

King County Youth Action Plan

Prepared for

*The Children, Youth, and Families of King County
The King County Council and King County Executive*

By

The King County Youth Action Plan Task Force

April 2015

Acknowledgements

The completion of this report would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of a number of individuals.

For her tireless effort drafting the final report in a way that recognized and brought together the full year of work put in by Task Force members and presenting it in a way that is accessible to all readers, we thank King County staff member Kelli Carroll.

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King County

Larry Phillips
Councilmember, District 4
Metropolitan King County Council

April 13, 2015

Dear Youth Action Plan Task Force members,

On behalf of the entire King County Council, thank you for your work to develop a Youth Action Plan.

King County government spends millions annually on a wide range of programs that influence youth at all stages, from birth to young adult, yet has lacked a single point of accountability or unified policy vision. In January 2014, the King County Council unanimously requested formation of a Youth Action Plan Task Force, diverse in membership and high in expertise, to take an in depth look at this issue. You answered that call and have invested significant amounts of time and energy in this task.

All voices, especially those of youth and the people who use our services, are needed to inform the County's work and investments of taxpayer resources. The thoughtful input from community members, youth, human service providers, and County staff that have shaped the Youth Action Plan is appreciated.

It is clear that there are barriers that prevent some children, youth and families in our county from realizing their full potential. We know that effective investments in children and youth help them to lead full and productive lives as adults, as well as decrease the numbers of people in our criminal justice system later on in life. We know that action is needed, and I look forward to your recommendations for improvements, opportunities, efficiencies, and gaps in services.

Thank you again for your tremendous work to develop the Youth Action Plan.

Sincerely,

Larry Phillips, Chair
Metropolitan King County Council, District Four



King County

Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

April 13, 2015

Dear Youth Action Plan Task Force:

I thank each of you for your hard work and commitment in developing a Youth Action Plan on behalf of the children, youth and families of King County.

The time and expertise contributed by the dedicated individuals who made up the Youth Action Plan Task Force have made this report possible. All 25 community leaders who participated contributed deep experience in what works for children, youth, and young adults, and led the development of the recommendations contained in this report.

The Youth Action Plan vision states that "King County is a place where everyone has equitable opportunities to progress through childhood safe and healthy, building academic and life skills to be thriving members of their community." This vision encompasses principles that guide the work of the County: a commitment to equity and social justice; community-driven problem-solving; and a focus on early investments in children and youth to ensure that all children in King County have the opportunity to succeed in life.

I am excited about the possibility and promise the Youth Action Plan holds to make us more deliberate and focused in the way we support children and youth across King County. What will success look like? First, our kids will be able to reach their full potential because we have invested early and often in their healthy development, as well as in their families and the communities in which they live and grow. Second, our communities will have ownership of the strategies that lead to sustainable solutions that work for their children over the course of their lives. And finally, we will end our over-reliance on crisis-oriented services and supports, because children and youth are thriving and prospering.

We are on the right path, and together we will succeed.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Quotes from Youth Survey

“Youth know what their problems are and usually how to cope with them, I think we need more communication, to be included more in the process. Maybe that means partnering with youth groups or talking to youth at events directly to hold conversations on issues effecting them, or maybe that means letting them know they do actually have rights.”

“If there are meetings with adult government representatives, it is important that our ideas are actually listened to and taken into consideration.”

“It is important to not select youth that are from only one socio-economic situation. While someone can be educated, they don't know the problems of all of their peers. There needs to be representatives from different neighborhoods.”

“Social media should be part of the process, but not the only form of communication, youth should be present, during topics/decisions that affect them, adults should be allies, but youth should be a part of it (Bill of Rights creation)”

Executive Summary

Ordinance 17738 - A Call to Action and the Youth Action Plan Task Force

In 2014, King County approved legislation calling for the development of a Youth Action Plan (YAP) to set King County's priorities for serving its young people, from infants through young adults. The Youth Action Plan is intended to guide and inform the County's annual investment in services and programs to ensure that all of King County's young people thrive. As required in the legislation, King County's Youth Action Plan was developed by an appointed Task Force comprised of representatives from a broad range of organizations and entities with substantial expertise and knowledge relevant to infants, children and youth. The Task Force encompassed a wide range of views and experiences, reflecting the diversity of its members' geographic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. The planning process brought together a team of leaders from all sectors to:

- Engage with communities and youth on the issues and challenges they face
- Identify barriers and potential solutions
- Agree on a comprehensive set of outcomes for King County government
- Recommend strategies to achieve those outcomes and measure progress

Fundamental Principles - The Task Force identified three fundamental principles that guided its work throughout the Youth Action Plan process and in turn, are embedded within each of its Youth Action Plan recommendations contained within this document. The Task force urges King County to reflect these principles in its policies, priorities, services, and programs moving forward. The Task Force asks readers of this document to keep these principles in mind as the document is reviewed.

