



CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING TASK FORCE

FEBRUARY 14TH, 2022

Present: Alicia Hanning, Anne Granberg, Annie Taylor, Beverly Porter, Brian Nelson, Carol Frazey, Debbie Ahl, Escarleth DeLeon, Gregory Hansen, Jamie Desmul, Jed Holmes, Jen Wright, Keith Montoya, Komal Shah, Mary Sewright, Melissa Isenhardt, Mike Ford, Ray Deck, Samya Lutz, Sterling Chick, Urvasi Graham, Vesla Tonnesson

Not Present: Chris Cochran, Monica Koller, Rosalva Santos-Guzman, Sarah Cook, Sativa Robertson, Yarrow Greer

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></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. 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>https://www.lhaqtemish.org/ -Lhaq'temish Foundation</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>



Approve Meeting Minutes	No amendments to discuss. Minutes from January 24 th , 2022 were approved as presented.
Upcoming events, community shares, shout outs	<p>Carol Frazey shared the resolution that this group contributed to passed on February 25th regarding permanent affordability of child care in Whatcom County</p> <p>Here is all of the documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://whatcom.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4889896&GUID=F64D33AE-158B-46E5-BE29-BF13C79998DE • Copy with tracked changes: https://whatcom.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10426857&GUID=FE0BE884-11DC-4552-BD08-1712C66BCBE4 • Final Resolution passed: https://whatcom.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10438624&GUID=E6199B0B-AF48-4429-A22A-9FB800B46C0F
Resource and Funding Group: Early Learning & Care Program Specialist Position	<p>The job description for the Early Learning & Care Program Specialist position was updated. Language was included about collaboration and a few other modifications. The job description was not readily available for this meeting.</p>
Creating a Ballot Initiative to Fund Children and Family Priorities – guest Heather Flaherty	<p>Heather Flaherty is the Executive Director of the Chuckanut Health Foundation, and is here to share a proposal for an ordinance to create a ballot initiative that would not only provide dedicated funding to support children and families, but also oversight, transparency, and accountability for this funding.</p> <p>A document was shared about the difference between lobbying versus advocacy and restrictions for task force members. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xR8-K-INZxSDpQr6jT2CvXjcVD0A1Aov/edit?usp=sharing&oid=103585603453735486108&rtpof=true&sd=true</p> <p>The question was asked whether the task force as a whole can vote to support a piece of legislation. Further research will be done and information will be provided to answer this question.</p> <p>Whatcom County’s Commitment to Children & Families presentation was shared by Heather Flaherty, Emily O’Connor, and Meredith Hayes. This included a timeline that led to this point in time to pursue new funding mechanisms to significantly increase local resources for well-being promotion and crisis prevention.</p> <p>Since the passing of the Child & Family Well-Being Action Plan in 2020, this task force was created, a fiscal analysis was conducted, a Community Health Improvement Plan is being finalized, community voice has been centered, and resources have been allocated towards children and families.</p> <p>Foundational to discussing a dedicated fund is identifying sources that cannot be reduced or redirected.</p> <p>This is a long multi-year process to build a sustainable outcome. The task force is being invited to participate and partner in crafting an ordinance rooted in equity and accountability.</p> <p>The task force members were asked to provide input on preferred methods to be kept up to date through a poll. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfi2XqIKykOEEU2jzMh1y8ANpqi2Jtp8bBI9YTEmXkB3gep5Q/viewform</p>
Upcoming Report to	<p>A template has been provided to task force members. The goal is to allow workgroups to adapt this to their needs. Space will be provided to allow workgroups to update the full task force at the next meeting. Workgroups were asked</p>

Council Discussion	to provide feedback if there are any specific supports needed to produce this report. The task force was invited to step forward and help collate and build the report for council.
Meeting Feedback - Members	This link is a way to capture feedback on the meeting, and provide input on agenda items. This will be available through Wednesday. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf59ubhjlyXFZQJa0pXGgQQ5HhwJ1jamGFzjQLXS6-zZC1hKQ/viewform
Public Comment	No Public Comment
Closing	Adjourned at 4:54 PM
<i>Next Meeting</i>	Next regular meeting: February 28th, 2022 <u>Location: Virtual</u>