

ACCELERATING 2GEN IN WASHINGTON STATE

Washington State Department of Social & Health Services
Economic Services Administration | Community Services Division

December 1, 2017 Final Report

SUMMARY

In December 2016, DSHS|ESA received \$66,800 to support the development and implementation of policies and programs that advance intergenerational economic security among Washingtonians. Specifically, DSHS|ESA committed to working with internal and external stakeholders to achieve the following goals: (1) support a state network conducive to advancing two-generation (2GEN) knowledge and understanding; (2) identify cross-system opportunities for policy and program changes that advance intergenerational economic success for families; and (3) pursue cross-system/agency 2GEN strategies through coordinated executive/legislative policy action, administrative changes, and improved service delivery that meaningfully improves the lives of parents and children together.

This final report describes accomplishments under the grant to date and plans for the coming year. DSHS|ESA will be requesting carry-forward of unspent grant funds to support continuing select activities in 2018.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GOAL 1: Support a state network conducive to advancing two-generation (2GEN) knowledge, understanding, policy, and programs.

2GEN legislation proposed. [HB 1482](#) was introduced in the 2017 legislative session. It aimed to: (1) expand the scope of the existing Joint Executive-Legislative WorkFirst Taskforce¹ to embrace the DSHS|ESA 2025 goal to reduce poverty by half in a way that eliminates disparities; (2) develop a data system and framework to measure 2GEN outcomes; and (3) create an advisory committee that reflected the demographic and geographic diversity of Washington state to advise the Taskforce. Though the bill did not pass, funding for the activities in HB 1482 was provided in both the House and Senate final budgets. Governor Inslee vetoed the proviso, opting instead to create an interagency workgroup on poverty reduction (see below).

Governor Inslee's creation of the Workgroup on Poverty Reduction. Governor Inslee issued a [Directive](#) on November 6, 2017 creating an Interagency Work Group on Poverty Reduction. The

¹ The Joint Executive-Legislative WorkFirst Taskforce (JT) was created in response to budget and policy changes following the Great Recession. It's focus has largely been on redesigning and tracking performance of Washington state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF, also known as "WorkFirst" in Washington state). Rather than creating a new entity, the legislation sought to leverage the existing LT and expand the scope to embrace the 2025 goal and a focus on intergenerational poverty.

