



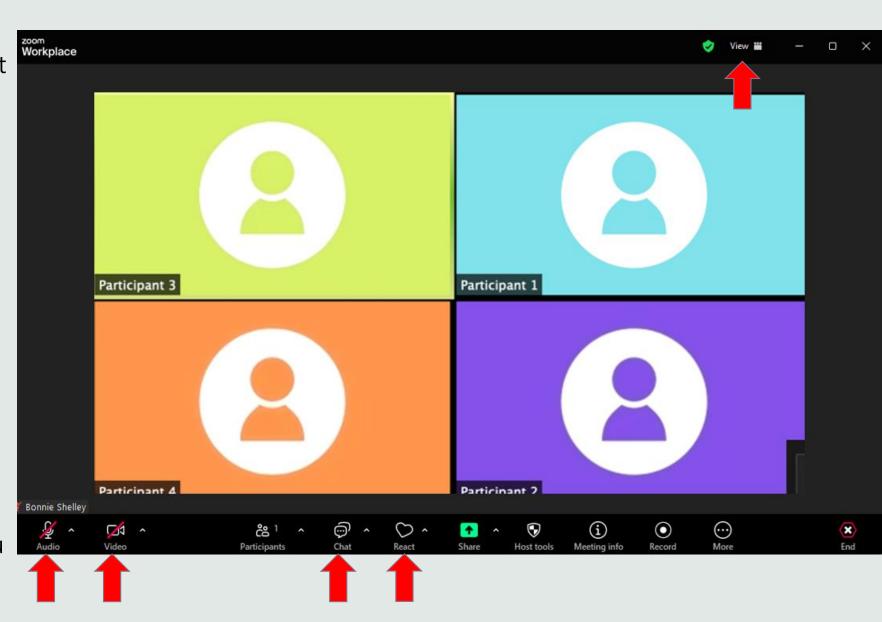
Zoom Technology Moment: Committee Members

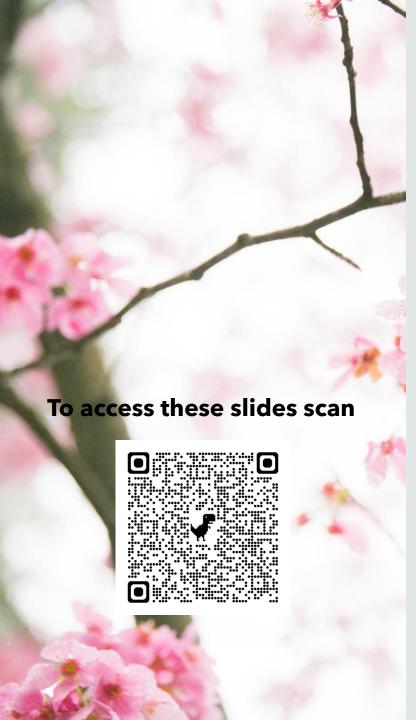
-The "Audio" and "Video" buttons are in the bottom left corner. These help you mute and unmute or turn your video on or off.

-The "Chat" button is just left of the bottom center of the screen.

-The "React" button is to the right of the chat button. You can find the "Raise Hand" function here.

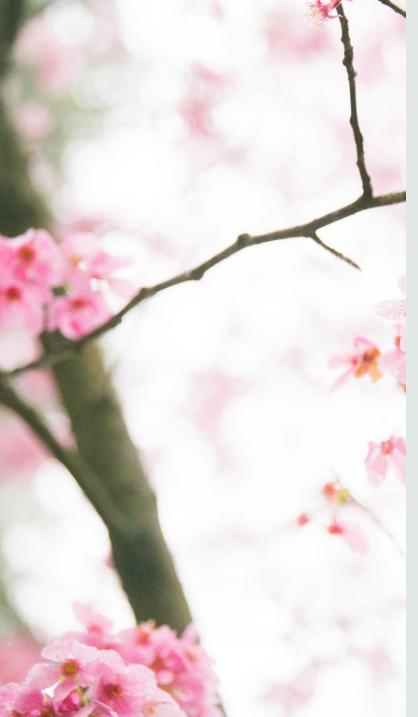
-In the top right corner is the "View" button. This helps you change the way you view the meeting.





