

KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Resolution 21-07

	Proposed No. 21-07.1 Sponsors		
1	A RESOLUTION recognizing October 2021 as Domestic		
2	Violence Awareness Month, supporting funding for		
3	survivor-led services, and committing to model nonviolent		
4	norms, support survivors and continue shared work on		
5	addressing racism and gender-based violence as public		
6	health issues.		
7	WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month was established in		
8	October 1987 to create a community dialogue about violence, to advocate for legislation		
9	to protect victims, and to encourage public awareness and action to prevent abuse, and		
10	WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of violent, intimidating, and coercive		
11	behaviors that a person uses to gain and maintain power and control over an intimate		
12	partner, and		
13	WHEREAS, before the COVID-19 pandemic, one in four women and nearly one		
14	in ten men in the United States reported having experienced intimate partner violence		
15	during their lifetimes, and more than half of respondents to the 2015 National Center for		
16	Transgender Equality Transgender Survey reported some form of intimate partner		
17	violence, and		
18	WHEREAS, domestic violence has a severe impact on its victims, including		
19	adverse physical and mental health outcomes and a high risk of homicide, and		
20	WHEREAS, one in six homicides is perpetrated by an intimate partner, and		

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21	WHEREAS, one in three teens has experienced some form of abuse in a dating		
22	relationship, and nearly half of dating college women report experiencing violent or		
23	abusive dating relationships, and		
24	WHEREAS, domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among		
25	families, and		
26	WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and two-spirit people		
27	("LGBTQ2S+") experience disproportionate rates of domestic and sexual violence and		
28	face unique barriers to accessing support, especially for transgender, genderqueer and		
29	non-binary survivors. According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence		
30	Survey 40 percent of lesbian women, 61 percent of bisexual women, 26 percent of gay		
31	men and 37 percent of bisexual men experience one or more of rape, physical violence		
32	and stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetimes, and		
33	WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the King County Board of Health declared Racism		
34	a Public Health Crisis, and		
35	WHEREAS, individual and community impacts of intimate partner violence are		
36	compounded by racial, gender, sexual orientation and other forms of oppression and		
37	Black, Indigenous and other people of color, people living in poverty, LGBTQ2S+		
38	people; elders, people with disabilities and other people targeted by oppression are		
39	affected by intimate partner violence in significant and complex ways, including reduced		
40	access to appropriate supports, and		
41	WHEREAS, pandemic and disaster response literature suggest that the COVID-		
42	19 pandemic has increased risk, particularly for individuals who have already		
43	experienced domestic violence, and		

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44	WHEREAS, the Seattle Indian Health Board's research division, Urban Indian		
45	Health Institute, conducted a study of sexual violence resources for urban American		
46	Indian and Alaska Native survivors, and found that 17 percent of survivors surveyed need		
47	resources for their physical safety because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the top needs		
48	of survivors are direct services, including mental health care and basic necessities like		
49	utilities, food access and housing, and		
50	WHEREAS, on October 21, 2021, the King County Board of Health heard		
51	directly from community partners including leaders from Urban Indian Health Institute,		
52	King County Sexual Assault Resource Center and the Coalition Ending Gender-based		
53	Violence, on the impacts of COVID-19 on gender-based violence, and		
54	WHEREAS, King County is home to an array of innovative, effective programs		
55	serving the diverse needs of survivors, including BIPOC and LGBTQ2S+-led and serving		
56	organizations;		
57	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King		
58	County:		
59	A. The board recognizes October 2021 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month		
60	and joins advocates and communities throughout King County in taking action to prevent		
61	domestic violence by standing with survivors committing to build a safer future for all		
62	children, young people, adults and families in our community.		
63	B. The board supports increased, stable, private and public funding for programs		
64	providing survivor-advocacy services throughout King County and urge significant		
65	resources for direct services be allocated for BIPOC and LGBTQ2S+ communities.		
66	C. The board commits to educate themselves on gender-based violence, to model		

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- 67 nonviolent norms based in respect, consent, and equity and to support survivors in both
- 68 their personal and professional roles.
- D. The board commits to continue shared work on addressing racism and gender-
- 70 based violence as public health issues.

Resolution 21-07 was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 10/21/2021, by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Dr. Daniell, Dr. Delecki, Ms. Honda, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Mr. McDermott, Ms. Mosqueda, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Morales, Mr. Zahilay and Ms. Zahn Excused: 1 - Mr. Baker

> KING COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by 5AD3422

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None

DocuSian

Certificate Of Completion

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