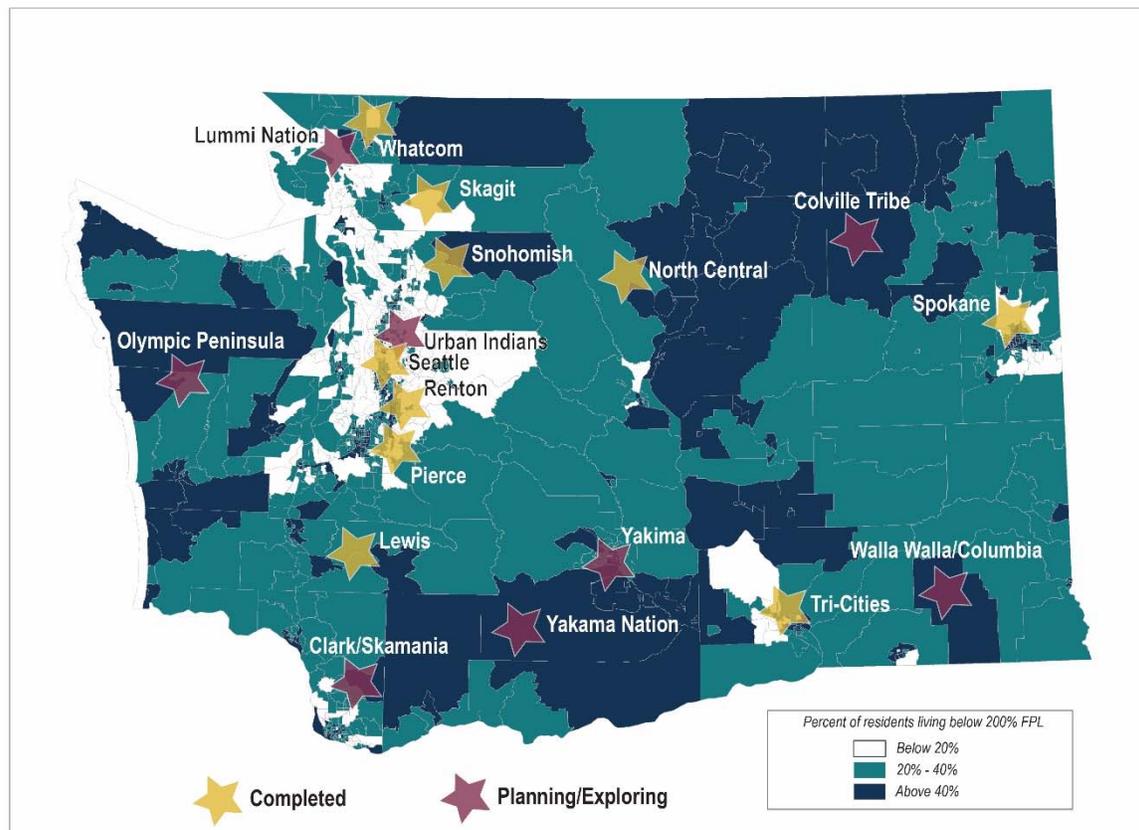
new workgroup – with representation from 10 agencies and legislators – will be co-lead by the Department of Social and Health Services, Employment Security Department, and Department of Commerce. The Governor has directed the workgroup to include the expertise of those most impacted by poverty in their efforts, as well as the expertise of other stakeholders, including those in academia, non-profits, philanthropy, and community-based organizations. Together, these groups will deliver a 10-year strategic plan to reduce poverty by September 1, 2018. They will focus on making progress in five areas that are essential to ensuring Governor Inslee’s vision for opportunity and success to pass from one generation to the next: early learning, K-12, and higher education; housing, health, and well-being; employment pathways; asset building; and social capital. These areas of focus were adopted from Ascend @ The Aspen Institute, of which DSHS is an official partner (see below).

Partnership with Ascend @ The Aspen Institute. DSHS|ESA became an official partner of Ascend in 2017, which has proved invaluable for accelerating Washington state’s 2GEN efforts. In June of this year, DSHS met with Ascend and the broader network of 2GEN partners in Washington state, and also hosted a meeting with Ascend, policy staff from Governor Inslee’s office, and the Department of Early Learning (DEL). Staff from DSHS|ESA, DEL and the State Board of Community & Technical Colleges participated in Ascend’s 2GEN Policymakers Institute (2GPI) held in October. While in Colorado for 2GPI, a team from DSHS|ESA conducted a site visit with Reggie Bicha and his team at the CO Department of Human Services to learn more about their 2GEN work. We will continue to leverage the partnership with Ascend as plans for the new poverty reduction workgroup evolve.

Regional listening sessions. DSHS|ESA has prioritized client and community engagement as we integrate 2GEN into our policy and program development. To fulfill this commitment, DSHS|ESA staff have conducted 10 regional listening sessions to understand the unique experience of economic hardship in the diverse communities across Washington state, and also learn about the innovative ways community-based organizations are serving their residents. So far, the following listening sessions have occurred:

- 6/30/17 Renton (South King County)
- 7/12/17 Skagit County
- 7/21/17 Seattle (King County)
- 8/28/17 Whatcom County
- 9/13/17 North Central (Okanagan, Chelan, Douglas counties)
- 9/27/17 Spokane (Spokane County)
- 9/28/17 Tri-Cities (Benton and Franklin counties)
- 10/11/17 Pierce County
- 10/24/17 Lewis County
- 11/28/17 Snohomish County

LISTENING SESSIONS COMPLETED & IN PLANNING



The selection of the site visit areas and partners was intentional. Census tract data on people with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty level identified communities with high concentrations of economic hardship. For each area identified, staff reached out to local partners with extensive local networks – including the 19 Community Foundations in Washington state, United Ways, Community Action Partners, and DSHS|ESA’s own Community Service Offices – to host a site visit and convene local leaders for the discussion. Each site visit is co-created with the community, and in some cases have included regional data walks conducted by DSHS staff to drive results-based discussions. In addition to the 10 sessions already completed, we have identified eight additional sites for listening sessions in 2018 (**see map**), including several with tribal nations (Lummi, Colville, and Yakama nations), the United Urban Indians of All Tribes, and at least one site visit with leaders in our diverse immigrant and refugee communities.