1. ***The well-being of children and families and youth and young adults should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, or immigration status.*** Responding to the data and documented disproportionate outcomes that many King County residents experience, the Task Force finds that this principle must guide and inform all policymaking, funding, and service decisions in county government. This finding closely aligns with Ordinance 16948 which articulates King County's focus on the principles of fairness and justice embodied in the Countywide Strategic Plan. The Task Force finds that the County must prioritize eliminating disproportionate outcomes for its citizens.
2. ***Youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include diverse youth/youth voices in authentic and meaningful ways.*** Engaging youth (and young adults) is a powerful way for King County to move its work forward. The unique experiences and perspectives of youth and young adults make them valuable partners with King County as it creates and improves services and programs for youth and young adults. King County must develop and implement opportunities to involve diverse youth and the diverse voices of youth in decision making.

3. ***Policy development, services, and programming should intentionally incorporate voices of the people impacted by the policies and services in authentic and meaningful ways.*** Just as the previous fundamental principle recognizes that the voice of diverse youth has intrinsic value in the scoping and provision of services and policies that impact them, so too, should the County intentionally incorporate the voices of people impacted by its policies and services. The experiences and perspectives of those impacted by the County's policies and services, such as parents (of young children AND also parents who themselves are young) and caregivers, make them constructive collaborators with King County. Involving their perspective creates and improves services and programs, and will in turn, improve outcomes.

The Youth Action Plan Inspires Innovation - Best Starts for Kids

Best Starts for Kids is an evolving 2015 initiative under development by the King County Executive and the King Council for a prevention oriented regional investment that supports healthy development of kids, families and communities across the county. The Executive is working with a leadership circle of advisors, including representatives from the Youth Action Plan Task Force, to prepare a ballot measure to send to the King County Council for inclusion on the fall 2015 ballot. If passed by voters of King County, the ballot measure would provide an influx of new revenue and dramatically increase child, family and young adult well-being in King County. The Best Starts for Kids Initiative vision echoes the Youth Action Plan's vision. The Task Force recognizes that the Youth Action Plan and the Best Starts for Kids initiative share many of the same goals. The Task Force supports the vision articulated by the Best Starts for Kids initiative.

Background - Building on the Past

The mandate to create a Youth Action Plan was the latest in a series of planning and improvement efforts aimed at assisting children and youth that King County has funded and participated in since the 1960s.

In 2013 King County spent over \$162 million on a wide range of services and programs that influence youth at all stages of development, from birth to young adult. The county funded services and programs are provided across King County government by nine departments and agencies that contract with dozens of community-based organizations and local nonprofit organizations who, in turn, work in collaboration with each other, the County and other governments to serve children, youth and their families.

King County has not just provided resources, it has also demonstrated leadership. The County has adopted policies to directly guide or substantially influence services and programs aimed at children and youth, such as the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan, the Human Services Framework Policies, the Strategic Plan, and the County's "fair and just" legislation which is intended to further King County's intentional work of promoting fairness and opportunity and the elimination of inequities for residents of King County. The Youth Action Plan builds on this rich legacy and foundation.

How the Task Force Accomplished its Work - Approach and Methodology

Working for close to a year together and supported by a consultant (Forum for Youth Investment) specializing in partnerships and policies serving young people, the Task Force executed its work in stages to deliver on the requirements of Ordinance 17738. Early in the process, the Task Force conducted analytical assessments on a wide array of data and indicators (health, safety, academic) from a variety of sources. The Task Force then planned and executed a community and youth outreach strategy, holding five regional community conversations that included over 225 attendees, and conducted a survey of over 1,000 King County youth. Bringing its work to conclusion, the Task Force reviewed the data information collected, including the feedback from community conversations and youth surveys, through age group lenses (0-8, 9-15, 16-24) to develop, discuss, review, and identify their final recommendations.

