



Budget Fact Sheet – Public Health

Seattle continues to partner closely with King County to invest in evidence-based approaches to public health. The 2025-2026 Proposed Budget includes new funding to respond to the opioid crisis, provide appropriate and rapid emergency response, support survivors of sexual exploitation, and address youth mental health.

In 2025, Mayor Harrell is proposing to invest over \$32M total in public health programs and initiatives, with \$14.5M specifically dedicated to addressing the opioid crisis – nearly a threefold increase in spending over 2024. The 2025 proposed budget maintains funding for an array of youth focused investments including mental health supports, violence prevention and interruption, and mentorship and development programs. The budget maintains funding for our substance use disorder treatment, detox, and overdose response resources and adds new facilities and expanded teams.

The City’s public health efforts include our support for and close partnership with Public Health – Seattle & King County, funding for youth mental health across the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) and Seattle Parks & Recreation (SPR), investments in services and treatment with the Human Services Department (HSD), and overdose response efforts by our Seattle Fire Department (SFD).

The proposed 2025 budget invests \$15 million in additional Payroll Expense Tax funds in youth mental health, an urgent community priority.

Highlights of new investments in the 2025 proposed budget include:

Youth Mental Health

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$7.6M	Increase in-person mental health support through existing School-Based Health Centers and add a mental health clinician and a mental health coordinator at all centers at 21 middle and high schools in partnership with Public Health Seattle King County. (DEEL)
\$5.9M	Offer evidence-based online therapy for youth, expand mental health screening to high schools and rapidly connect them with care, and improve prevention and early identification through the Reach Out initiative. (DEEL)
\$1.1M	Expand youth access to nature with programming at the City-owned Red Barn Ranch property and create a "Youth Connector" platform to improve mental health supports and program awareness and reduce barriers to access. (SPR)
\$380K	Staffing support to manage implementation, reporting and evaluation of the mental health initiative. (DEEL)

Substance Disorder Response

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$460K	Mobile Integrated Health Program Expansion (Health One and Health 99) to increase service delivery, expand operational hours and capacity, and conduct patient follow-up and recovery system navigation. (SFD)

\$325K | Fund staff support and oversight of work to respond to opioid crisis including staff to lead public health related work and Opioid Abatement Council. (HSD)

Enhancing Treatment Options

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$5.7M	Establish the Opioid Recovery & Care Access (ORCA) center, a new post-overdose stabilization and care facility at DESC's Morrison hotel in Pioneer Square using federal community development block grant.
\$2.9M	Provide dedicated detox and inpatient treatment bed capacity for those with substance use disorder as part of pilot with Valley Cities Recovery Place Seattle using opioid settlement funds.

