people of color and rising diversity of languages spoken.
- The overall analysis of this Assessment, combined with data collected from community hearings, is that there are many challenges surrounding access to basic needs like food and housing, among others. The COVID-19 pandemic worsened social conditions that were already challenging.
- The representatives discussed the key takeaways from the 30 reports that already came in from communities in King County, as well as nine listening sessions partnering with organizations that serve these community groups. The key takeaways included concerns about nutrition and healthy ingredients, access to food (both geographically and related to costs), mental and behavioral health, and the health impacts of increasingly extreme weather.
- The Public Health representatives opened the discussion to touch on changes that are beginning to take place regarding funding.
- This brought up the question: where might the opportunities be for additional funding? The representatives spoke about the "Best Starts for Kids" initiative in King County, which aims at ensuring every child has a healthy, safe, and thriving start in life.
- The PHPDA Governing Chair noted that the representatives mentioned some areas that had seen improvement from 2019 until current day. He posed the questions: Do we have any idea of why those things improved? What are communities doing right? What resources do they have around that are working for them? Is there an opportunity to amplify those areas?
- The conversation that followed highlighted a theme of **collaboration and partnership**. The Governing Council and the King County Public Health representatives agreed on the benefits of collaborative approaches and partnership in the community to make changes.



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- One of the Public Health representatives reminded the group of the significance of King County's name—after Martin Luther King Jr. As such, executive and state leadership are moving towards a journey of racial equity.
  - She believes this is unique to this area because the community can talk about how racism contributes to the health inequities people experience today. Organizations can justify and focus resources on where the greatest opportunities are.
  - A Governing Council member noted that it would be kind to share this sentiment with community groups, especially at this current moment.
- The PHPDA Governing Council Chair asked if, in looking ahead to grantmaking in 2026, there is an opportunity for organizations to start working together for true, genuine collaborations that move this forward. He noted that the thread of collaboration and partnership developing in the conversation was exciting in looking toward the future of the organization.
- The Program Committee Chair again brought up the topic of vaccinations, notably the loss of public trust in vaccination, both driven by distrust of the government and distrust of science. She brainstormed with the group on what PHPDA could do to help regain public trust in vaccinations.
  - One of the King County Public Health representatives discussed the federal funding their community partners received through the CDC during the pandemic and shortly thereafter, that will be ending earlier than anticipated.
  - There seemed to be a consensus among the Council and the Public Health representatives that vaccine outreach work feels timely and necessary in this moment.
- The Finance Committee Chair reminded everyone that the PHPDA has the luxury of consistent funding over the next 20 years. With that certainty, is there an opportunity for PHPDA to seek out fundamental issues for the populations most impacted in the community?
- The Governing Council Chair said that, looking ahead to what the next 10, 20 years will look like, thinking about this community-approach, the PHPDA needs to look at where the greatest need is, looking at the community instead of individual organizations.
- The Program Committee Chair expressed the Council's appreciation in hearing the voice of the community through the information shared by the Public Health representatives. She hopes that the Governing Council can continue to collaborate with them in the future, to make sure that PHPDA stays on the right path.



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- The Public Health representatives agreed that it is best, but challenging, to try to look upstream, and to try to prevent some of the things we are seeing rather than make quick fixes.
- The Public Health representatives expressed encouragement to the Governing Council, noting that there was great energy around this idea of partnerships, and that in the end, no decision made by the PHDA would be a negative one.

### Property Management & Real Estate

- The Governing Council entered Executive Session at 8:36am for 23 minutes to discuss Property Management and Real Estate matters pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(c).
- The Governing Council exited Executive Session at 8:59am.

### Adjournment

The Governing Council Chair and the Acting Executive Director quickly touched on the outline of the next GC meeting, and which portions might need to be part of another Executive Session. The meeting adjourned at 9:00am.

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

DocuSigned by:

*Debra L. Jackson*

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9/10/2025

(Date)