

2025 Update: Substance Use Disorder Investments

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Housing & Human Services Committee

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Human Services Department



City of Seattle

Agenda

- HSD and PHSKC Roles in Public Health
- 2025 Contract Development Process
- 2025 HSD Investments
- What to Expect Next



HSD and PHSKC Roles in Public Health



The Human Services Department's (HSD) mission is to **connect people with resources and solutions during times of need** so we can all live, learn, work and take part in strong, healthy communities.



Public Health – Seattle & King County's (PHSKC) mission is to **promote and improve the health and well-being of all people in King County** by leading with racial equity and changing systems and structures that impact health.

2025 Contract Development Process

Following Mayor Harrell's directive to focus the City of Seattle's public health funding on the opioid and behavioral health crisis:

- HSD reallocated the budget and PHSKC developed aligned proposals to address the City's behavioral health challenges
- Implementation began in December 2024
- New 2025 investments are in early implementation phases



Bottom Line at the Top

- New Substance Use Disorder (SUD) continuum of care programs will provide overdose prevention and MOUD **services to over 5,000 Seattle residents annually, with over 1,000 new patients engaged in treatment.**
- All **strategies target complex community health needs** requiring a ramp-up phase for staff hiring, service implementation, and client engagement.
- **Complex and ongoing program evaluation process requires time to demonstrate meaningful change.** PHSKC will continuously monitor programs and analyze data to identify what works best and should be sustained.



Seattle's Public Health Theory of Change

Vision: Ensuring all people living in Seattle experience optimum health.

Access to Care

We bridge gaps and help people navigate physical and behavioral health care

Harm Reduction and Engagement

We increase access to life-saving strategies and engage people on treatment pathways

Substance Use Disorder Treatment

We provide meaningful pathways to treatment and recovery

Trusted Relationships and Social Connectedness

We foster hope and resiliency that increases and sustains health and wellness



Key Terms

Terms & Acronyms	Definition
Substance Use Disorder (SUD)	Opioid Use Disorder = type of substance use disorder MOUD = type of substance use disorder treatment (for opioids only)
Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)	Sometimes referred to as Medication Assisted Treatment, or MAT Evidence-based treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Includes both Buprenorphine and Methadone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buprenorphine ("Bupe") 	Brand names: Suboxone; Subutex, Sublocade, Brixadi Evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder; type of MOUD Daily, oral medication taken at home OR monthly* injection administered by a healthcare provider.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-acting injectable buprenorphine (LAIB) 	Brand names: Sublocade, Brixadi *Monthly, bi-weekly, or weekly buprenorphine injection administered by a healthcare provider.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methadone 	No other names; Evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder; type of MOUD Daily, oral medication. Dose must be observed by a provider.



2025 HSD Investments



HSD Investment Focus Areas

PHSKC Contract: Focus Area	2024	2025	Δ
SUD Access and Treatment	\$1,972,000	\$4,365,000	+221.3%
Healthcare for the Homeless/ Environmental Health Homelessness Response	\$4,884,500	\$4,921,200	-
Other Programming	\$13,055,100	\$9,322,500	-28.5%
Administration	\$195,200	\$124,300	-36.3%
TOTAL	\$20,106,800	\$18,742,900	-6.8%

23% of 2025 contract funding supports SUD access and treatment, a **221% increase**.



2025 HSD Investments Overview	2025
Administrative Support	\$124,300
Health Care for the Homeless Network	\$4,753,100
Community Health Partnerships	\$7,346,900
Community Based Oral Health	\$177,300
Homeless Outreach and Case Management	\$168,100
Enhanced Reproductive Health	\$273,800
HIV/AIDS Non-medical Case Management	\$394,200
Support for Transitioning Programs	\$1,140,300
Robert Clewis Center Needle Exchange	\$587,000
Downtown Pathways	\$249,200
Methadone and Other Medication Assisted Treatment Access	\$776,400
Community Access to MOUD and Harm Reduction Services	\$1,182,200
Drug User Health Services	\$982,400
Mobile Buprenorphine Team	\$240,000
Community Access to Mobile Methadone Services	\$347,800
TOTAL	\$18,742,900



