



CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING TASK FORCE

JANUARY 24TH, 2022

Present: Alicia Hanning, Annie Taylor, Astrid Newell, Beverly Porter, Brian Nelson, Carol Frazey, Debbie Ahl, Escarleth DeLeon, Jed Holmes, Jen Wright, Keith Montoya, Komal Shah, Mary Sewright, Melissa Isenhardt, Mike Ford, Monica Koller, Samya Lutz, Sterling Chick, Urvasi Graham, Vesla Tonnesson, Yarrow Greer

Not Present: Anne Granberg, Chris Cochran, Gregory Hansen, Jamie Desmul, Mara Kelley, Ray Deck, Rosalva Santos-Guzman, Sarah Cook, Sativa Robertson

Topic	Discussion/Outcome
<p>Welcome</p>	<p>Introductions, land acknowledgement, housekeeping and review of agreements. Members were asked if willing to share how their weekend was spent.</p> <p><u>Land Acknowledgement:</u> I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are here today on the ancestral homelands of Indigenous Peoples who have lived in the Salish Sea basin and the North Cascades watershed from time immemorial, in particular, the Lhaq'temish (LOCK-tuh-mish) people who we recognize today to be the Lummi Nation, the Nooksack Tribe, and Semiahmoo. May we be mindful of the inherent owners of this land, our children, who are our future. Our future stewards of the land and advocates for the generation to come. May that truth guide our work and efforts to improve the well-being of all families and children, native and non-native, living in this beautiful county. This land acknowledgment is not meant to be a substitute for authentic relationship-building and understanding. It is meant to introduce us to one way we can show respect and honor for the sacrifices of the first people of this land. Please join me in expressing the deepest respect for our indigenous neighbors, and gratitude for the enduring stewardship of our shared lands and waterways. Congratulations to the Ferndale School District on adopting a formal land acknowledgement, produced by Children of the Setting Sun: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTW8dXvEq4c Donations can be made to Children of the Setting Sun: https://settingsunproductions.org/ This is a map of all the native lands: https://native-land.ca/</p> <p><u>Agreements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and self-care come first. • Be kind and gentle with yourself and others and assume everyone is coming from a positive place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Everyone has the best intentions. ○ Listen with an open mind and heart. • Be mindful of this space. Step-in and step-out/Step-up and step-back. Offer your truth and insights and listen to others' truths and insights. • Treat each other with honor and grace. We are all working under difficult circumstances. • Embrace diversity. Remember that we all come from different backgrounds giving us different perspectives and only when we embrace that diversity can we develop creative solutions to address the child and family well-being needs in Whatcom County. • What is said here stays here. • Have fun. <p>Fist to Five Consensus Tool</p>



<p>Approve Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>No amendments to discuss. Minutes from January 10th, 2022 were approved as presented.</p>
<p>Upcoming events, community shares, shout outs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link provided for anyone able to volunteer for emergency staffing at Lummi Nation School to include substitute teachers, paraeducators, bus drivers, and other support staff. Apply at the link: https://forms.gle/hn3JsmDxyANTSMq56 • Whatcom County Council will be talking about resolution around permanent affordability of child care in Whatcom County. The information from this task force will be in exhibit A. Access is available at this link: https://whatcom.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4889896&GUID=F64D33AE-158B-46E5-BE29-BF13C79998DE • Parent Leadership Training Institute registration is open. Engages parents voices in community work: https://www.wafamilyengagement.org/parentleadership.htm
<p>Task Force Orientation Handbook Draft</p>	<p>The co-chairs are working on an orientation handbook for current and incoming task force members. The following link was provided for review, and a request for feedback and input.</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4f0T1aCfOinNPPSjuSr9aN1ggadVFDY91rUciFiuPU8PiRq/viewform</p>
<p>Task Force Report to Council</p>	<p>A timeline proposal was shared for the task force to meet the deadline for the next report to Whatcom County Council. The template within the timeline provides opportunity for each group to shape the recommendations they have been working on. A review of workgroups, along with identifying their ongoing goals, will be conducted with an opportunity for feedback.</p> <p>Review timeline https://docs.google.com/document/d/1626fyoQfvi8PL2HxTquV1giz0nkXPjnD/edit</p> <p>The members were asked to vote using Fist to Five Consensus on accepting this proposed timeline/template. This was conducted visually, with a few members indicating their agreement via chat. It was accepted as approved.</p>
<p>Proposed Hiring and Job Description Input for County Positions Connected to Children and Families</p>	<p>Whatcom County is creating new positions to build out the needed infrastructure to prioritize children and families. The Executive’s Office had made a proposal about a couple of positions. Community groups have met with the Executive’s Office to discuss how to contribute input about the positions. Two have been identified as being close to ready to fill: a Child Care Program Specialist and a Child and Family Manager. The management position will help with connecting community priorities and county government. The budget was approved, and a commitment was made to the community to involve them in the shaping of these job descriptions.</p> <p>The Resources and Funding Workgroup made the recommendation for the Child Care Program Specialist position. The Children and Family First Workgroup is working on infrastructure recommendations that impact the Child and Family Manager position. A proposal was made that these two workgroups review the job descriptions first in order to synthesize recommendations before bringing it back to task force as a whole. The Specialist position is closest to being ready to fill. Link to the program specialist job description: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1k0h3h-m1fGhqNQF1LU3JwjlGmx4qYoUrWcLwWqCVXHg/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>Members were asked to vote using Fist to Five Consensus on this proposal: to have the job description sent out to the task force with a request for feedback. The Resources and Funding Workgroup will be responsible synthesizing the feedback and bringing it back to the task force as a whole.</p>

	<p>1. Fist to Five Consensus Vote (Single Choice) *</p> <p>21/21 (100%) answered</p> <p>Fist (0/21) 0%</p> <p>One (0/21) 0%</p> <p>Two (0/21) 0%</p> <p>Three (3/21) 14%</p> <p>Four (7/21) 33%</p> <p>Five (11/21) 52%</p> <p>It was accepted as approved.</p>
<p>Meeting Feedback - Members</p>	<p>This link is a way to capture feedback on the meeting, and provide input on agenda items. This will be available through Wednesday.</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf59ubhjlYXFZQJa0pXGcQQ5HhwJ1jamGFzjQLXS6-zZC1hKQ/viewform</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>No Public Comment</p>
<p>Closing</p>	<p>Adjourned at 4:37 PM</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next regular meeting: February 14th, 2022 <u>Location: Virtual</u></p>