Vision, Framework, and Core Principles - The Task Force hit the ground running and quickly accomplished three foundational tasks that influenced all aspects of the work of the group by establishing a vision, framework, and core principles. As required, the Task Force reviewed an earlier vision statement for the County's work serving children and youth. It made two important changes to the statement: 1) it incorporated **equity** into the statement, and 2) it emphasized **current** successes for children and youth, not only future success.

YOUTH ACTION PLAN VISION STATEMENT

King County is a place where everyone has equitable opportunities to progress through childhood safe and healthy, building academic and life skills to be thriving members of their community.

Next, based on research provided by the consultants, the Task Force established the Youth Action Plan (YAP) framework. The framework provided the Task Force with a consistent way to organize the many elements necessary to YAP planning and analytical processes, including information collection, stakeholder participation, strategy planning, and recommendation identification. The visual representation of the framework shows four interlocking gears, representing the four major components that communities need to improve youth outcomes. The Forum for Youth Investment also shared research on youth development and on successful coalitions and partnerships showing that: a) improving child and youth outcomes requires a coordinated, high-quality set of family, school and community supports and services; b) leaders across all sectors must work in partnership to make these improvements at scale; and c) to be effective, leaders must be informed by and engaged with the target population, so that the perspectives of children, youth and families drive the work. The Task Force added another aspect to the work highlighting the importance of youth and community engagement as a driving mechanism for informing and aligning the work of the partnerships that have been created to improve the quantity, quality and coordination of programs and services in the county. The Task Force

identified and agreed on a set of core principles that supported their work and that were representative of their shared beliefs. The principles reflect the Task Force’s views and values about youth, community supports, and about leaders. The principles range from “invest early and sustain investments over time” to “children don’t grow up in programs; they grow up in families” to “engage all sectors and stakeholders”.

Of note is the important role that the community conversations and youth survey played with the Task Force and the planning process. Participants engaged in a “data walk”, where community conversation attendees reviewed data and indicators on children and youth outcomes in King County. Participants engaged in small and large group discussions where they were asked to identify the indicators that they were most concerned about and what they thought the root causes of those indicators were. The youth survey was also a rich source of information that drove key recommendations. The work that community members and youth engaged in and their feedback is foundational to the recommendations and findings reflected in the work of the Task Force and this report.

Ages and Outcomes for the County to Focus On - Very early in its process, the Task Force concluded that King County should focus on prenatal to 24-year-olds, in recognition of the brain development that occurs during these first two and a half decades of life, along with the opportunities to have a positive impact on each youth’s development during that time period. The Task Force created an outcomes dash board to organize and track the broad work of serving children and families and youth and young adults. The dash board identifies six goal areas arranged along the age continuum of 0-24, with core outcomes associated with each age range and goal area. The age groupings that the Task Force used to conduct its work for the Youth Action Plan process were created to assist the Task Force in organizing and accomplishing its work; they were not intended to be a recommendation for how the County should approach delivery of services.

The Current State - How Children and Youth are Faring in King County

The data trends paint a rich and complex picture of evolving child and youth well-being in King County. Drilling down into the data uncovers deep discrepancies between communities within King County and within subpopulations¹:

1. The birth rate for Hispanic teenagers fell from 43.8 per 1000 teen females in 2001-2003 to 23.9 per 1000 females in 2011-2013. Although this is a marked improvement, the rate is alarmingly high compared with other ethnicities.
2. The teen birth rate for African-American women is 3.5 times the rate for whites, and the teen birth rate for Hispanics is 9.3 times the rate for white youth.
3. The student homeless rate is 10.2 percent in Tukwila and 4.9 percent in Highline, but only 0.7 percent in Issaquah and 0.2 percent on Mercer Island.
4. The percentage of 4th graders who met state reading requirements ranged from 58.3 percent in

¹ Birth Certificate Data, Washington State Department of Health; Prepared by Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Unit; Public Health-Seattle & King County

Highline and 60.8 percent in Tukwila up to 90.6 percent in Tahoma and 90.8 percent on Mercer Island².

5. Nearly half of Hispanic King County households with at least one child reported having run out of food at least once within the past 12 months – a higher rate than the County as a whole³.