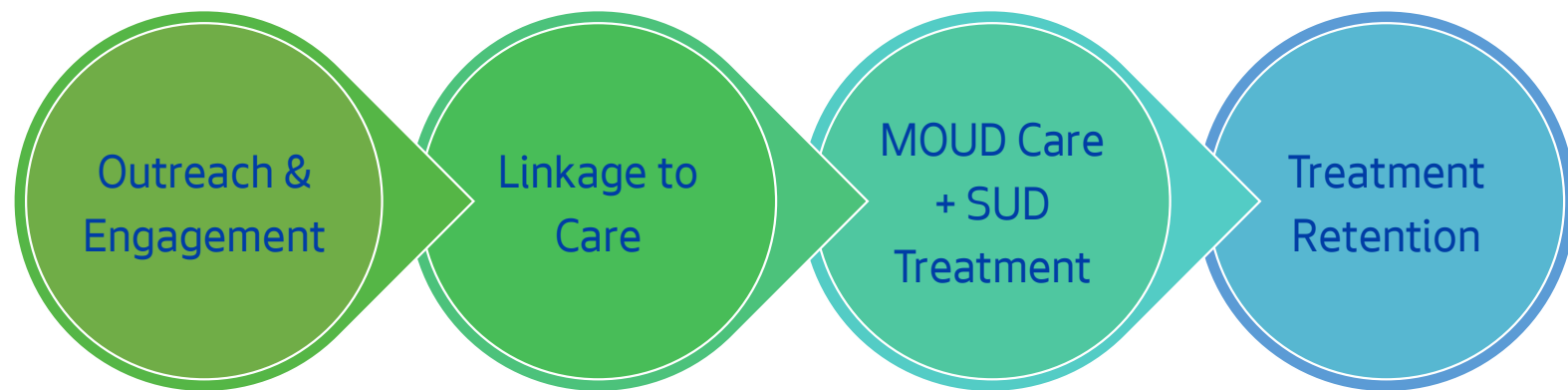
Determining New Programs

PHSKC Leadership & Experts prioritized:

- **Mayoral priorities** & City's Public Health theory of change
- **Data-driven** interventions to reduce overdose
- Evidence-based strategies to increase access to **low-barrier treatment**
- Focus on populations **disproportionately impacted by overdose**
- Programs likely to achieve greatest **impact**



Substance Use Disorder Continuum of Care



Community-based Overdose
Prevention Programs

MOUD
Care Navigation

Mobile Methadone
Expansion

Pathways
Health Hub

Improving MOUD Access for BIPOC
Communities

Mobile
Bupe Access

Treatment & Overdose Prevention



New & Expanded Programming: OD/SUD

Total Funding – 2024:

- Bupe Pathways: *\$210,000*
- Methadone Access via Downtown Public Health: *\$700,000*
- Community-based Overdose Prevention Programs: *\$470,000*

Total Funding – 2025:

- Bupe Pathways & Pathways Health Hub Expansion: *\$1,340,000*
- Methadone Access via Downtown Public Health: *\$700,000*
- Community-based Overdose Prevention Programs: *\$575,000*
 - Improving MOUD Access for BIPOC Communities: *\$130,000*
- MOUD Care Navigation: *\$200,000*
- Mobile Methadone Expansion: *\$347,800*
- Mobile Bupe Expansion: *\$320,000*



Community-Based Overdose Prevention

Goal:

- Funding awarded to five programs across Seattle, focusing on:
 - Expanded outreach in North and South Seattle
 - Doula program for pregnant persons with SUD
 - Belltown neighborhood safety outreach
 - Overdose prevention and MOUD navigation for Black/African American communities
 - Rapid buprenorphine access for people in permanent supportive housing

Impact:

- 40,000 doses of naloxone distributed
- 5,000 new clients served
- 5,000 referrals to MOUD



Care Navigation for Opioid Use Disorder

Goal:

- Support new positions to improve access to medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD)
- Implement care navigation programs, reducing barriers to access, and increasing retention in care
- Create new positions at ORCA Center and UW Telebupe Hotline

Impact:

- 5,000 referrals to MOUD or patient visits for MOUD care



Streetcar wrapped with bupe hotline informational ad

Expanded Methadone Access

Goal:

- Support ETS (via PHSKC) to purchase a mobile clinical intake vehicle, expanding access to mobile medication unit services
- Address barriers to beginning methadone treatment, as patients cannot initiate methadone via mobile medication units
- Allow ETS to conduct new patient intakes in neighborhoods across Seattle

Impact:

- 1,500 supportive services & referrals
- 500 clients receive harm reduction & other services
- 250 new patients accessing MOUD



Existing ETS mobile medical unit, clinical intake van coming soon

Mobile Bupe Access Team

Goal:

- Support a new high-intensity street outreach team providing rapid buprenorphine access
- Provide same-day treatment in the field (i.e., outside traditional clinic settings)
 - Provide rapid access to long-acting injectable buprenorphine (LAIB) via Nurse + Community Health Worker team

Impact:

- 75 new patients beginning buprenorphine, either oral (e.g., Suboxone) or Long Acting Injectable (e.g., Sublocade)
- 25 oral buprenorphine prescriptions delivered to patients in the field
- 150 LAIB injections administered to patients in the field



PHSKC street medicine team (similar setup to mobile bupe team)

Pathways Health Hub

Goal:

- Expand downtown services
- Improve health outcomes for populations experiencing disproportionately poor health outcomes

Impact:

- 2,500 total patient encounters
 - 800 patient encounters for individuals experiencing homelessness
 - 80% of returning patients with positive urine screens for buprenorphine
- 200 new patients started on long-acting injectable buprenorphine (LAIB)
 - 50% of patients started on LAIB continuing MOUD treatment at 6 months



PHSKC downtown Public Health building

Questions?

