



**CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING TASK FORCE**

NOVEMBER 14, 2022

**Present:** Anne Granberg, Sunshine Nelson, Beverly Porter, Carol Frazey, Sarah Kidd, Jamie Desmul, Jen Wright, Keith Montoya, Allison Bishop, Mary Sewright, Samya Lutz, Sativa Robertson, Sterling Chick, Vesla Tonnesson, Yarrow Greer

**Not Present:** Alicia Hanning, Escarleth DeLeon, Gregory Hansen, Kayla Schott-Bresler, Netta Darling, Melissa Isenhardt, Mike Ford, Monica Koller, Ray Deck, Rosalva Santos-Guzman, Sarah Cook

| Topic                                 | Discussion/Outcome   |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Welcome</b></p>                 | <p>Introductions, land acknowledgment, housekeeping, and review of agreements.</p> <p><u>Land Acknowledgement:</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Please join me in expressing the deepest respect for our indigenous neighbors, and gratitude for the enduring stewardship of our shared lands and waterways.</p> <p><a href="https://www.lhaqtemish.org/">https://www.lhaqtemish.org/</a> -Lhaq'temish Foundation</p> <p><u>Agreements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family and self-care come first.</li> <li>• Be kind and gentle with yourself and others and assume everyone is coming from a positive place.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Everyone has the best intentions.</li> <li>○ Listen with an open mind and heart.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Treat each other with honor and grace. We are all working under difficult circumstances.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• What is said here stays here.</li> <li>• Have fun.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Fist to Five Consensus Tool – Amended 4.25.22</a></p> |
| <p><b>Approve Meeting Minutes</b></p> | <p>No amendments to discuss. Minutes from October 10, 2022, were approved as presented.</p>  |



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| <p><b>Group Check-In – Healthy Children’s Fund Initiative</b></p> | <p>Jennifer provided update on Healthy Children’s Fund Initiative and stated it looks like it might not pass at this point. Stated the task force would not be necessary for overseeing it because it might not be in place.</p> <p>New members introduced themselves. Allie Bishop introduced herself as the Lead Teacher with the Whatcom Family Cooperative Preschool. Sarah Kidd introduced herself as a Family Support Specialist at Lydia Place.</p>  |
| <p><b>Healthy Children’s Fund Implementation Plan</b></p>         | <p>Vesla stated under the direction of the Health Department’s Director, Erika, the Health Department plans to create an Implementation Plan regardless of the outcome of the Healthy Children’s Fund Initiative.</p> <p><b>Role of the Task Force</b><br/>Allison presented update on the Healthy Children’s Fund Implementation Plan. Allison stated the roles of the Health Department are fund administrator and planning convener. The roles of the task force are to provide subject matter expertise and input and review on planning and evaluation. Allison stated whether the Healthy Children’s Fund Initiative passes or not, the Health Department plans on continuing the collaboration with the Child and Family Well-being Task Force.</p> <p><b>Implementation Plan overview, outline, and timeline</b><br/>Allison reviewed the Implementation Plan outline, the timeline, and the proposed criteria for funded strategies.</p> <p><b>Evaluation Section</b><br/>Amy Hockenberry introduced herself as the Assessment Supervisor for the Health Department. Amy stated she’s been asked to support the development of the evaluation section within the Implementation Plan and will provide an update on the evaluation plan overview today. She discussed the goals and approach, principles and equity, framework, evaluation elements, next steps in plan development, and task force involvement.</p> <p>Amy opened it up for questions and feedback. Sterling asked to see other counties they used as guides or to share which counties they are. Amy stated King County, Alameda County and Multnomah County. Allison will email information about these counties to the task force.</p> <p>The task force was asked for their initial thoughts and comments about what might be missing. A request was made to have the presentation to review first. It will be shared via email.</p> |
| <p><b>ARPA fund allocation letter (vote requested)</b></p>        | <p>Keith presented a <a href="#">draft letter</a> to send to Executive Sidhu regarding ARPA funds allocated to childcare.</p> <p>Samya stated she needs to abstain from vote due to her position with City of Bellingham.</p> <p>Several members had clarifying questions about parts of the letter. Vesla provided background regarding ARPA funds and recommendations from this task force. Sterling suggested that the task force vote to approve letter as it is written and if levy doesn’t pass come back to amend wording in letter to reflect this status.</p> <p>A vote was taken using Fist to Five to approve sending the letter. All votes cast were a 3 or above so it passed.</p>   |
| <p><b>Closing</b></p>   | <p>The 5:00 p.m. ballot count update indicated that the Initiative was still failing but ballots remained to be counted. Adjourned at 5:05 PM due to losing quorum.</p>   |
| <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>  | <p><b>Next regular meeting: December 14, 2022</b>                      <b><u>Location: Hybrid</u></b></p>   |