Facing Challenges - Understanding Barriers, Identifying Solutions

The County's 2015 Determinants of Equity report states, "It is becoming more widely recognized that King County residents do not enjoy the same health, resources, and opportunities because of their race and where they live. Inequity threatens the region's ability to remain globally competitive."⁴ As the Task Force found, a variety of barriers hinder the success of King County's children, youth, and families including: economic, educational, health and wellness, racial, and institutional barriers. Also as the Task Force found, it will take a collective effort among a broad coalition to overcome these barriers.

Solutions generated by the community conversations and by Task Force members reflect a range of areas from counseling, program enhancements, and youth leadership, and a range of solution ideas from mentoring programs, capacity building, and more funding. It is noteworthy that there were a greater number of suggestions and ideas generated around cultural competence and community engagement which is likely reflective of the disproportionality that many citizens experience in the access to some of the regions' benefits and opportunities.

Charting the Future - Recommendations

The Task Force identified 9 recommendation areas reflective of the intensive work of the Task Force in reviewing data, barriers and solutions generated from the community conversations and the youth survey. The recommendations are also informed by the Task Force members' depth of knowledge and experience, along with input from experts in early childhood, middle childhood and young adulthood on promising work and initiatives already occurring. Each recommendation area contains several strategies and sub recommendations. Below is an overview of the key proposals from each recommendation area.

- **Recommendation Area 1 – Social Justice and Equity:** This area speaks to the need for King County to prioritize and provide resources to recognize, prevent and eliminate institutional racism and other forms of bias across county government. Among many other important recommendations, it calls on King County to make certain young people and those with limited access to decision makers are engaged with policymakers.
- **Recommendation Area 2 – Strengthen and Stabilize Families, and Children, Youth and Young Adults:** Families provide the building blocks for a successful and bright future for many children and youth, but not all families are able to do so. Many "downstream" conditions – homelessness,

²Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction "Homeless Education Office" website <http://www.k12.wa.us/homelessed/>

³ "The Determinants of Equity: Identifying Indicators to Establish a Baseline of Equity in King County." *Equity and Social Justice - King County*. King County Executive, Jan. 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015, page 74.

⁴ "The Determinants of Equity: Identifying Indicators to Establish a Baseline of Equity in King County." *Equity and Social Justice - King County*. King County Executive, Jan. 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015.

incarceration, and substance abuse – can be prevented when kids have safe, healthy childhoods, access to quality education, and other opportunities. The recommendations in this area urge the County to use its resources and convening power to strengthen and stabilize families, children, youth and young adults, and build on its, and the region’s successes.

- **Recommendation Area 3 – Stop the School to Prison Pipeline:** Data shows that suspension from school is the number one predictor, more than poverty, of whether children will drop out of school and walk down a road that includes greater likelihood of unemployment, reliance on social-welfare programs, and imprisonment. The recommendations in this area call on the County and its partners to support preventative practices and programs that reduce the likelihood of contact with the juvenile justice system. It also calls for the reduction in use of, and move toward eliminating, detention for non-violent crimes of youth under age 18.
- **Recommendation Area 4 – Bust Siloes/We’re Better Together:** These recommendations speak to how the work of serving children and families and youth and young adults should be performed, both internally to King County and how the County should interact with its external partners. These concepts are also reflective of the organizing principles of collective impact. The recommendations recognize that while King County government is one player among many, and not responsible for some key systems involving children and youth, it is uniquely positioned to utilize its regional role and act as a collaborator and convener.
- **Recommendation Area 5 – Get Smart About Data:** The results we truly hope to see as a result of our investments in children and youth are not being measured. The Task Force learned that the County does not have shared identified outcomes or outcome measures for children and youth services and programs in its departments and agencies. These recommendations call for a comprehensive, countywide approach to data and outcome metrics for children and youth. It is crucial that King County strategically identify and invest in collecting the right data and use it to inform decisions. The recommendations in this area strongly align with King County’s commitment to the Lean approach.
- **Recommendation Area 6 – Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Outcomes:** Research shows that improving child and youth outcomes requires a coordinated, high-quality set of family, school and community supports. To put into place the complex array of supports that help achieve improved child and youth outcomes as outlined in this report, leaders across all sectors throughout the region must work in partnership to finance these improvements to bring them to scale. Recommendations in this section call on the County to revisit the allocations of its dedicated funding streams like the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD), Veterans and Human Services Levy (VHSL) and various fees to fund more or different services for children and families and youth and young adults; invest any new revenues toward support services and programs serving children and families and youth and young adults; invest in innovation and invest early; and, invest in outcomes.
- **Recommendation Area 7 – Accountability:** The Task Force recommends three strategic objectives that will position the County to achieve maximum impact from its policies and investments, and improve outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults throughout King County. These findings are based on the lack of coordination around services, programs, and outcomes in