AGENDA

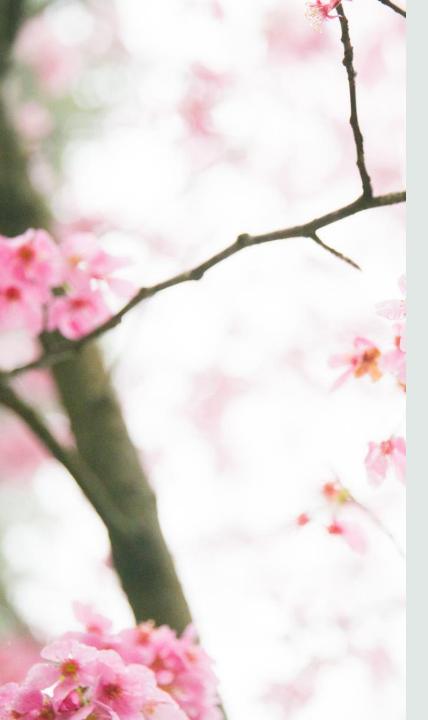
- Welcome, Intros, Agenda review
- Kirkland Connections
- Lived Experience Collaborative Update
 - Bill of Rights
 - Co-Response (November meeting)
 - Scheduling 2026 LE Collaborative meetings
- **Community Updates and Opportunities**
- Open Discussion Current Events
- Next Meeting Mon. November 10th, 2025 1 PM 3 PM



2025 Meetings, Mondays 1-3 PM

- November 10th
- December 8th

* Information on how to join the meeting will be sent out one week in advance of each meeting, as well as posted to the HCA Website.



Comfort Agreement

Here is our comfort agreement from the last meeting:

- Keep an open mind when others are sharing.
- Experiences are different. Be respectful of differences.
- "Step up and step back."
- Listen and don't judge.
- Keep things confidential and do not disclose without consent.
- Agree to disagree,
- Assume best intent.
- Active listening.
- Do not interrupt others when they speak.

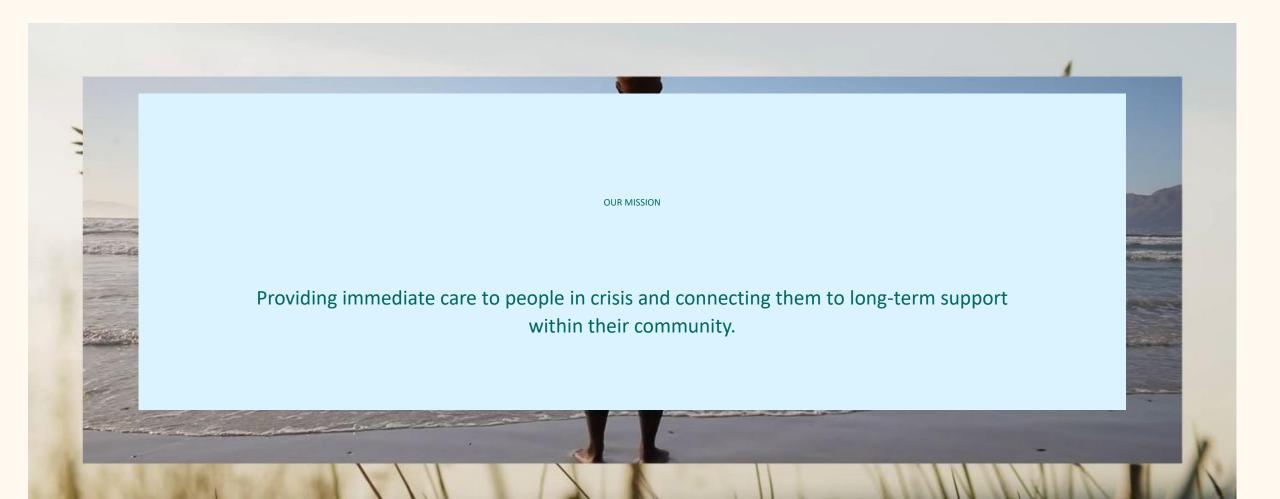
Is there anything that should be added or updated?

