Multnomah County
Behavioral Health Division
Behavioral Health Advisory Council Meeting
September 2, 2026 10AM - Noon

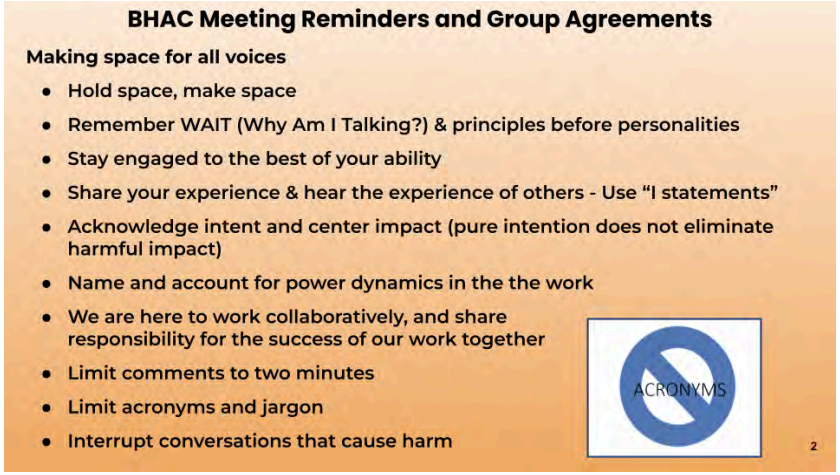
Community Lived Experience/Family/ Advocate Representatives	Public Service Representatives	Staff	Guests
☑ Barb. Rainish	☐ **CareOregon** Cassi Sturtz	☐ Anthony Jordan	☑ Mira Peraja
☑ Courtney Shannon	☐ **Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare** Dave Kohler	☐ Deandre Kenyanjui	☑ Ann Kasper
☐ Daniella Quebrado	☐ **Central City Concern** Tuesday Hailey	☑ Jay Auslander	☐ Jodie Traslavina; Oregon State Hospital
☑ Etta Assuman	☐ **Lifeworks NW** Mary Fakhoury	☐ Jenny Tsai	☑ Zach Kenney PPB
☑ Joni Scheib	☐ **Multnomah County Sheriff's Office** Rachelle Ross-Schank	☐ Jessica Jacobsen	☑ Charles (Chuck) Barton-Cooper
☑ June Howard Johnson	☐ **NAMI Multnomah** Kerri Melda	☑ JJ Jessee	☑ John Beckwith
☑ Katrina Malachowski	☐ **NARA NW** (Resigned)	☑ Mario Cardenas	
☐ Kevin Fitts	☑ **New Narrative** Manzie Butler	☐ Olivia Kilgore	
☑ Laura Bueford	☐ **Quest Center** Victoria Haberkorn/Roman Nolan		
☑ Lisa Yu	☑ **Street Leaves** JoAnne Lang		
☑ Mamie Gathard	☐ Vacant		
☑ Mary Avalon	☐ Vacant		
☑ Patty Hamit Arvizu			
☑ Robert Fentress			
☑ Ruthie Benjamin			
☑ Ryan Hamit			
☐ Vacant			

Topic	Notes:
Welcome and Introductions Group Agreements	Olivia led everyone through a round of introductions and BHAC members read through the group agreements.
Updates from Health Department Director	Rachael Banks and Jessica Guernsey joined to discuss where things are at for the hiring of the new Behavioral Health Director. There was recently a first round of interviews done with candidates that met minimum qualifications for the position. After the first round, the hiring panel identified one candidate to move forward. HR Recruiters revisited the candidate pool and reviewed more applications that came in. A second, first round of interviews was conducted by the same hiring panel as the first group. Ultimately there were 2 rounds of first interviews that have been completed. The hiring panel identified a total of 2 candidates to proceed to second round interviews. Multnomah County will continue to accept applications and will keep the hiring post up. Rachael is going to consult with HR about the next steps and if there will be a broader search for additional candidates before conducting second round interviews.
September Proclamation Signing Ceremony	• Latiné Hispanic Heritage Month • Suicide Prevention Awareness • Recovery Month • Emergency Preparedness Month Watch Live at Noon: www.youtube.com/@MultCoBoard
Office of Consumer Engagement (OCE) Updates	• Olivia will be going out on medical leave starting on 9/22. While Olivia is out of office, please direct any BHAC related questions to bhd.directorsoffice@multco.us , as well as any announcements you'd like to be forwarded to BHAC. • OCE has finished their strategic plan for 2026-2027 and is currently finalizing their data presentation

Topic	Notes:
BHD Director's Office Updates	• Updates about the new sobering & crisis stabilization center (see slides)
BHAC Recovery Stories	In the spirit of September being recovery month, BHAC members Etta Assuman and Ryan Hamit shared their recovery stories.
Next Meeting	October 7th, 2026 from 10am-Noon

Regular Meeting Slides:





BHAC Meeting Reminders and Group Agreements

Self-care

We support one another by taking care of ourselves

Pause before speaking when feeling stressed - respond rather than react

Expect and accept non-closure

Experience discomfort - (creating a safer space for challenging conversations can be uncomfortable at times)

Take the conversation off-line with staff

Virtual meeting reminders

Try not to talk over each other - raise hand; use chat; accommodate people on the phone and tech issues

Silence microphones when not speaking

Go off camera when necessary

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BHAC Meeting Reminders and Group Agreements

Disruptive behavior during the meeting will result in:

1. Facilitator calls attention to harmful behavior
2. If behavior continues, participant will be reminded of impact and warned of potential meeting separation via private chat or via verbal warning if on phone
3. Separation from meeting with continued disruption



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This meeting is recorded

OCE will review the recording for note taking and group accountability purposes

BHAC General Council and Community Workgroup meetings are open to the public



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September Proclamation Signing Ceremony

- Suicide Prevention Awareness
- Emergency Preparedness Month
- Recovery Month
- Latiné Hispanic Heritage Month

September 2, 2026

Join the Board of County Commissioners at Noon for the Multnomah County Proclamation Ceremony.
Watch Live at:
www.youtube.com/@MultCoBoard

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OCE Updates



- Olivia will be out on medical leave 9/22-10/6
- OCE has finished their strategic plan for 2026-2027 and is currently finalizing their data presentation

Director's Office Updates

- Update about the new sobering & crisis stabilization center (next 2 slides)

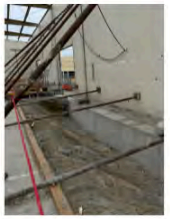
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Foundation Work









Lots of concrete pouring is happening to improve and establish the foundation of the building.

Sobering and Crisis Stabilization Center Project

Regional Arts and Culture Council

- There will be 2 exterior murals at the Permanent Facility. 1 on Grand Avenue and 1 at the front entry to the building.
- RACC has started the process of seeking artists with lived experience for this work in mid July and closes August 16.



Stephen Street Rendering

Regional Arts & Culture Council *Website: racc.org*

Sobering and Crisis Stabilization Center Project

Community Updates

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Close Slides for
Presentation/Discussion
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