

# MEETING SUMMARY

## Steering Committee Kickoff Meeting Summary

Tuesday, October 12, 3pm to 5pm

Zoom

[Meeting Agenda, Slides, Summary, and Recording are available on the CRIS webpage:  
<https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/behavioral-health-recovery/crisis-response-improvement-strategy-cris-committees> ]

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### ATTENDEES

#### **Committee Member**

Amber Leaders, Office of Governor Jay Inslee  
Keri Waterland, Washington State Health Care Authority  
Michele Roberts, Washington State Department of Health  
Representative Tina Orwall, Washington State House

#### **Committee Members Absent**

Senator Manka Dhingra, Washington State Senate

#### **American Sign Language Interpreters**

Amanda Wilkes, RID Certified Interpreter  
Aaron Medlock, Certified Sign Language Interpreter

#### **Committee Staff**

Betsy Jones, Health Management Associates  
Nicola Pinson, Health Management Associates  
Liz Arjun, Health Management Associates  
Brittany Thompson, Health Management Associates  
Mark Snowden, Harborview Medical Center  
Madeline Grant, Harborview Medical Center  
Lauren Baba, Harborview Medical Center  
Michael Anderson-Nathe, Michael Anderson-Nathe Consulting  
Jamie Strausz-Clark, Third Sector Intelligence (3Si)

### WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

Jamie Strausz-Clark (3Si) convened the meeting and reviewed use of Zoom features to ensure understanding among meeting participants regarding use of Zoom technology for the meeting and expectations for committee members and public observers. In addition, Jamie introduced the meeting American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters and reviewed how to pin their window to follow ASL interpretation, as well as the use of the Zoom closed caption/auto-transcript button.

Keri Waterland began the meeting with a land acknowledgement, recognizing that she is a guest on tribal lands and honoring tribal ancestors and leaders as stewards of these lands. This acknowledgement included recognition that the day prior to the meeting, October 11, marked the first time a US President has officially recognized Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Each Steering Committee member introduced themselves: Representative Tina Orwall (Representing the 33<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District), Keri Waterland (Division Director, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Health Care Authority), Michele Roberts (Acting Assistant Secretary, Prevention and Community Health Division, Washington State Department of Health), Amber Leaders (Senior Policy Advisor on Behavioral Health, Aging and Disability to Governor Inslee). Staff supporting the meeting introduced themselves: Betsy Jones (Managing Principal for the Seattle Office, Health Management Associates), Michael Anderson-Nathe (Independent Consultant), Dr. Mark Snowden (Professor and Chief of Psychiatry at Harborview Medical Center).

### **MEETING OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA**

Jamie then reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives for each agenda item. The Kickoff meeting of the Steering Committee had six objectives:

1. Continue to build and sustain collaborative relationships with each other.
2. Review and affirm Steering Committee Charter.
3. Agree on how we will center equity in our work.
4. Debrief from first CRIS Committee meeting to identify lessons learned and make refinements to approach for next meeting.
5. Finalize Subcommittees, including:
  - a. Subcommittee Membership
  - b. Timing and focus of Subcommittee 2021 meetings
6. Plan November CRIS Committee meeting
7. Note: Public comment will be offered during future Steering Committee meetings, but is not planned for the first Steering Committee meeting.

### **ICE MELTER**

Committee Members were invited to share responses to the following question: Do you prefer hot chocolate or apple cider? The purpose of this exercise was to help lay the foundation for a collaborative working relationship. A poll of public participants was also engaged, with the majority choosing hot chocolate.

### **AFFIRM STEERING COMMITTEE CHARTER**

Jamie introduced the CRIS Committee Charter for review and approval by members. Committee members received the charter in advance of the meeting for review prior to the meeting. The Charter serves as a guiding document for Committee and addresses the Steering Committee purpose and charge, criteria for membership based on requirements established by HB 1477, committee approach to centering equity in its processes, and member roles and responsibilities. Jamie provided a brief overview of the charter and the Steering Committee charge.

Michael Anderson-Nathe, HMA's project equity advisor, reviewed the charter section addressing the Committee's commitment to centering equity and facilitated Steering Committee member feedback and thoughts on what it means to center equity into committee processes, and what success looks like. The language in the charter provides a foundation for an iterative process to center equity and development of a shared vision of what this means. Members emphasized the need for ensuring diverse voices are engaged in the process, and the importance of empowering individuals who are closest to the issues in leadership spaces. Member comments aligned with the five values in the charter reflecting current equity best practices and establishing the committee's approach to equity: leading with race; sharing power; leading with transparency; practicing active accountability; ensuring accessibility for all. Members reviewed the table in the charter to consider ways that the equity values will be put into action. Members recognized the equity values and actions set forth in the charter as a foundation for continued work to center equity. Members agreed with the importance of continued discussion of approaches for centering equity in our processes and requested further conversation with CRIS members on this topic.