The forums have proven invaluable to DSHS’s 2GEN goals. Not only have we learned about promising programs unique to each community, but have also strengthened relationships and formed an evolving network of 2GEN partners to support the new directive from Governor Inslee (**see attached presentation**). Once the regional listening sessions are completed, DSHS will work with our community partners to host a statewide summit on 2GEN that highlights

community efforts especially promising for reducing intergenerational poverty among residents and building greater support for the state’s poverty reduction efforts.

GOAL 2: Identify cross-system opportunities for policy and program changes to advance intergenerational economic success for families.

DSHS|ESA has embarked on two major efforts to identify where a 2GEN lens can be intentionally integrated into our policy and practice:

- **2GEN policy review.** DSHS|ESA’s Community Services Division (CSD), which manages the policy and practice of the state’s major social benefit programs – TANF; Basic Food; Aged, Blind, & Disabled, and Working Connections Child Care eligibility – has conducted an initial review of how to integrate 2GEN into our work (**see attached matrix**). We continue to refine this list as our work on 2GEN evolves via our partnership with Ascend, with other state agencies, through the Poverty Reduction Work Group and our work in communities. This list will feed into poverty reduction strategies and legislative and budget requests.
- **2GEN and transforming case management.** DSHS|ESA|CSD is in the midst of an effort to transform our case management model to build effective, standardized case management practices and a social service business delivery model to implement the “Super Highway to Self-Sufficiency” (**see attached graphic**) through a 2GEN lens and support the 2025 poverty reduction goal. The project team recognizes that service delivery changes in concert with policy changes that are grounded in solid research, thoughtful implementation, excellent staff training, statewide change management, and embracing client voice will maximize success. The Transforming Case Management project is currently focused on evaluating learnings from our recently completed Systems to Family Stability Policy Academy pilots, our partnership with the Ascend network, along with many other initiatives and research related to poverty mitigation strategies.

Results from all of these initiatives will continue to inform DSHS|ESA’s long-term work to achieve the 2025 goal through executive/legislative policy action, program changes, and improved service delivery, which is already underway (see goal #3).

GOAL 3: Pursue cross-system/agency 2GEN strategies through coordinated executive/legislative policy action, program changes, and improved service delivery that meaningfully improve the lives of parents and children together, and in a way that achieves equity.

- **2GEN and the TANF/WorkFirst (TANF/WF) partnership.** The JT currently convenes all of the major partners connected to the TANF/WF program – Department of Commerce (Commerce), Employment Security Department (ESD), Department of Early Learning (DEL), and the State Board of Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC) – as well as legislators from the committees

with authority over the TANF/WF program – House Early Learning & Human Services Committee and Senate Mental Health, Social Services, & Housing Committee. The JT has staff support from a subgroup of agency secretaries, directors, and senior staff that advise the taskforce on policy and program development for the TANF/WF program.

DSHS/ESA has already begun to partner on 2GEN cross-agency/system strategies. Selected efforts include:

