MEETING AGENDA

COO-BSK ADVISORY BOARD/GOVERNANCE GROUP

September 29, 2023, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

King County International Airport Terminal Building – 7277 Perimeter Road S., conference room 110, Seattle, WA 98108

Meeting ID: 816 3007 7647 | Passcode: 258971

Time	_Agenda Item_	_Facilitator(s)_
9:00 am	**Welcome & Connection**	_Co-Chair Yordanos Teferi_
9:10 am	**Consent Agenda** _Objectives: Review and approve the September 29 agenda and minutes from August 25 meeting_	_Co-Chair Yordanos Teferi_
9:15 am	**General Business** _Objectives: GG Member Updates, Sub-Committee report outs — Nominating, KCESJ Strategic Plan, Learning Communities, Evaluation and_ Advisory Group, _General Announcements_	_Co-Chair, Yordanos Teferi_
9:25 am	**COO's Theory of Change Recap** _Objectives: Recap and continue discussion_	_Elsa Batres-Boni_
10:15	**Governance Group Draft Workplan** _Objectives: Present draft workplan for discussion_	_Elsa Batres-Boni & Yordanos Teferi_
11:00 am	**Adjourn**	

COO-BSK Advisory Board/Governance Group Members

Bilan Aden	_Elsa Batres-Boni_	_Dae Shogren_
Lydia Assefa-Dawson	_Patience Malaba_	_Yordanos Teferi_
Michael Brown	_Sandhya Nakhasi_	_Matias Valenzuela_
Kris Hermanns	_Gloria Ramirez_	_Jackie Vaughn_
Carlos Jimenez	_Sili Savusa_	_Agaiotupu Viena_
Cilia Jurdy	_Joy Sebe_	_Joon-Ho Yu_
	Michael Seiwerath	

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY GOVERNANCE GROUNDING

RESULTS STATEMENT

Create greater health, social, economic and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper, regardless of race or place.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Consistently demonstrate the values of equity, respect and partnership.
- Ensure low-income communities and communities of color affected by inequities develop and own the solutions.
- Advocate for and change institutional policies and processes to support equity goals.
- Encourage investments (both funding and in-kind resources) in long-term community capacity building and in systems, policy and practice changes that lead to greater racial and economic equity throughout King County.
- Catalyze alignment of funding streams and partner across issues and sectors to seek preventive strategies that address root causes of today's inequities.
- Be transparent and show how data and community expertise inform initiative strategies.
- Continuously learn, improve and share work publicly.
- Focus on geographic communities with the greatest needs, while simultaneously sharing lessons learned and building relationships across King County – *We are one King County.*

VALUES

We commit to guide Communities of Opportunity using these values:

Equity: work intentionally to eliminate racial, ethnic, socio-economic and geographic disparities in health and well-being

Process Equity: an inclusive, fair and open process

Community Engagement: authentic community engagement that involves listening to and understanding the unique histories of communities

Driven by quantitative and qualitative data: Data will track and report progress, as well as support given for promising and evidence-based practices

Innovation: Recognize that change involves risk and value an adaptive approach that views failure as an important part of the learning process

Communities of Opportunity – Governance Group Minutes

Friday, August 25, 9:00 am–11:00 AM

Location: King County Airport and Zoom

Members Present: Matias Valenzuela, Elsa Batres-Boni, Ubax Gardheere

On Zoom: Bilan Aden, Kris Hermanns, Sandhya Nakhasi, Gloria Ramirez, Sili Savusa, Joy Sebe, Michael Seiwerath, Dae Shogren, Jackie Vaughn, Joon-Ho Yu

Facilitators & Staff Support: Matthew Echohawk-Hayashi (Headwater People), Ana Braxton (Headwater People), Martha Guerrero (Spanish language translator), Sarah Daniels (COO)

Absent: Michael Brown, Carlos Jimenez, Cilia Jurdy, Patience Malaba, Yordanos Teferi, Agaiotupu Viena, Lydia Assefa Dawson

Consent Agenda: Governance Group (Governance Group) approved the consent agenda that included meeting minutes from July 28, 2023.

