



HealthierHere

HealthierHere Governing Board Meeting

August 7, 2025

2001 8th Ave Suite 1400

Seattle, WA 98121

The meeting commenced at 1:05pm.

- Marguerite Ro, Board President, welcomed the Governing Board to the first Board meeting in HealthierHere's new office in downtown Seattle.
- Board members each shared their name, title and organization, and the sector they represent in their Board seat.
- The agenda for the meeting was agreed upon by the Board and the June 2025 meeting minutes were approved.
- Semra Riddle, Board member, gave the land acknowledgement.
- Marguerite Ro gave the Executive Committee Report, reiterating how the focus of the Executive Committee is to help support HealthierHere in its 501c3 nonprofit status.

Agenda Topic 1: Multi-Sector Discussion on Federal Impacts and Responses.

The discussion focused on the impact of federal policies on health and community services.

Key points and discussions:

- The challenges posed by The One Big Beautiful Bill, such as work requirements for Medicaid, which will affect thousands of people in Washington State.
- Discussed strategies to mitigate these impacts, including advocacy, community education, and partnerships.
- Specific initiatives mentioned were security protocols, volunteer programs, and leveraging federal and state relationships.
- Highlighted the need for systemic change and collaboration among organizations to address the broader systemic issues exacerbated by new and changing federal policies.

Action Items

- Explore opportunities for HealthierHere to collaborate with Board members' organizations to leverage resources, share strategies, and amplify advocacy efforts.
- Compile and share stories from community members impacted by the policy changes to use in advocacy efforts.
- Coordinate with HealthierHere on potential funding or innovation opportunities to address immediate needs and support long-term system changes.
- Identify ways for HealthierHere to support community-based workers in navigating the administrative burdens and documentation requirements related to Medicaid work requirements.



Agenda Topic 2: Tribal Data Sovereignty training led by Vicki Lowe, Heather Erb, and Faith Turk from the American Indian Health Commission (AIHC).

The presentation focused on the AIHC's efforts to improve health outcomes for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people in Washington State.

Key Points and Discussions:

- The importance of data sovereignty, the development of Tribal data sharing agreements, and the need for equitable access to public health data.
- Highlighted AIHC's work on the Tribal data sovereignty project, the Native Hub, and the Washington Indian Health Improvement Act.
- Noted challenges such as underfunding, lack of capacity, and historical discrimination.
- Emphasized the necessity of treating Tribes as sovereign governments and the need for informed consent in data sharing.
- Discussed how to approach the current crisis as an opportunity for system transformation.
- Discussed best practices in data sovereignty: ensuring tribes are the authority in telling their story is crucial: *Nothing About Us Without Us*.

Action Items

- Increase engagement and communication between AIHC and the Accountable Communities of Health (ACHs) to align efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 4:02pm.