- › **Increasing access to high quality home visiting for families on TANF.** In partnership with DEL, DSHS|ESA is increasing access to home visiting programs for families participating in the TANF program (2GEN component: high quality early learning).
 - › **Improving career pathways for parents via the Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) program.** DSHS is working with SBCTC to accelerate the transition for parents receiving TANF to the BFET program, which removes programmatic barriers for parents pursuing a degree while still providing them with food assistance and child care for their children (2GEN component: higher education and career pathways).
 - › **Co-location of public health nurses at CSOs.** Public health nurses are co-located in several CSO's to support parents with children that have special health needs and First Step services for families that are pregnant or have newborns (2GEN component: health and well-being).
 - › **2GEN pilot in Yakima Valley.** DSHS is leveraging Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act discretionary funds and our partnership with the Workforce Development Council in Yakima, WA to support vocational skill-building for working adults that have been or at risk of being displaced, while also providing parenting support and connections to services for children (2GEN component: career pathways)
 - › **Revisions to TANF assessment tools.** The comprehensive evaluation for families entering the TANF program has been revised through a 2GEN lens, and has a more targeted focus on assessing the needs of the entire family and including children in the goal-setting process for the family (2GEN components: health and well-being; employment pathways; asset-building).
 - › **Braiding TANF, SNAP Education, and Community Based Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention funds to increase capacity for group-based parenting education and support.** Parents will have greater access to resources in their community that promote childhood education, nutrition, breastfeeding, and child development and parental bonding (2GEN components: high quality early learning; social capital).
- **Workgroup on Poverty Reduction.** The recently formed workgroup – which will advise the current Joint Taskforce highlighted above – will now serve as the main vehicle by which our 2GEN policy ideas are developed. On November 22, DSHS leadership met with Governor Inslee to thank him for his support of poverty reduction and begin discussion on forming the work group, including appointment of membership, strategies for including local communities, and staffing.

In the coming weeks we will also work with other agency leaders, and advocates on how to get started. There is significant opportunity to incorporate a 2GEN lens across systems and agencies, as: (1) the Legislature recently passed legislation to create the Department of Children, Youth, & Families at the request of the Governor. The new agency will be advised by a newly-created Office of Innovation & Alignment that is charged with aligning outcomes for kids and families across agencies and systems; and (2) the directive from the Governor lends us the opportunity to extend the incorporation of the 2025 goal and the promotion of intergenerational opportunity and success beyond DSHS|ESA. DSHS|ESA will continue our efforts with existing partners to incorporate 2GEN into our policies and programs, but will also be leveraging this new opportunity to deepen the state's commitment to families at risk of intergenerational poverty.

SUSTAINING THE ACCELERATION OF 2GEN IN WASHINGTON STATE

Spending and Request to Carry Over Funds

DSHS/ESA has completed the above planning and work spending only a portion of the grant. There are several reasons for the unspent funds:

- ***In-kind support for listening sessions.*** Recall that we did a mid-course correction and decided to host listening sessions throughout the state (as opposed to five large forums) to better understand the root causes of poverty in different communities, as well as the bright spots that we should be aware of for our policy and practice. As mentioned above, we have done 10 listening sessions to date and are planning eight more. The listening sessions are time intensive and subject to the inherent challenges of co-created agendas and scheduling, but have been less financially resource intensive due to the unexpected in-kind support many of our community partners have provided to host the events (space, facilitation, etc.) As a result, we have not spent as much as we initially thought. However, we have also received many additional requests to hold data walks and listening sessions in other communities. We would like to carryover funds to complete the listening sessions and conduct additional data walks (e.g., see attached data walk for Spokane), which will use the remainder of these funds.

We request \$20,279 (\$4,488 for travel; \$6,000 for remaining listening sessions; \$7,791 for materials/supplies; and \$2,000 for client focus groups) in carryover to complete the remaining listening sessions and conduct additional regional data walks.

- ***Formation of advisory group for Governor's workgroup.*** We had anticipated the formation of a group sooner than now, as legislation (HB 1482) had been moving with bipartisan support throughout last session. While it took longer, we believe the Governor's new Interagency Workgroup on Poverty Reduction is a stronger model to work from, with significant opportunity to embed equity into its DNA, as well as the voices and influence of those experiencing poverty. Our grant indicated that resources would be used to support equity and community voice in this

work – we want to follow-through on our original intention and be thoughtful in our approach to including community partners and people with low incomes in the work (the relationships we have built through our listening sessions have provided a strong foundation to build from).

We are requesting \$20,726 in carryover to support the leadership and development of Governor Inslee’s Interagency Workgroup on Poverty Reduction.

- **Future 2GEN summit.** We plan to host a statewide summit focused on advancing intergenerational opportunity and success. The forum will be co-created with community partners – focusing on the community bright spots we have learned about through our listening sessions – and support the development of a more formal state/community (public/private) partnership to reduce poverty. A summit will also serve to influence/frame the efforts of the Poverty Reduction Workgroup and coalesce public/private partners toward shared results for kids and families.