King County government: 1) create shared accountability, internally and with external partners and coalitions; 2) identify outcomes and collect data; and, 3) align with external efforts and groups. To accomplish these objectives, the Task Force recommends establishing at least one FTE position to oversee this work. Additionally, the Task Force recommends that an advisory body be created that can assist the Executive and Council as they consider outcomes, policies, and investments for children and families and youth and young adults.

- **Recommendation Area 8 – Youth Bill of Rights:** The youth survey indicated that King County youth want meaningful input into programs and policies that impact them. They also want to be engaged with policymakers in a variety of ways, but genuine engagement of young people requires a fundamental shift in how decisions are made. Consequently, while developing a Youth Bill of Rights is of interest to King County youth, many youth in King County identified other priorities they would like to pursue first.
- **Recommendation Area 9 – Evaluation and Reporting/Process and Implementation Timeline:** The Task Force recognizes that the evaluation and reporting, and process and implementation components for many of the recommendations in the report will be heavily influenced by the success of acquiring new revenue in King County. Additionally, many of the recommendations call for integrated, collaborative planning and implementation across King County government and with external stakeholders. The Task Force recognizes that to be successful, any Youth Action Plan related evaluation, reporting, and process implementation timelines work best undertaken in collaboration with the involved entities whereby mutually agreed upon steps and outcomes can be determined, utilizing a collective impact model. The Task Force recommends that King County develop appropriate evaluation, reporting, and implementation structures, along with an oversight component, for its holistic, intentional approach to serving children, youth, and their families, and young adults as a next phase of the Youth Action Plan. Specific recommendations in this area include implementing the recommendations around accountability, including establishing a position within the Executive branch to coordinate the complex work called for in this report and developing a unified and comprehensive approach to data, based on mutually agreed upon outcomes.

Conclusion

The facts are clear: King County’s children and youth are not faring as well as they should. Pockets of deep disparity exist throughout the region. Many King County residents do not enjoy the same health, resources, and opportunities because of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, income, immigration status or where they live. These negative outcomes are exactly what we *don’t* want for our children and families and youth and young adults.

The Youth Action Plan Task Force urges King County to take bold action to overcome these disparities. The recommendations that we have carefully assembled in this report are a blue print to help King County do just that, building on its strong social justice and equity foundation, the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan, and the work of many existing coalitions and partnerships. Furthering the County’s important work on social justice and equity is foundational to achieving positive outcomes for

children and families and youth and young adults.

As we conclude this phase of our work, the Youth Action Task Force offers one final recommendation to King County: reconvene this Task Force, or a similar body, in a year to review the County's progress on the recommendations contained within this document.

The recommendations in this report provide policymakers with tools and options to strengthen King County government's role serving children and families and youth and young adults and its coordination and collaboration with the community, providers, non-profit organizations and other stakeholders.

Call to Action: Develop a Youth Action Plan for the County

On January 21, 2014, the Metropolitan King County Council approved legislation calling for the development of a Youth Action Plan (YAP) that will set King County's priorities for serving its young people, from infants through young adults. The Youth Action Plan will guide and inform the County's annual investment in services and programs to ensure that all of King County's young people thrive.

A thorough and well-crafted child and youth action plan is more than a blueprint for county staff. It is a tool for policymakers and leaders to use as a call to action, generating community excitement and rallying key players – including early childhood and youth development experts, youth and families, and business and philanthropic leaders – to support intentional community and systems change.

