



KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

June 25, 2012

Resolution 12-07

Proposed No. 12-07.1

Sponsors

1 A RESOLUTION supporting collaboration in the
2 assessment of the health needs of King County
3 communities and the development of strategies to improve
4 community health.

5 WHEREAS, King County is home to many of the country's preeminent hospitals.
6 These hospitals protect and promote the health of King County residents through the
7 direct provision of medical services and through the advancement of medical research,
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Washington State Hospital Association advocates on behalf of
10 hospitals throughout the state and supports its members in achieving their missions and
11 improving the health of their communities, and

12 WHEREAS, Public Health - Seattle & King County is charged with protecting
13 and improving the health and well-being of all people in King County and is committed
14 to reducing health inequities, and

15 WHEREAS, King County hospitals have a long history of working to advance the
16 health of the communities they serve through the provision of "community benefits", and

17 WHEREAS, community benefits are programs or activities that promote health
18 and healing as a response to identified community needs. Examples of community
19 benefits include charity care, or unreimbursed medical care, community health education,

20 training and continuing medical education for community physicians, free clinics for low-
21 income persons, medical research, disease prevention programs and financial support of
22 community building activities such as low-income housing, job development and
23 violence prevention, and

24 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act put in place
25 comprehensive reforms to improve access to affordable health coverage, protect
26 individuals who already have health insurance and enhance the quality of care received,
27 and

28 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act also established
29 guidelines for the process by which hospitals should assess the health needs of their
30 communities to inform community benefit activities, and

31 WHEREAS, beginning in 2011, King County's hospitals came together in
32 partnership with one another, Washington State Hospital Association and Public Health -
33 Seattle & King County to share information about their work around community benefits
34 and to develop strategies to work together in their assessment of community health needs,
35 and

36 WHEREAS, King County is a national leader in developing community
37 collaboration among hospitals and public health, working to ensure community benefit
38 programs have the greatest impact on areas of need in King County, and

39 WHEREAS, a collaborative approach to community benefits has the potential to
40 avoid duplication of efforts and focus available resources on the community's most
41 important health needs;

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King
43 County:

44 A. The Board of Health commends King County hospitals, the Washington State
45 Hospital Association and Public Health - Seattle & King County for engaging in a
46 collective effort to improve the health of King County residents.

47 B. The Board of Health urges the King County community benefits partnership to
48 engage in community health needs assessments that solicit the input of underserved
49 communities.

50 C. The Board of Health urges the King County community benefits partnership to
51 invest in evidenced-based strategies, best practices and innovative programs to address

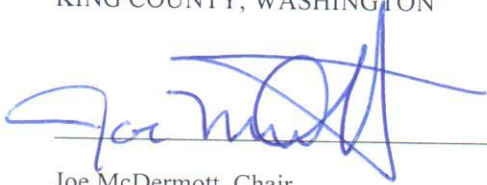
52 the greatest needs in our community, as identified by the community health assessments,
53 and in efforts to prevent and reduce disease and health inequities in King County.

54

Resolution 12-07 was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 6/21/2012,
by the following vote:


Yes: 12 - Ms. Frisinger, Ms. Cooke, Mr. Conlin, Ms. Patterson, Ms.
Lambert, Mr. Licata, Dr. Nicola, Dr. Danielson and Mr. McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Ms. Clark

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None