We are requesting \$20,216 in carryover to support a statewide summit.

Final spending-to-date and request for carryover is included in the following table and narrative:

| PROPOSED BUDGET | Projected Expense | Actual Expense 2017 | Request for Carryover |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Salary Personnel | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Fringe Benefits | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Materials & Supplies | \$ 7,971 | \$ - | \$ 7,971 |
| Travel | \$ 7,971 | \$ 3,483 | \$ 4,488 |
| Additional Line Item: Regional Forums + Summit | \$ 30,132 | \$ 1,916 | \$ 28,216 |
| Additional line item: Workgroup Integernational Poverty | \$ 20,726 | \$ - | \$ 20,726 |
| Grand Total | \$ 66,800 | \$ 5,399 | \$ 61,401 |

**Only includes costs posted before September 2017. Additional listening sessions and data walks were conducted throughout October and November and have not been posted yet. .*

ADVANCING INTERGENERATIONAL ECONOMIC SUCCESS

2GEN Policy Development

DRAFT IDEAS

| ACCOUNTABILITY FOR INTERGENERATIONAL ECONOMIC SUCCESS | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <i>Goal: Stakeholders track and use data/research to continuously improve policy and programs that result in intergenerational family economic success for all Washingtonians.</i> | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Change the name and direction of the Joint Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Task Force to “Joint Legislative-Executive Taskforce for Intergenerational Family Economic Success” with the explicit goal of moving all families over 200% FPL | Establishing an entity to: (a) create a long-term vision and goals to increase intergenerational family economic security; (b) collect, track, and publish data on intergenerational poverty; and (c) create 5- and 10-year plans to increase intergenerational family economic success | NO | NO | YES | See RCW 74.08A.260 ; our interpretation is that this could be done without changing rules See HB 2518 for previous attempt at creating a state entity with this responsibility; fiscal note = \$271K Might want to explore adding OSPI, Department of Health and Health Care Authority . |
| Create an advisory committee to the Taskforce comprised of all racial and ethnic commissions, Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs, immigrant/refugee stakeholders, community-based organizations, advocates, individuals and families with low incomes, and other key stakeholders | Ensure that the story emerging from the data is accurate and told by the people represented by the data Policy proposals and planning are created in a way to achieve racial, ethnic, gender, and regional equity in outcomes; policy and programs are developed with the user experience in mind | NO | NO | YES | See RCW 74.08A.260 ; our interpretation is that this could be done without changing rules See HB 2518 for previous attempt at creating a state entity with this responsibility; fiscal note = \$271K |
| INVESTMENT, PLANNING, & INNOVATION | | | | | |
| <i>Goal: Policies and programs are informed by the best available evidence to measurably improve the social and economic well-being of families.</i> | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |

| <p>Create a "Social Benefit Investment/Innovation Fund", in which XX% of additional revenue and/or savings (e.g., from caseload decline) is contributed for the purposes of continuous improvement and preparedness</p> | <p>Improve the performance of social benefit programs in ensuring the provision of family basic needs and establishing a foundation for intergenerational family economic success; and</p> <p>Be adequately prepared for economic downturns/recessions</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>RCW 43.135.034 governs the creation of a fund. Some possibilities: (1) Modify the existing "Child and Family Reinvestment Account" – RCW 74.13.107. (2) Request modification or expansion of individual development accounts under RCW 74.08A.220. Also need revision of RCW 74.08A.341 (program constraints)</p> |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <p>OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE & SUSTAIN INCOME</p> | | | | | |
| <p><i>Goal: The combination of employment – when possible – and social benefits are enough to meet a family's basic economic needs and lay a foundation for children and parents to thrive.</i></p> | | | | | |
| <p>A. PROVISION OF BASIC NEEDS</p> | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| <p>Establish threshold that combined TANF + SNAP/FAP grant does not fall below XX% of 1996 value</p> | <p>Greater resources to meet basic needs</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>WAC 388-478 changes Recommend seeking revision of RCW 74.04.200, RCW 74.04.077 Major ITS changes</p> |
| <p>Eliminate the supplied shelter standard for receiving cash assistance</p> | <p>Greater resources to meet basic needs</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>Revise or repeal WAC 388-478-0005, 388-478-0010, 388-478-0015, 388-478-0027, 388-478-0033 ITS changes</p> |
| <p>Change current Assistance Unit rules to allow former step-parents to receive a child-only grant for former step-children</p> | <p>Greater resources to meet basic needs</p> <p>Keeps families together and supports sibling relationships</p> <p>Encourages non-custodial caregiving</p> | <p>LIKELY*</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>A case may be made that this is allowed under RCW 74.12.250 Appears to be already supported by WAC 388-454-0010 (3)(c) ITS change</p> |
| <p>Eliminate means-testing for non-parental caregivers</p> | <p>Greater resources to meet basic needs</p> <p>Keeps families together and supports sibling relationships</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>NO</p> | <p>Repeal RCW 74.12.037 with CA and ALTSA as stakeholders</p> |
| <p>Allow a percentage of child support collected to pass-through to custodial parents</p> | <p>Greater resources to meet basic needs</p> <p>Greater potential for engagement with non-custodial parent</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>DCS ITS changes</p> |
| <p>Allow SNAP clients greater flexibility in using funds to meet basic needs of families beyond food,</p> | <p>Allows parents the ability to best meet their basic needs (housing, child care, transportation, food, etc.)</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>YES</p> | <p>Think the "yes" in the legislation column refers to needing Federal regulation changes rather than state statutes.</p> |