As required in the legislation, King County's Youth Action Plan was developed by an appointed Task Force comprised of representatives from a broad range of organizations and entities with substantial expertise and knowledge relevant to infants, children and youth. The Task Force encompassed a wide range of views and experiences, reflecting the diversity of its members' geographic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. The planning process brought together this team of leaders from all sectors to:

- Engage with communities and youth on the issues and challenges they face
- Identify barriers and potential solutions
- Agree on a comprehensive set of outcomes for King County government
- Recommend strategies to achieve the goals and measure progress

The County can use this action plan to ignite significant changes that improve the lives and futures of its children and families and youth and young adults. By showing that residents are united around the cause of young people and by identifying strategies to overcome and eliminate barriers to success that are outlined in this report, the County can motivate and support internal and external stakeholders to break out of silos and work across systems and sectors to adopt clear, shared outcomes with research-based strategies to achieve them.

The Youth Action Plan was developed transparently and collaboratively, in partnership with children- and youth-serving community providers, consumers, philanthropic organizations, separately elected officials including the Council, other jurisdictions and school districts. The Task Force completed its work with support from Council and Executive staff and a consulting

team.

As outlined in the legislation, the Task Force was responsible for delivering well-informed recommendations with related rationales to the County Executive and the Council by April 15, 2015 on topics related to children and youth described below.

Ordinance 17738 Requirements

1. Identification of the **mission and vision** of the YAP, and whether the Executive's stated vision that "infants reach adulthood healthy and safe, academically and vocationally succeeding, and socially and civically engaged" reflects the recommendations of the task force.
2. A **bill of rights for King County's youth**, akin to the youth bills of rights adopted by jurisdictions in California and elsewhere around the country.
3. Whether King County should establish a single **point of accountability for children and youth services, programs and policies**, along with recommendations on what form, model or structure that point of accountability should take, and on its role and duties.
4. Identification of what **age range** the YAP will address, and **whether families are included** in the plan.
5. Identification of **improvements, efficiencies, gaps and opportunities** to take promising practices to scale, along with areas for better integration or coordination of services, programs and policies for children and youth within and outside of King County government.
6. Recommendations on King County's **role and involvement with early childhood learning** programs and initiatives.
7. Identification of the **barriers within and outside of King County government** that prevent children, youth and families from realizing their full potential, and recommendations on how to eliminate those barriers.
8. Recommendations on the **update to the King County Strategic Plan, and on social justice and equity goals**, as related to youth.
9. Identification of the children, youth and family **programs, methodologies and service models that the county should prioritize** to achieve outcomes and meet policy goals.
10. Recommendations on the **county's funding of services and programs** for youth, including the prioritization of existing and potential new resources to achieve recommended outcomes.
11. Identification of an **evaluation and reporting structure**, process and implementation timeline for the youth action plan

The Youth Action Plan Inspires Innovation: Best Starts for Kids

The Youth Action Plan provides a comprehensive examination of King County's services and programs for children and families and youth and young adults, with Task Force recommendations on the wide array and vast spectrum of services and programs to serve the population most effectively.

Best Starts for Kids is a 2015 evolving initiative under development by the King County Executive and the King County Council for a prevention-oriented regional investment that supports healthy development of kids, families and communities across the county. As of the drafting of this document, the Executive is working with multiple advisory groups, including representatives from the Youth Action Plan Task Force, to prepare a ballot measure to send to the King County Council for inclusion on the fall 2015 ballot. If passed by the voters of King County, the ballot measure would provide an influx of new revenue and dramatically increase child, family, and young adult well-being in King County.

The goal of Best Starts for Kids is to ensure that every child in King County has a strong start in life and journeys into adulthood ready to succeed.

The science is clear: prevention is the most effective, least expensive way to put children and youth on a path toward success. Through prevention and early intervention, we can address our most serious problems such as obesity, mental illness, domestic violence, substance abuse and homelessness. Yet, much of the County's current funding is responding to these negative outcomes.

One of the smartest investments the County can make is to provide children with a strong start, from prenatal development through the course of their early lives. By making investments in proven prevention strategies, the County will have the ability to decrease demand for more costly interventions and services needed when there's a negative outcome in a person's life.

Best Starts for Kids will invest early in a child's life when we have the greatest opportunity to establish a strong foundation for lifelong health and well-being. Investments will carry forward throughout a young person's journey toward adulthood as their brains continue to develop during their teenage years. Best Starts for Kids will also investment in creating healthy, safe communities to reinforce that progress and ensure everyone has a fair shot at success, regardless of where you live.