Betsy Jones, HMA Management Principal and project director, provided an update that CRIS Committee members selected Bipasha Mukherjee as the CRIS 4<sup>th</sup> co-chair. The four CRIS members representing lived experience were invited to submit statements of interest to source as the 4<sup>th</sup> co-chair. Two members submitted statements of interest: Michael Robertson and Bipasha Mukherjee.

**Decision:** Steering Committee Charter approved. All committee members present at the meeting raised hands to approve the Charter.

### CRIS MEETING DEBRIEF

Jamie facilitated discussion among Steering Committee members to debrief the first CRIS Committee meeting on September 30<sup>th</sup> and identify what went well and areas for improvement.

#### *What went well:*

- Appreciated time to get know each other.
- Appreciated the amount of committee member engagement
- Appreciated the number of members of the public attending
- Appreciated level of comments through chat.
- Appreciated space for both CRIS members and the public and engaging real time feedback.
- Appreciated connection with the 988 Vibrant coalition work, and acknowledgement of the work that has happened to date.
- Liked small group breakouts, and bringing back to large group

#### *Areas for improvement:*

- Consider approach for creating a safe meeting space for people to share their personal stories. Possibly consider having more than one person share their story.
- Would like continued opportunities for interactive discussion and for CRIS members to share with each other, particularly about fears and experiences.

- How to make sure we engage diverse voices of all CRIS members, including members who may not feel comfortable in large group and public meeting setting, as well as members bringing expertise working in the field and lived experience of challenges faced.
- Noted the Committee did not have a voice present from the disabled community.
- Agenda was ambitious – and felt a little rushed. Important not to rush discussion.
- Desire to take the time and hear from the experts around the table.

*How well did we do with centering equity:*

- Would appreciate perspectives of people who are in the field, particularly serving people of color.
- Members with lived experience were pulled out of breakout groups to discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> co-chair opportunities and the groups therefore missed their perspectives during the hopes and fears exercise.
- Emphasis on the important to engaging all committee member perspectives and the intentional reason for broad representation of member seats outlined by HB 1477.
- Would appreciate feedback from CRIS about what we are doing to center equity and how we can improve. Frame around same questions we are asking ourselves.

## **HB 1477 SUBCOMMITTEES**

Steering Committee members received a draft approach for identifying subcommittee members for review in advance of the meeting. Betsy Jones reviewed a proposed process to form the HB 1477 Subcommittees, including the five subcommittees established by legislation and the additional two subcommittees (Lived Experience and Rural & Agricultural). HB 1477 outlines membership criteria for the subcommittees. To identify members meeting these criteria as well as bringing professional expertise and knowledge of implementation efforts, subcommittee members are proposed to be identified according to three categories: 1) HCA/DOH and other implementation SMEs, 2) Subcommittee champions, and 3) Broad stakeholder members. HMA will support a process to solicit statements of interest for individuals interested in serving on subcommittee, and work with HCA to evaluate candidates based on member criteria and prioritization to ensure diversity and balanced representation.

Steering Committee members were asked for comments on this approach and member criteria:

- Members agreed with approach.
- Suggestion to reach out to Vicky Lowe, Executive Director of the American Indian Health Commission, for guidance on approach to formation of the Tribal 988 Subcommittee.
- Clarified that subcommittee members are not restricted to members of the CRIS.
- For membership criteria, would like to see representation for older adults. This aligns with representation for youth populations.
- In considering diversity, include recognition of representation from individuals with disabilities.
- Suggestion to create process to evaluate subcommittees next year and rebalance as needed based on topic areas under consideration.

## PLAN NOVEMBER CRIS MEETING

Jamie shared the draft agenda and objectives for the November CRIS Committee meeting for Steering Committee feedback. Draft objectives include:

- Continue laying the foundation for collaboration.
- Provide updates on Subcommittee selection, outcomes from Steering Committee meetings.
- Review and provide feedback on the outcomes to date of the comprehensive assessment of the existing behavioral health and crisis response system.
- Identify opportunities to center equity in our work.
- Review outcomes from subcommittee discussions, as available

Steering Committee members provided the following feedback:

- Prioritize time for committee discussion and allow the group to get to know each other.
- Request to introduce the Blue Ribbon Commission at the next meeting since the group will need to decide CRIS representatives to participate in the Blue Ribbon Commission at a future date.
- Suggestion to have standing updates from the Steering Committee, Subcommittees, and other relevant bodies such as the Blue Ribbon Commission when it is formed.
- For personal stories, add time to the agenda. Seek input from members representing lived experience for approach to supporting individuals to share personal stories during the meeting.
- Provide presentations/information in advance to minimize amount of presentation and maximize time in discussion.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 4:45pm