



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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August 12, 2020

The Honorable Claudia Balducci  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

Please find attached the 2019 MIDD<sup>1</sup> Annual Report, and a proposed motion that would, if enacted, approve the report. As required by Ordinance 18407, this report describes evaluation results for the programs and services supported by King County's dedicated 0.1 percent MIDD behavioral health sales tax, specifically addressing MIDD's five Council-adopted policy goals. In addition, the report provides information about implementation during 2019 of the programs and services supported by MIDD.

MIDD supports equitable opportunities for health, wellness, connection to community and recovery for King County residents living with or at risk of behavioral health conditions. MIDD is designed to improve access to behavioral health treatment and therapeutic court services through a continuum of care that includes prevention, early intervention, crisis diversion, recovery, and reentry. In 2019, MIDD programs and services were implemented for the first time in the context of integrated managed care, including a new Medicaid payment model featuring the King County Integrated Care Network, in which King County plays a central coordinating role for a network of behavioral health providers.

As shown in this report, MIDD-funded services are making a difference in King County, continuing to show impressive results in reducing jail bookings, emergency department admissions, and psychiatric hospital admissions for King County residents who receive MIDD services. A variety of other measures show how MIDD programs are connecting people to treatment and impacting health and wellness in our region.

While the MIDD annual report highlights these successes, we cannot ignore the enormous impact that the COVID-19 crisis is having on our community right now. We know that our

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<sup>1</sup> MIDD is referred to in King County Code and related legislation as the mental illness and drug dependency fund, tax, or levy.

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region will face challenges, both short and long-term, as this unprecedented health crisis continues. Among those challenges is the economic downturn, significantly reducing the sales tax revenues that support MIDD services. We will work with the community in the months ahead to address the impacts to these programs.

This report complies with Ordinance 18407, which amended Ordinance 15949, Section 3, and codified it as King County Code 4A.500.309.

MIDD supports multiple tenets of the King County Strategic Plan by enhancing the capacity of the County's network of health and human services to respond effectively to people in need. Most notably, MIDD advances Strategic Plan objectives that aim to support prevention and recovery for people of all ages with behavioral health conditions, to implement alternatives to the criminal legal system, and to facilitate access to affordable housing and related services. Furthermore, MIDD's evaluation and reporting approach supports the Strategic Plan aim of accountability to the public.

MIDD aligns with King County's Equity and Social Justice Initiative by providing an array of targeted, locally driven behavioral health and therapeutic court services that strengthen outcomes and expand access. MIDD services help reduce or prevent involvement in the criminal legal, crisis and emergency medical systems, and promote recovery for people with behavioral health conditions.

The MIDD Advisory Committee reviewed and supported the enclosed report at its July 23, 2020 meeting. A draft copy of the report was distributed to committee members in advance and comments from members were incorporated into the final report.

It is estimated that this report required 1,891 staff hours to produce, costing \$157,549. The estimated printing cost of this report is \$400.

In approving this report and continuing its support of MIDD, the Council will carry on an ongoing partnership in delivering innovative, effective services that help to make King County a community where every person can thrive.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services, at 206-477-4384.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine".

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Enclosure

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cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)