| | Supports parents in teaching children how to use resources wisely and efficiently | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Create a standardized medical expense deduction for seniors and disabled individuals | | YES | NO | NO | [Need to know what program to identify the possible RCW or WAC changes] IT Changes |
| B. ONRAMPS TO EDUCATION & CAREER PATHWAYS | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Replicate the Jeremiah Program – a program for single mothers that provides campus-style housing for mothers and their children, and offers quality early learning | Increases mother’s education, a primary predictor of child well-being Includes enrollment in comprehensive early learning services, a predictor of school readiness for low-income children Intergenerational benefit for children and their parents Promotes family stability and economic success | NO | YES | YES | |
| Develop and/or expand peer mentoring programs (with paid mentors) for WorkFirst parents in college to improve retention and completion rates. | | NO | YES | YES | SBCTC and local colleges ITS change |
| Develop a program to streamline professional certification for immigrants/refugees with education/credentials from their country of origin | | | | | NEED SARAH’S INPUT |
| Increase resources and funding for educational opportunities beyond SBCTC, such as beauty schools and private colleges | | NO | YES | YES | Trade schools and private colleges ITS changes |
| Prioritize High School 21+ as avenue to diploma for TANF/WF/BFET clients yet to complete high school | Integrated, contextualized, accelerated learning that very effectively bridges HS completion and professional/technical degree programs | NO | NO | YES | Would involve new/enhanced referral pathways to K-12 support services in high schools and at community colleges |
| Open up work-based learning and apprenticeship opportunities for career-ready TANF clients in both the public and private sector (e.g., linking more strongly with L & I apprenticeship efforts as well as opportunities with commerce under WIOA) | | NO | YES | YES | Funding for apprenticeship and connecting with providers ITS changes |

