

Recommendation Principals Development March 2021

The IWG is in the process of developing a set of principles to apply to the programmatic recommendations they develop, such as the current work to develop Street Crisis Response Team Pilot recommendations. Each recommendation will be reviewed against these principles to ensure that they both are responsive to the ordinance and engender a racial equity lens.

Original principles	IWG considerations (from Feb meeting)	IWG Feedback (from Feb post-meeting survey)	Final suggested recommendation
Reflect evidence based best practices, data, research, and a comprehensive needs assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the issue which interconnect to mental health, homelessness, drug use, racial experiences, living in violent environments of drug dealing and crime, prison reform and re-entry into society. • Identify communities most in need and services in those communities • Community-based best practices that reflect that community of focus for MHSF • Inclusive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect evidence and community based 	Reflect evidence and/or community based best practices, data, research, and a comprehensive needs assessment.
Prioritize mental health or substance use services for people in crisis or experiencing homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define mental health in relation to MHSF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize mental health and/or substance use services for people in crisis or experiencing homelessness. • I do believe we had an agreed upon change of language to this • It is equally important to assist individuals who are on the verge of losing their housing due to behavioral health issues. • Crisis is broad term- accessing emergency services PES? 	Prioritize mental health and/or substance use services for people in crisis.
Provide timely and easy access to mental health and substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • or at-risk of prevention and early intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance use treatment 	Provide timely and easy access to mental health and substance use treatment (low barriers to services).

Original principles	IWG considerations (from Feb meeting)	IWG Feedback (from Feb post-meeting survey)	Final suggested recommendation
abuse treatment (low barriers to services)			
Facilitate friendly, nonjudgmental services, and treat all patients with dignity and respect	<i>[Did not get to during meeting]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create welcoming, non-judgmental treatment programs/spaces where all patients are treated with dignity and respect. • equity 	Create welcoming, nonjudgmental, and equity-driven treatment programs/spaces where all patients are treated with dignity and respect.
Respect the rights of people who engage in illegal, self-harming, harmful or stigmatized behaviors, and work with patients to minimize the physical, social, emotional, and economic harms associated with these behaviors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to harm reduction without putting public in harm's way (get more information from authors to better understand the intention of this principle) • Caveat: this does not stigmatize and exclude individuals with special needs- serves as a reminder to prevent denial of services and treatment for all individuals who need services and treatment in a dignified manner • Commit to using non-stigmatizing language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect the rights of everyone to access treatment. No one should be turned away because they engage in illicit, self-harming, harmful or stigmatized behaviors. Service providers should not engage in policing behaviors. A priority should be placed on harm reduction principles that reduce the physical, social, emotional and economic harms in every person's life. • To be consistent, either use patients or people. • I would be willing to accept this with a legal explanation of what this means, and with the inclusion of involuntary treatment and conservatorship. 	<p><i>Break out into two recommendations:</i></p> <p>Respect every person's right to access treatment and no one turned away for their engagement in illicit, self-harming, harmful or stigmatized behaviors.</p> <p>Prioritize the use of harm reduction principles and actively disengage from policing behaviors.</p>
Maintain an adequate level of free and low-cost medical substance use services and residential treatment slots, commensurate with the demand for such services	<i>[Did not get to during meeting]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I need more clarification to what this means 	Maintain an adequate level of free and low-cost medical substance use services and residential treatment slots, commensurate with the demand for such services.

Original principles	IWG considerations (from Feb meeting)	IWG Feedback (from Feb post-meeting survey)	Final suggested recommendation
Facilitate the integration of mental health and substance use services to ensure that patients experience treatment as one seamless and completely coordinated system of care, organized around their individual needs	<i>[Did not get to during meeting]</i>		Facilitate the integration of mental health and substance use services to ensure that patients experience treatment as one seamless and completely coordinated system of care, organized around their individual needs.
	Add a recommendation to focus on equitable behavioral health practices across the BHS system of care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have no idea what this means?? maybe they mean, Create equity in behavioral health care across the BHS system of care. • I'm not sure what this means. 	<i>[Suggest not including this because it's embedded in all other recommendations]</i>