OCTOBER 2025

Connections Kirkland
CRIS LE Collaborative Meeting

CONCECTIONS

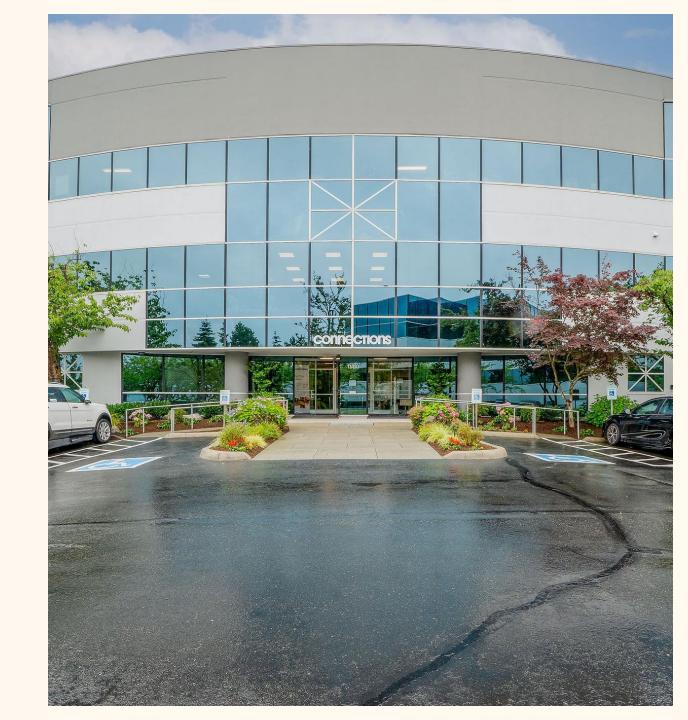
Connections isn't just a name – it's who we are and why we do what we do.



8 Connections Kirkland Overview

11410 NE 122nd Way Kirkland, WA 98034

- Open 24/7/365
- Serves adults (18+)
- Access for all, no appointment or referral required
- Services include: a walk-in urgent care, a 23-hour observation unit, a crisis stabilization unit, and outpatient resources
- Multidisciplinary team of experts providing compassionate, effective crisis care
- Has been providing the community with compassionate crisis care since opening in 2024



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Connections is a recognized leader in quality improvement and outcome measurement. This data is from Connections Kirkland from inception (August 2024) through September 2025



3,613

Total patients served



1,352

First responder dropoffs



7 minutes

Average first responder drop-off time



Over 80%

Community disposition rate



17 hours

23-hour observation median length of stay



5 days

CSU median length of stay

Our co-located service lines ensure those who need crisis care can access it when they need it, without referral. No exceptions. No judgment.

Urgent Care

Walk-in immediate access to a psychiatric provider within 90 minutes, without an appointment or referral.

23-Hour Observation

Rapid assessment, immediate treatment, and intensive stabilization within 23 hours, 59 minutes via interdisciplinary engagement with medical and social services staff.

Crisis Stabilization & **Evaluation and Treatment**

Continued stabilization beyond 23 hours 59 minutes via the same interdisciplinary team for those requiring an extended stay.

Discharge Planning

Access to comprehensive discharge planning, warm hand-off to community care, transportation, and followup.



Our Multi-Disciplinary Team

Our multi-disciplinary team is embedded throughout the patient's journey and is an integral part of their experience and recovery throughout all our programs.

Behavioral Health Specialist Registered Nurse (RN)

Recovery Support
Specialist
(Peer Support)

Provider (NP, MD)

Case Manager



Our Team

- Team of 12 state-licensed certified peer counselors (CPC)
- All have lived experience with diverse backgrounds
- At least 1 RSS on each unit at a time
- Engagement through the lens of lived experience



Our Approach

- Peer led groups with a trauma-informed approach
- Mindful movement
- Motivational interviewing & active listening
- Teaching coping skills, building rapport & trust
- Encouragement to build safety plans upon discharge



"The peer support is the best ever. I am a loner and do not trust people but here I feel safe and I know the people care about my well being. I would like to thank who is peer support, he never judges and works so hard to help us get help that we need."