General Business

Governance Group Member Update — we have members of the public joining us, and some are in the process of nomination to the board. Members of the public are welcome to join these meetings and participate, however the public is unable to vote in decisions brought to the board and cannot interrupt the process of the meeting. RCW Public Comment and Interruptions

Nominating Committee — Informational interviews are being scheduled for the next round of nominations. The committee to ensuring that COO is broadening the inclusivity, diversity, and sustainability of the work of Governance Group. The regeneration of Governance Group brings in fresh perspectives and energy around the work is incredibly helpful to move this work forward.

Learning Communities — this is one of the three bodies of work that are associated with COO/BSK funding. The informal LC Advisory group will grow to 5-7 members, including non-Governance Group members. The purpose is to liaise between these two groups, and to collaborate with the strategy lead and ensuring that the vision and goals are aligned with COO and BSK Implementation Plan. Upcoming, Gloria will be participating in LC RFAs process and Sandhya will be participating in the RFPs process. RFAs are associated with learning community administrator (currently Cascadia Consulting) and capacity building consultant (currently Sama Praxis). A new RFP has been created for an innovating circle, which cohorts will be working towards coaching participatory processes. Gloria added appreciation to be able to support members and organizations within their communities. Ubax shared that she is also connected with Whitney and the RFP process.

EAG — No EAG meeting since last Governance Group update.

KC OERSJ — Working with KC strategic plan and information has been received to commit to 6 hours of the sub-committees time. KC is hoping to build on existing information from COO and Governance Group, ensuring the priorities and plan are aligned. First meeting is scheduled on Sept 15 and have received list of determinates, equity markers and policy agenda.

General Announcements — If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please reach out to Elsa.

COO & Community Power

Roxanna Chen, Evaluation Strategy Lead at COO, presented the history of COO's impact and aligned language and purpose with Governance Group.

Theories of Change was informed from COO 1.0 evaluation and reports. COO proposed to invest in three areas, Place Based Partnerships, Learning Community, and Policy and Systems Change. Some of the findings from the COO 1.0 evaluation report found opportunities to deepen some of the long- and short-term goals in 2.0. Rox then described the 4 "P" Framework – Power, Policy, People, and Place. The slide presents notes from a Governance Group conversation that explicitly address the priority of community power. These discussions have been occurring since early in COO's creation, focusing on Community Power from the beginning.

COO 2.0 Theory of Change is built to more intentionally address areas that were missing, evolving from the original Theory of Change. These changes came from feedback from partners, Governance Group, stakeholders, and staff. Community Power is essential to affecting community change. COO believes in investing in strategies that impact community power to move towards equity within our communities. These strategies are intended to work in parallel to strengthen community organizations and elevate them to make decisions for themselves and create an environment where all can thrive.

What is Community Power?

Though community power is not a new concept for COO, it is working to highlight this impact as a critical element of Theory of Change. The way to get to the equity in community is through their power.

"Community power is the ability of communities most impacted by structural inequity to develop, sustain and grow an organized base of people who act together through democratic structures to set agendas, shift public discourse, influence who makes decisions, and cultivate ongoing relationships of mutual accountability with decision makers that change systems and advance health equity."

Within this definition are aspects that inform how COO focuses its work, set agendas, and influence decision makers and hold them accountable. Power imbalances are at the root of unfair and unequal distribution of the social, economic, and environmental benefits that influence health. To impact these disparities, organizations need to be prepared to engage in, investing in, and priorities community power.

Investing in Community Power:

- People power: through organizing base building and leadership development. Investing in funding community organizations to engage and organize within their communities.
- Governance power to share institutional decision-making. Communities have the power to shape and influence the messaging to the public in understanding their needs and interests. This includes sitting on commissions and boards, being elected to office, etc.
- Narrative power to share public narrative and discourse.
- Alliance and relationship power, specifically among Black, brown, and Immigrant organizations.

COO Core Concepts can build community power and inform how evaluators measure change of community power. If there is any feedback regarding these concepts and community power, please reach out to Rox. This feedback will be used to improve on our evaluation process to ensure that the work of Governance Group/Community Based Organizations is being represented.

Rox continued to discuss how Theory of Change and community power has evolved from 1.0 to 2.0. Indicators of progress since 2016 included community engagement, making critical connections, organizational and community capacities increased, and community leadership development. Rox shared the impact of each of these indicators (specifics on Slide Deck).