| Modify support service rules to allow (books, tuition, etc.) older youth in TANF households (including non-needy) the use of support services in promoting and meeting educational needs (e.g., money for books, transportation to school, etc.) | | YES | YES | NO | Revise WAC 388-310-0700 and possibly other WAC 388-310 sections related to education ITS change |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Eliminate requirement that clients must use BFET funding for education as a last resort | Reduces debt that individuals accrue while completing education and employment training | YES | NO | NO | Approval from FNS |
| C. POST-EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Expand Diversion Cash Assistance to provide post-employment support (e.g., education, training, soft skills, and peer-to-peer networking) for cash grant recipients exiting to employment via BFET, Employment Pipeline, and/or IBEST | Encourages employment stability & career development Promotes family economic success Reduces likelihood of cycling | YES | YES | NO | RCW 74.08A.210 change Revise WAC 388-432-0005 ITS change |
| Use non-assistance TANF funds to gradually reduce cash-grant for clients within four months of exiting and up to employment up to 250% FPL | Encourages employment stability & career development Promotes family economic success Reduces likelihood of cycling | YES | YES | NO | RCW would be nice but believe can do this within existing authority; Assume this would be a general eligibility change, which would mean RCW 74.08.025 ITS changes |
| Expand Working Families Support to include post-employment support and fill in benefit gaps | Encourages employment stability & career development Promotes family economic success Reduces likelihood of cycling | YES | YES | NO | AGO has suggested an RCW for WFS but we do have the authority under existing RCW. IT changes |
| Prioritize people receiving TANF/WF/BFET for IBEST | | NO | NO | YES | Working with SBCTC and local colleges |
| Include people receiving BFET in the priority programs accessing child care services | Allows clients that are close to gaining employment the ability to stay in their programs & increase likelihood of getting a job | NO | NO | YES | If there was a waitlist, it would mean working families seeking child care subsidy would be on a waitlist longer |
| Formally articulate referral and priority for support of I-BEST for TANF/Work First, BFET. Provide legislative funding to support 1.75 FTE allocation for colleges, or, as moving to performance based, I-BEST specific funding for colleges. Funnel through WF as a line item to ensure TANF and BFET eligible get priority. | Increased educational attainment, skill building, living wage jobs and career progression | NO | YES | YES | |

| Exempt income from new employment for one year while on Basic Food program | | YES | YES | NO | FNS approval of demonstration, waiver or other state funds. |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Increase the length of retention services for people receiving BFET from 90 days to one year | | YES | NO | NO | FNS approval of project or other state funds. |
| D. ASSET-BUILDING | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES (Provide specifics on what changes are needed to the best of your ability. If you know are unsure of specifics, just add TBD) |
| Fund the state-level EITC currently in statute and offer an option to automatically deposit into child a savings account, 529 account, or retirement account | Encourages asset-building | YES | YES | YES | Commerce currently has responsibility for IDA program. This could be expanded to include these other types of account. ITS changes |
| Raise the vehicle asset limit for cash grant recipients to \$10,000 | Promotes family economic stability and allows for asset-building | YES | YES | NO | Revise RCW 74.04.005 and WAC 388-470-0070 |
| OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE COST-OF-LIVING | | | | | |
| <i>Goal: Social benefits support high quality, affordable housing, child care, and health care infrastructure so all Washingtonians can meet basic needs.</i> | | | | | |
| E. AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Eliminate the cap for Working Connections (currently set at 33,000) and fund based on caseload forecast, including BFET clients | Ensure access to assistance in paying for child care for families working or preparing for work. Ensure children have good quality care that supports their development and school readiness | NO | YES | NO | Cap is informal and not mandated by statute. No additional coordination beyond current partnership with DEL |
| Expand child care services for homeless families across the state | Ensure access to assistance in paying for child care for families that are homeless. Ensure children have good quality care during a time of high family stress. Ensure parents can do the work needed to find shelter and permanent housing knowing their children are cared for. | NO | YES | YES | Homeless child care is currently authorized by shelter providers and arranged through Child Care Aware. |
| Expand extended-day full-year ECEAP slots and raise income limit to 200% FPL | | YES | YES | NO | No more than current level of partnership with DEL. |

| | Access to high quality comprehensive pre-school shown to improve outcomes for low-income children. Extended day ECEAP enables working parents to have their children cared for all day in one location and provides additional hours of enriched care for children. | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| F. SAFE, STABLE, & AFFORDABLE HOUSING | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Index cash grants based on 80% of rent for a one bedroom by region | Makes housing more stable and affordable | YES | YES | YES | Would have to have regional data on housing costs. Revising RCW 74.04.200 and RCW 74.04.760 would be good – can't exceed need standard for household size WAC 388-478 changes ITS changes |
| Allow ABD recipients to access HEN services | | YES | YES | YES | Revise WAC 388-447 and 388-449 Cross agency work with Dept of Commerce |
| G. AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY HEALTH CARE | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Co-locate medical/nursing staff in CSOs to provide education and access to low-cost reproductive care and birth control and developmental screenings for children birth to 3, with appropriate referrals to health and early intervention services where indicated | To ensure low-income families have access to reproductive and pre-natal care. To ensure early detection and intervention to address health and developmental challenges. | NO | YES | YES | Additional collaboration with DOH and local health jurisdictions. This co-location was common in the past. There are still co-location sites in King County. |