- Urgent Care Patient Testimonial

Crisis Care in the Emergency Department (ED)

- Patients can be boarding in an ED for up to days on end waiting to be assessed and for treatment to begin
- Limited to no peer support or those with lived experience supporting those in crisis
- Unlike a Crisis Recieving Center (CRC), an ED is focused on stabilizing immediate life-threatening medical conditions, not behavioral health, which generally results in the crisis going unresolved
- Patients are often discharged without any behavioral health treatment plan

Crisis Care at Connections Health Solutions

- Immediate assessment and treatment planning upon admission into 23-hr OBS unit.
- Multi-disciplinary team dedicated to behavioral health (Case management, providers, RNs, peer support specialists)
- Facility design ensures a low stimulation and a more physically comfortable environment
- ✓ Up to 80% Community Disposition rate*

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- Designated Crisis Responders (DCRs) are King County employed professionals trained at assessing individuals and whether or not they meet the criteria for detainment under the Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA)
- Connections Health Solutions is required to follow the rules and regulations established by the State of Washington regarding involuntary mental health treatment, and our providers will petition the DCR to evaluate a patient when it is clinically indicated

 At Connections we strive to serve every patient we treat in the least restrictive environment possible



Thank you

Core to connections' values is system collaboration, we would welcome any follow-up questions or feedback.



Lived Experience Collaborative Plans

- Bill of Rights
- Co-Response (November meeting)
- Scheduling 2026 Lived Experience Collaborative meetings



Community

- * Resources
- * Information
- * Opportunities

Immigrant communities make Washington stronger.

Economically, socially, and culturally.



Immigrant Communities make Washington stronger.

Economically, socially, and culturally. <u>Executive Order 25-09</u> ensures they are valued, protected, and empowered to succeed.

The Office of Equity will lead the new Immigration Sub-Cabinet.



We're excited to partner with agencies, commissions, and communities to ensure immigrant voices are heard and supported.



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Executive Order 25-09 reaffirms Washington's long-standing leadership in fairness, inclusion, and justice.

For more information or questions about this initiative, please contact subcabinet@equity.wa.gov.

To receive regular updates about the Sub-Cabinet, please sign up for the "Subcabinet Support" newsletter by <u>clicking</u> <u>here</u>.

Together, we are building Washington for All.



Join the Washington ABLE or DDETF governing board today!

Commerce is recruiting governing board members to play a crucial role in shaping the future of two amazing disability programs.

The <u>Washington Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Savings Plan</u> and the <u>Developmental Disabilities Endowment Trust Fund (DDETF)</u> are financial tools for people living with disabilities. They help people save and invest in their quality of life while remaining eligible for critical state and federal benefits.

Each board consists of seven members, some of whom are appointed by the Governor. Members are selected for the professional experience, life experience and expertise that they bring. These requirements uphold the mission of each program and the individuals it serves.

What it means to be a board member

Members serve four-year terms. Each board meets quarterly, and board members receive a stipend for their time. Travel costs for in-person meetings are covered.

The ABLE Governing Board is currently recruiting one member.

The **DDETF** Governing Board is currently recruiting two members.

How to apply

Visit the **Governor's webpage about State Boards**

Click on "Apply to a Board or Commission"

Select the board you wish to serve on (you can apply for each board!)

Complete and submit the online application

Please be aware the application review and appointment process can take several months. In addition to your online application, please notify the state administrator of your submission by emailing csp@commerce.wa.gov.

Thank you for your commitment to the continued success of the program.





Submit your policy or funding ideas to the Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee

Committee will discuss submissions in November for upcoming legislative session

The Office of Homeless Youth <u>Prevention and Protection (HYPP) Advisory Committee</u> is seeking ideas from communities for this year's legislative session. Ideas can be related to the OHY Decision Package (budget) or other topics that are not part of the governor's budget.

Submit your ideas

Your ideas should include an outline of the problem or solution, its impact on youth homelessness, estimated costs, equity considerations, and potential unintended consequences.