Community Power in Action

Health —healthy and culturally relevant food added to schools and communities, culturally responsive health care, and environmental health impacts.

Housing — Tenant protections, rental assistances, eviction prevention, and securing significant funds to build affordable housing.

Economic opportunities — Worker protections, paid-time-off for domestic workers, influencing policies that support low-income families, debt protections, providing supports for small businesses to build more employment opportunities within community.

Community Development, Land Ownerships and Leveraging Funds — COO and partners strengthened the involvement of community in developing and stewarding spaces that have been experiencing high levels of gentrification. Partners have been able influence development in rainier valley, WC, and CD to transfer ownership to the community and build spaces that are community lead.

Feedback for COO from partners include:

- grounding in COO frameworks, concepts, and terms early on to work towards a common understanding
- Clarify expectations of partners, leads, and partner organizations
- Lead and convening agency should be a neutral party and not a funded strategy
- Supports for training, coaching, consultants re: partnerships, lead agency, PSE change, leadership development, and strategic planning
- Supports for conflict resolution/mediation
- Community Based Organizations' capacity issues, COO can facilitate connection with partners with complementary expertise

Feedback for COO leadership:

- Continued flexibility and long-term funding
- Facilitate strategic partnerships
- Networking opportunities between partners working similarly
- Use influence to highlight COO model and bring funders/decision-makers on board
- Sponsors (King County and Seattle Foundation) to do internal work and coordinate internal systems change
- Support BIPOC orgs, youth development, and leadership

What Have Been Done:

- Program Managers managing contract processes to minimize hardships for partners
- Program Manager and Evaluator team to support partners with contracting, reporting and evaluation
- Streamlining reporting requirements where possible
- Creating, providing tools and other resources to support strong partnerships
- Learning Community resources to help address requested needs (e.g., several toolkits)
- Learning Community convenings and cohort activities for peer-learning, networking, relationship-building
- Learning Community coaching, trainings to support tailored organizational capacity building
- Identifying, creating opportunities to clarify concepts, frameworks, expectations with partners
- RFP changes in response to partner and community feedback

Takeaways:

- Investing in community-driven work that spans multiple strategies and communities can support measurable benefits in equity.
- Long-term investment in community power-building represents a compelling approach to supporting PSE change.
- The Learning Community is an effective model for how funding agencies can support partners beyond the provision of financial resources.
- COO supports future advancements in equity by contributing to changes to the regional funding landscape.

Opportunities for Growth:

- COO can advance equity by supporting equitable and healthy community partnerships.
- COO leadership can expand the reach and impact of COO by connecting with and inviting other funders and relevant stakeholders to support the work of COO.
- COO leadership can advance equity by examining their own internal systems and practices to increase alignment with racial and economic equity principles.
- COO can advance equity by prioritizing and supporting COO partners to build narrative power.
- COO can advance equity by expanding the Learning Community and supporting its replication in similar equity initiatives.

Overall, report demonstrated the need for long-term funding for these partnerships to be able to get their work *off the ground.* Sponsors to consider what internal SPC can we influence to support equity. What are the outcomes that Governance Group would want to see by the end of 2027? How can Governance Group build COO's narrative power impact?

Discussion

How are we bringing in new funders and operationalize the community power piece in the RFP process (e.g., what result will it be under)? How are COO/King County/Seattle Foundation aligning its work to collaborate rather than multiple initiatives working independently towards the same goal? There is more of a focus on building community power in the next phase of COO and the hope is by building

Community Power, those changes will be reflected in COO result areas for our funders to recognize. COO 1.0 results areas demonstrated the importance to focus on Community Power as COO continues.

Kris added Seattle Foundation perspective that they have information about what is occurring in the community through COO investments, however those stories need to be better shared and demonstrate the importance of narrative work. The work of community power building is a concept that many donors/funders do not fully understand, and sponsors are working to explain the importance of this work. Seattle Foundation recognizes the opportunity to improve storytelling and sharing what is happening in communities to these funders and explaining how community power impacts their success. Kris continued that COO and Funds for Inclusive Recovery are very aligned and complement each other and their goals. Community Partners grant making is anchored in communities most impacted by inequities, racial justice and economic impact, focusing on building community power and investing in economic systems and policy change. There is some room for healthy duplication of efforts as they work to support BIPOC communities that have been excluded from conversations and power. Seattle Foundation continues to think about the alignment and coordination to move funders to focus and invest in community power.

