




City Manager/General Manager | 334 Front Street, Ketchikan AK 99901 | (907)228-5603

TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM

TO:	The Honorable Mayor & City Council	Initials:	
FROM:	Lacey G. Simpson, Acting City Manager	File #:	MGR25-289
DATE:	April 30, 2025	Mtg. #:	05/15/25 FYIb
RE:	2025 Q1 Community Agency Grant Report from Ketchikan Wellness Coalition		

Attached for the City Council's information is a grant report from Ketchikan Wellness Coalition, a 2025 community agency grant recipient.



KWC Administrative Expenses

KWC's Logistics Coordinator continues to play an essential role in supporting the operational needs of the organization. This position ensures smooth implementation of key community-based initiatives, including non-staffed task forces and large-scale projects such as the GooseChase community scavenger hunt, Food Forest, and Community Gardens.

As KWC grows in scope and impact, the need for coordinated logistics and programmatic support has become increasingly critical. The Logistics Coordinator contributes significantly to KWC's efficiency by streamlining planning, communication, and resource allocation—helping ensure timely delivery of services and programs that benefit the entire community.

KWC remains dedicated to strengthening its organizational infrastructure to support coalition-building efforts, improve service coordination, and advance overall community well-being. Our commitment to sustainability and continuous improvement is foundational to the coalition's ongoing impact.

Goal 1: Continue to Highlight and Honor the Diverse Groups of People and Cultures That Make Up Ketchikan

Identifying and Addressing Community Needs

KWC continues to grow as a community data hub, offering accessible and relevant insights to support planning and decision-making across sectors. In Q1, KWC partnered with PeaceHealth on the completion of its Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), contributing local expertise and data interpretation to inform health priorities.

In parallel, KWC is actively maintaining and updating its Community Epidemiology Report with support from the Data Advisory Group (DAG). The group plays a key role in ensuring that collected data is accurate, current, and contextually meaningful for our region. These efforts help shape community-wide strategies that are evidence-based and responsive to real needs.

Strengthening Cultural Unity & Community Engagement

KWC continues to champion cultural celebration and inclusion, with a strong emphasis on elevating Filipino heritage within the broader Ketchikan community. As we prepare for the 5th Annual Fil-Am Festival, we have coordinated travel and training for cultural instructors who will offer dance workshops and engage youth in health equity programming.

In June, KWC will host a Youth Health Equity and Prevention Summit, focused on education, empowerment, and inclusion. This summit will bring together young people from across the community to build knowledge, connections, and a shared commitment to healthy futures.

Goal 2: Support Community Initiatives/Partnerships and Task Forces

Strengthening Community Partnerships for Increased Impact and Capacity

Partnerships are central to KWC's mission. This quarter, we collaborated with the Ketchikan Fire Department to deliver Naloxone (Narcan) training to local businesses. A total of six sessions and one community-wide discussion were conducted, helping expand knowledge of overdose prevention and response strategies.

KWC continues to convene monthly Community Action Plan (CAP) meetings, which provide a vital space for service providers to share resources, address system-level barriers, and reduce service duplication across the community.

Our Data Analysis Group reviewed key findings from the updated epidemiology report and is preparing to release these insights through a quarterly community newsletter, with the goal of making public health and social data more digestible and actionable.

KWC is also an active partner in both the SeaLevel youth leadership project and the implementation of the Icelandic Prevention Model in Ketchikan. We are proud to support and collaborate with RYC (RYC Youth Services), which is leading implementation efforts. While KWC is not the lead agency for this initiative, we provide vital coordination and communications support to ensure its success.

Expanding Community-Based Initiatives: Reentry Housing and Food Security

KWC's six-bedroom reentry house remains fully occupied, with ongoing case management services supporting successful transitions back into the community. In Q1, KWC secured an additional \$60,000 in state funding through the Alaska Mental Health Trust to support housing stability, utility coverage, and critical support services for justice-involved individuals and other trust beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the Food Forest and Community Gardens are entering a busy and productive season. As spring begins, these community assets continue to grow in both yield and educational reach. KWC is focused on increasing local food system resilience and promoting community-grown produce to address gaps in food access and improve nutrition security.

Goal 3: Diversify Funding Streams and Establish a Long-Term Sustainability Plan

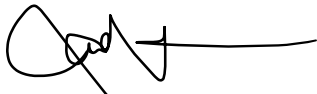
KWC continues to pursue a diversified funding strategy to ensure organizational sustainability and expand community impact. This includes actively seeking grants, strengthening donor relationships, and exploring new funding models such as community membership or sponsorship programs.

Major Grant Awards & Funding Successes (Q1)

- \$60,000 DIG Grant from the Alaska Mental Health Trust, supporting housing and services for reentry clients and trust beneficiaries in Ketchikan.

These funds enable KWC to maintain and enhance its reentry support system and reinforce our mission of promoting community health, equity, and resilience.

Sincerely,



Jackie Yates, Executive Director