



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 20006

Proposed No. 2025-0303.2

Sponsors Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE establishing the behavioral health
2 administrative services organization fund; and adding a
3 new section to K.C.C. chapter 4A.200.

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 5 1. As one part of a broader transition in state contracting for behavioral
6 health services in response to Chapter 225, Laws of 2014, King County
7 transitioned in 2019 from a Behavioral Health Organization ("BHO") to a
8 Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization ("BHASO"),
9 becoming the single regional entity managing the King County regional
10 service area's continuum of behavioral health crisis services through the
11 County's contract with the Washington state Health Care Authority
12 ("HCA").
- 13 2. BHASOs, funded through state funding and federal block grant
14 funding, provide services that help residents navigate through mental
15 health or substance use disorder crisis services when needed, regardless of
16 insurance status.
- 17 3. In state fiscal year 2025, the HCA's BHASO contract with King
18 County provided \$64 million in state general funds and \$15 million in
19 other moneys, including block grant funding.

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20 4. As of January 2025, BHASO funds administered by King County
 21 include approximately thirty-four unique state general fund proviso
 22 awards, two flexible state general fund awards, twelve unique block grant
 23 awards, and eight unique special program awards.

24 5. King County must report quarterly to the state HCA on its BHASO
 25 contract, with accurate and timely revenue and expenditure accounting at
 26 the individual award level, including cash balances for each award and for
 27 the total grant.

28 6. Creating a separate fund, independent of the existing behavioral health
 29 fund, improves King County's ability to manage state BHASO funds
 30 accurately and efficiently, and to comply with the state HCA's reporting
 31 requirements.

32 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

33 NEW SECTION. SECTION 1. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 4A.200
 34 a new section to read as follows:

35 A. There is hereby created the behavioral health administrative services
 36 organization fund.

37 B. The fund shall be a first tier fund. It is a special revenue fund.

38 C. The director of the department of community and human services shall be the
 39 manager of the fund.

40 D. The fund shall account for the proceeds of the behavioral health administrative
 41 services organization grant from the state Health Care Authority or its successor. The
 42 grant proceeds are for the express purpose of paying eligible expenses to administer

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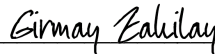
- 43 behavioral health services and associated administrative support for the King County
- 44 regional service area.

Ordinance 20006 was introduced on 10/7/2025 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/18/2025, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:



1AEA3C5077F8485...

Girmay Zahilay, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:



8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of 11/25/2025, ____.

Signed by:



AAA4841FD7644BE...

Shannon Braddock, County Executive

Attachments: None

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Council Chair

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Melani Hay

melani.hay@kingcounty.gov

Clerk of the Council

King County Council

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Shannon Braddock

Shannon.Braddock@kingcounty.gov

King County Executive

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Ames Kessler akessler@kingcounty.gov Executive Legislative Coordinator & Public Records Officer King County Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Not Offered via DocuSign	COPIED	Sent: 11/20/2025 11:55:23 AM Viewed: 11/20/2025 4:11:20 PM
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