Rox added that King County also has a lot of aligned initiatives that are working towards similar outcomes of COO and is looking to find ways to coordinate, collaborate, and compliment these efforts. Kirs shared that because funders can be hesitant to work/fund the public sector, the duplication of these efforts can be beneficial because of the benefits of working within and outside of the government.

Joy added comment of appreciation to the insight to the challenging conversations with donors. While Governance Group understands the importance of relationship building and Community Power, it is important to recognize that those who hold power and money may not be part of the grassroots needs of the community. It takes strategy to get these funders to understand these issues, and Governance Group continues to work to facilitate strategic partnerships and connections. What would be the strategies that could get Governance Group to address this need? Kris recognized that importance of bringing stories, especially when the overarching narrative from media is what is going wrong in communities rather than the good work occurring on the community level.

Joon-Ho added question regarding the alignment of finding balance between inclusive alignments within community with those who want independent power within community. Is there an anticipation to keep in mind these differences? Joon-Ho shared how some more mico-level COO approaches and structures can influence other departments in the public sector. Are there are supports or guidance from COO to support that type of dissemination? Considering that other organizations may be trying to reach funders, COO can facilitate these connections by guiding them and making sure they are successful.

Jackie added that COO has so many strategies and reaction to feedback and next steps. By adding more buy-in and understanding from Governance Group, it will support the efforts of these strategies. Does GG understand COO Core Concepts, Theory of Change, etc. enough to best bring this language to our communities and integrate into practice. The questions in the presentation help demonstrate how to strategize these concepts into action. Governance Group can use this model to ensure that these tactics are being utilized to reach long-term goals of community partners. At SURGE, they use down- up- mid-stream work, and will apply this to impact institutions and systems, as strategically this work needs to be intentional. How does COO as an institution anticipate addressing needs of a community, especially one that is disenfranchised in self-determination and power? We need a deeper analysis of all the factors of

power. A suggestion was made to create a power-analysis or power-map. These can be utilized from each direction, COO side and CBO side, to build better implementation.

Michael shared resonance with Jackie and Joy. He shared that he has seen the shift toward community power within COO explicitly and wants to understand what Governance Group can do to leverage this work?

Elsa concluded with appreciation from Rox and sharing context about the evaluation of COO's work in gathering stories and building narrative power. Each one-on-one conversation with Governance Group members was very aligned in Rox's results as well, and the purpose of the presentation is to ground Governance Group in language and concepts from COO and better understand how to elevate into conversations within our community.

Elsa shared updates on the GG Workplan, and based on this conversation she asks Governance Group to get specific as to what they need to do as a Board and how that can be implemented into this action plan and build a year of activities to implement community power? What is your role? What can we do?

Bilan shared appreciation and asked if COO hosted a meet-and-greet/community café/listening session that is cross-sector and brings in community members/grantees, staff, and possibly funders? Has there been an opportunity to gather and share their work, experience, and impact of funding on the community? If not, is there an opportunity to add? Elsa shared there have been member/grantee convenings and gatherings but not many with funders. Ubax shared that there had been an opportunity to share project updates to funders with the Seattle Foundation. Conversations around opportunity zones included impact Investors in attendance, but not all stakeholders. Matt shared that when there is a history of active community building and there have been years of experience from CBOs, funders may have more interest and relevance in this work overtime.

Bilan asked Elsa the process in building the workplan and how does Governance Group get involved in its development? Elsa shared that with so many minds, the best strategy is to gather as much information as possible in meetings (Governance Group and 1:1s) and integrate into the workplan. The plan is to build a first-draft and present to Governance Group for feedback. Elsa will be putting together a wok plan, bring to co-chairs to feedback, and then will be presenting at the next Governance Group meeting.