Understanding the challenges faced by organizations or individuals will enable the Advisory Committee to fulfill its advisory role and gain a comprehensive understanding of the persistent issues related to serving youth and young adults experiencing housing instability.

Complete the OHY Annual Policy or Budget Proposals Submission form to the best of your ability by Nov. 1.

The HYPP Advisory Committee is a 12-member group including youth, parent advocates, service providers, law enforcement, legislators, and partners. Its primary purpose is to provide guidance and recommendations to OHY regarding funding, policy, and practice gaps.

Visit the <u>Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee webpage</u> for more information on the committee purpose, members, and meeting materials.

<u>Apply to become a member of the HYPP Advisory Committee.</u>



Our Conference Agenda is Live!

The National Federation of Families will be hosting its Annual Conference virtually this November 3rd, 5th, and 7th. The event will welcome hundreds of family members, key researchers, administrators, policymakers, youth, clinicians, and other stakeholders across the nation and Canada.

Join our virtual conference for:

- Powerful plenary sessions that will set the tone for our virtual conference and spark meaningful conversations. Stay tuned for further details very soon.
- 55 presenters from 23 states and Canada and 32 organizations that will share professional expertise, lessons from the field, and lived experience in our 6 focus areas:
 - Fatherhood Initiatives
 - · Supporting Families and their Loved Ones Through the Lifespan
 - Supporting families with Co-occurring Disorders
 - · Lessons from the Field
 - Youth Workforce Development / Emerging Youth and Young Adult

Event Information:

Virtual: Nov. 3rd, 5th, and 7th 2025

3-Day Virtual Conference Registration

Individual registration fee: **\$230 per person.** For organization or group viewing of **10 or more**, please *contact us* for discounted pricing.

REGISTER TO ATTEND

VIEW THE SCHEDULE

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

National Bullying Prevention Month

Founded by <u>PACER's National Bullying</u>
<u>Prevention Center</u>, this month-long event aims
to educate and encourage individuals,
schools, and communities to take action
against bullying.

You'll find <u>answers to common questions</u> about bullying behavior, <u>free classroom curricula</u> for grades K-12, and the basics on what <u>parents and caregivers need to know.</u>

Access Resources





- **Only7Seconds** is excited to announce the launch of its newest upstream prevention program in support of youth mental and behavioral health and wellness.
- Club7 is a youth-led club where youth mobilize around the need for social health and connection to decrease the epidemic of loneliness in their spaces and prevent the mental and physical health challenges chronic loneliness and isolation can cause.
- Only7Seconds welcomes inquiries about how this program can support youth focused programs throughout Washington.

- Learn more at https://only7seconds.com/clubs
- Melissa Hosten at Melissa@Only7Seconds.com







SAMHSA National Prevention Month

Substance use disorders can make daily activities difficult and impair a person's ability to work, interact with their family, and fulfill other major life functions. Prevention and early intervention strategies focus on preventing substance use in the first place, preventing the progression of use to a disorder, and preventing consequences associated with use.

<u>SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention</u> collaborates across many sectors to advance prevention across the lifespan so that youth, families, and communities can thrive. There are several ways to actively participate in substance use prevention efforts during this month:

- Download the <u>2025 Prevention Toolkit</u> with social media graphics, messaging, and links to what other states are doing.
- <u>"Talk. They Hear You."</u> encourages community members, parents, and caregivers to have candid discussions regarding substance use with young people.
- <u>Screen4Success</u> is a10-minute online screening tool to look for signs of risk in yourself, your child, or someone you care about—and find supportive resources.

Access Prevention Toolkit



SAMHSA Strategic Priorities

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released new <u>Strategic Priorities</u> on September 10, 2025. SAMHSA said that it "is committed to execution of these strategic priorities by first and foremost being the HHS agency that is responsive and targeted in responding to Departmental and Administration priorities. Using this continual lens, SAMHSA will leverage our data, expertise, resources, training, and technical assistance to advance:

- Preventing substance misuse, abuse, and addiction
- Addressing serious mental illness
- Expanding crisis intervention care and services
- Improving access to evidence-based treatment for mental illness, substance use, and co-occurring disorders
- · Helping individuals achieve long-term recovery and sobriety
- Identifying and addressing emerging behavioral health threats"

Learn More

988 Georouting Approved by the FCC

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved the <u>georouting of calls to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline</u> on July 24, 2025. Nationwide providers have 18 months to comply with this rule which requires that crisis calls are routed to support that is local to the caller or text's general location rather than relying on area codes for routing purposes. Regional providers have 36 months to comply with this rule.