| OPPORTUNITIES TO THRIVE | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Goal: Barriers to intergenerational family economic success are removed and replaced with policies that result in social inclusion and equity. | | | | | |
| H. HIGH QUALITY EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Expand evidence-based home visiting services statewide and allow it to count toward federal participation for WorkFirst parents. Expand capacity to serve families up to 200% of FPL or with other risk factors. | Increased access for low-income families to evidence based home visiting services that improve outcomes for children and, in some models, parents. | NO | YES | YES | Doesn't meet the federal criteria for participation that counts under current law. Counts as participation that matters and is an approved activity. |
| I. HEALTH & WELL-BEING | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Expand DBHR/CSD pilots that provide counseling services to TANF recipients (parents and children) with a mental health issue that are seeking employment or trying to maintain employment | Overcome barriers to employment Promotes family stability & economic success | NO | YES | YES | Would need to work with DBHR and local mental health providers to expand beyond current pilots. |
| Conduct universal newborn screenings, with referral to appropriate follow-up services where indicated | Early detection/intervention & long-term cost-savings Lays a foundation for future child and family well-being | LIKELY | YES | YES | |
| J. SOCIAL CAPITAL & LIFE SKILLS | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Expand the Getting Ahead program statewide | Peer-to-peer networking Builds social capital & confidence Strengthens communities Increases likelihood of family economic success and stability | NO | YES | YES | Cost of training staff on going and educational materials. |
| Assign a navigator – an independent client champion – to assist parents and children in | | NO | YES | YES | Depending on whether this was an outside provider or done within existing staff. |

| finding resources, building confidence, and fulfilling responsibilities | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Provide support services to youth in TANF & SNAP households for participation in extracurricular activities (e.g., sports, music, art) | Builds human/social capital & life skills Better education outcomes | YES | YES | NO | Revise WAC 388-310-0700 and possibly other WAC 388-310 sections related to education ITS change |
| K. REMOVE BARRIERS/SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS | | | | | |
| STRATEGY | PURPOSE | Requires legislative or program change | Requires significant resources | Requires cross-agency work | NOTES |
| Structure WorkFirst case management to include coaching and connections to education, job training, employment, and retention strategies for former prisoners using opportunities via WIOA. Programs should include working on debt relief and assisting people with felonies to expunge their records or develop job connections that work with people who have had felony convictions. | | NO | YES | YES | Would require resources and training and working with the court systems. |
| Fund workforce development programs to provide comprehensive case management, coaching, job development, and educational retention/reentry services for youth in/aging out of foster care to be jointly administered between DSHS and WF Development partners (i.e., ESD, OSPI/CTE, and SBCTC) | | NO | YES | YES | Partnership collaboration as well as resources and training |
| Require more dedicated time with clients and cross-train caseworkers across health and human services, early learning, and workforce development | Improved knowledge of community resources leads to improved referrals leads to better services for clients leads to better outcomes for clients | NO | YES | YES | Resources and training |
| More opportunities to expand times DSHS case managers can spend connection with and coaching clients-coaching as standard optional component. | | NO | YES | YES | Resources and training |
| Fund workforce development navigators across the system – beyond resources and to include engagement and connectivity/ capacity building strategies. | Alignment with WIOA | | | | |
| Institute statewide, consistent life skills (such as Strategies for Success) for all CSD clients in workforce related activities or in process of preparing to enter job seeker or education and training activities. Curriculum to be informed by | | NO | YES | YES | Would require policy change but not WAC or RCW. Working with partnership to develop one life skills that could be used statewide. There are many developed across the partnership. |

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|---|--|----|-----|----|--|
| NEAR and executive function informed capacity building and goal setting. | | | | | |
| Provide regular case-management contact and referrals to services for caregivers and children in TANF child-only households | Keeps families together and supports sibling relationships Encourages non-custodial caregiving Supports healthy development of an additional 21,000 children | NO | YES | NO | |

Self-Sufficiency Model