ChaCha asked what are the limitation for the Learning Community activities? Considering that many organizations support community youth, are there opportunities for the Learning Community to building resources for youth engagement, youth-friendly resources and grant-writing? Elsa responded that the Learning Community strategy was one that community partners felt strongly to continue and expand, however that was not reflective in how the funding was organized for COO 2.0. How do we make Learning Community bigger with this reality? There are opportunities to expand this strategy, however there will need to be some planful budget reallocations to do so.

Ubax asked is the funding allocation is final, or is there an opportunity to shift funding back to Learning Community based on the feedback of the Governance Group currently? Ubax added that KC EDI was proposing a convening by end of year, and wanted to confirm if COO was involved or is there an opportunity to be involved? How are we leveraging other funders from these groups? How are we bringing the Theory of Change and COO work to elected officials, old and new council members, to

understand the importance of investment regardless of the zip codes being directly impacted (as that may not align with their constituents)? Elsa acknowledged the challenges with council mentioned; she added that this will be included in the workplan and plan to include GG in the process early next year. Elsa wanted to make sure that when the workplan is presented, it is well prepared and aligned in COO visions and goals.

Rox shared that funding changes will need more info and will follow-up, but these findings are intended to change funding allocation as needed, while recognizing that this will impact other areas the funding is shifted from.

Matias added since he reengaged with COO, it has entered an exciting phase of planning and being proactive in what it wants to accomplish. King County is going through a transition as well, and it is easy to lose focus on some efforts if we are not intentional. We want to build a base around relationship building, community power, etc. but also wants to see a section on racial healing and transformation. Many jurisdictions are focusing on truth and transformation and King County wants to highlight the importance of deep-rooted analysis and explore how we need to continue to adjust our work to build those relationships in community. Rox added that the importance of explicitly focusing on healing of a community was heard through partner feedback as well.

Elsa acknowledged that this is a lot of information, and encouraged board members to reach out if they have any questions or comments. Presentation and recording will be sent to the group with questions that need to be answered by the group.

Next Steps

Review PowerPoint slides and Zoom recording; respond to questions sent by Elsa.

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 11:01 am.

Zoom Chat

08:43:51 From OWL - In-person meeting to Everyone:

Martha, can you hear us?

08:44:12 From Martha Guerrero to Everyone:

Yes thank you

09:07:34 From Agaiotupu's OtterPilot to Everyone:

Hi, I'm an AI assistant helping Agaiotupu I. Viena take notes for this meeting. Follow along the transcript here: https://otter.ai/u/8KIyiN3b9oGfUDbOcuauU2u9IrQ?utm_source=va_chat_link_1

You'll also be able to see screenshots of key moments, add highlights, comments, or action items to anything being said, and get an automatic summary after the meeting.

09:08:59 From dae shogren -she.they.we- to Everyone:

Please raise your Zoom hand if you have *NOT shared yet

09:09:46 From Roxana Chen (she/her) to Everyone:

Reacted to "Please raise your Zo..." with 👍

09:10:51 From OWL - In-person meeting to Cha Cha Sawyer (she/her)(Direct Message):

HI ChaCha, just doing introductions with name, pronoun, and your intention for the rest of summer. Raise your hand to indicate you haven't gone yet :)

09:11:03 From Cha Cha Sawyer (she/her) to OWL - In-person meeting(Direct Message):

Thanks for letting me know!

10:39:50 From Kris Hermanns (she/her) | SeaFdn to Everyone:

I think the question that Jackie raised is important as part of the work plan development-- How do we incorporate power analysis / power mapping to inform what tactics we prioritized.

10:42:03 From Roxana Chen (she/her), PHSKC, COO evaluator to Everyone:

Slide with questions to ponder/discuss

10:42:14 From Gloria Santiago to Everyone:

Me siento en un espacio de comunidad por la diversidad de lenguas y cultura

10:45:05 From Martha Guerrero Spanish Interpreter to Everyone:

I feel in a space for community diversity of languages and culture

10:58:37 From Roxana Chen (she/her), PHSKC, COO evaluator to Everyone:

closing with an image of the updated Theory Of Change to cue up future convos….

11:01:14 From Bilan Aden-ACHD to Everyone:

Thank you all!

11:01:34 From dae shogren -she.they.we- to Everyone:

and CHA CHA!