Learn More



CDC launches new campaign to address youth substance use and mental health

- The back-to-school season is a great time to engage with youth about mental health and substance use to promote their well-being throughout the academic year. To support these conversations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched *Free Mind*, a new national campaign that provides youth ages 12-17 and their parents and caregivers with resources and information about substance use, mental health, and the connection between the two.
- Read the full CDC campaign launch article on The Athena Forum.

DOH invites you to join the Youth Friendly Care Network

- Youth-serving medical and behavioral health providers and professionals are invited to join DOH's Youth Friendly Care Network.
- The Network is a statewide initiative for providers and professionals to deepen their understanding of youth-friendly care principles and establish or enhance youth-friendly care in their practice. It brings together people working in clinics, schools, and youth-serving organizations to promote care that is welcoming, respectful, and responsive to youth ages 10–24.
- Read the full Youth Friendly Care Network article on The Athena Forum.

Northwest Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Collaborative (NW ROTAC) funding sunsets

- NW ROTAC announces funding for providing training and technical assistance is coming to a close. The following resources will remain available online:
- County-based behavioral health resources guides for Idaho, Oregon, and Washington will remain available.
 Guides for Alaska are migrating to University of Alaska Anchorage.
- On-demand trainings will remain available, including continuing education opportunities through NAADAC.
 The new contingency management online learning course will also continue to be accessible.
- Additional materials such as the <u>SAMHSA-adapted</u> <u>Community Conversations about Behavioral Health</u> <u>curriculum</u>, and radio promotion toolkit continue to be available.
- Read the full NW ROTAC article on The Athena Forum.

Events

Too Good for Drugs

Training

October 7-9

Virtual

Clearing the air:

Understanding &

addressing youth

vaping

October 14

Virtual

Competencies in

Focus: Readiness

October 15

Virtual

Mental Health

America

Conference

October 16-17

Virtual

Building the future:

Prevention fellows tell their story

October 7

Virtual

National Native No

Harm Summit

October 14-16

Minnesota

CADCA's Drug-Free

Kids Campaign

Awards Dinner

October 16

Maryland

HIDTA Prevention

Summit

October 29

Virtual

NW HIDTA

treatment RFP

<u>launch webinar</u> October 8

Virtual

Building resiliency

in urban American

Indian youth

October 15

Virtual

Connections in

<u>Prevention</u>

Conference

October 16-17

Illinois



Open Discussion &

Sharing

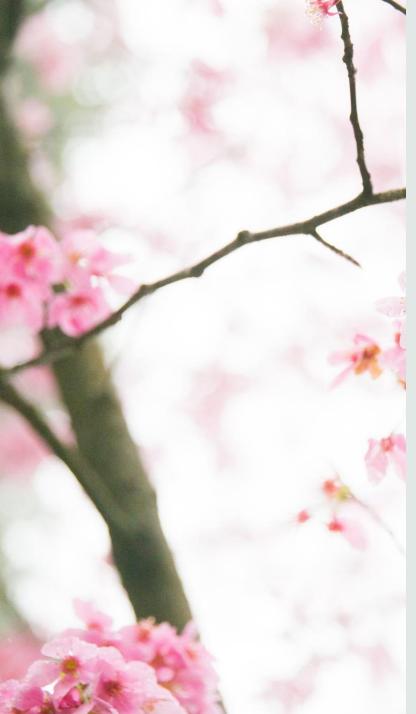


#We can apply Ragnar, Relay for Life, Staggered breath singing ideas to the work we do!

We Work - We Rest

We Take Turns!

We do it Together!



What We Covered

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- Kirkland Connections
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 - Upcoming guests and topics
- Community Updates and Opportunities
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