To get the outcomes we all want to see, Best Starts for Kids will invest in three strategic areas:

1. Prevention and early intervention programs for children before age five.
2. Prevention and early intervention programs for children and youth age five through twenty-four.
3. Prevention strategies at the community level.

The Best Starts for Kids Initiative vision echoes the Youth Action Plan's vision, as highlighted on page 24. The Task Force recognizes that the Youth Action Plan and the Best Starts for Kids initiative share many of the same goals, and some Task Force members have been actively involved in the development of the Best Starts for Kids Initiative, providing insight and perspectives. The Task Force supports the vision articulated by the Best Starts for Kids initiative.

Background: Building on Past Policies

The mandate to create a Youth Action Plan is the latest in a series of planning and improvement efforts aimed at assisting children and youth that King County has funded and participated in since the 1960s. This work includes the distribution of state and federal funds as well as local programming and funding.

King County spent over \$162 million in 2013 on a wide range of services and programs that influence youth at all stages of development, from birth to young adult. The funds were a mix of state and federal revenue, county general fund revenue, and revenue from levies and taxes.

These services and programs are provided across King County government by nine departments and agencies that contract with dozens of community-based organizations and local nonprofit organizations who, in turn, work in collaboration with each other, the County and other governments to serve children, youth and their families. The community-based organizations and local nonprofit organizations include those with particular foci or priorities: geographical; specific cultural and ethnic populations; gay, lesbian and transgender youth and young adults; and justice-involved or at-risk youth. As these relationships illustrate, King County is one partner among many working for kids.

King County has not just provided resources for children, youth and their families, it has also demonstrated leadership. The County has adopted policies to directly guide or substantially influence services and programs aimed at children and youth, such as the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan, the Human Services Framework Policies and the Strategic Plan.

Historical Highlights: In 1964, the **Seattle-King County Youth Commission** was established to advise the elected officials of Seattle and King County on issues such as juvenile delinquency and youth recreation. It also coordinated citizen input on these issues and served as a youth advocacy group. The commission consisted of 22 members, 11 appointed by the Mayor and 11 by the King County Executive. Membership was made up of eight youths, four representatives from youth agencies, four representatives from funding sources, and six community members. It was abolished in 1977.

In 1970, the County Council passed an ordinance creating the **County Bureau of Youth Affairs**. The ordinance stated that the Bureau shall be responsible for all County sponsored youth programs with the goal of providing a range of integrated services and programs that meet the needs of youth.

The Youth and Family Association, formerly known as Youth Service Bureaus, was established in 1972. The King County Youth & Family Services Association (YFSA) is an alliance of Youth and Family organizations throughout King County that focus on meeting the needs of their local communities' youth and families through professional counseling, education and other support services.

The Children and Family Commission (CFC) was established in 1988 to define King County's mission, role, and goals in provision of services to children, youth and families. The CFC was comprised of "community leaders and decision makers from private and public sector interested in improving services for families and children".⁵ The Commission was convened to advise the Executive, Council, and Court on matters related to children, youth, and families. The Commission was defunded and dismantled in 2011, due in part to declining revenues and the County's constrained fiscal environment. The absence of the Children and Family Commission has left a significant gap in advising the Executive, Superior Court and the County Council on matters involving children, youth and families, especially as related to building linkages between the County's service systems, communities and schools.

The impetus for the 1998 **Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan** or JJOMP was a desire to avoid expanding the County's juvenile detention facility. The work of the JJOMP resulted in the King County juvenile justice system partnering with communities and families to reduce juvenile involvement in the justice system, assist youth in making responsible choices, serve the needs of at-risk youth, and address the concerns of victims. Through cross-agency collaboration, implementation of best practices, and testing of promising programs, JJOMP has become an established framework for continuously identifying critical needs in the juvenile justice system and collaboratively solving them.

In 2013, the Executive transmitted the **Health and Human Services Transformation Plan**, which establishes a path to achieve an outcome-driven system where health and human service providers, consumers, funders and policymakers are called to work together and are mutually accountable through contracts and compacts. These contracts and compacts include shared priorities, strategies and measurements for assuring health and human service outcomes. The Health and Human Services Transformation Plan has begun to create a more collaborative, transparent and effective health and human services system in King County using. That work uses a collective impact approach as a frame for collaborative efforts that bring partners

⁵ Ordinance 8577

together to develop shared agreements on the process and outcome measures that lead to change; on the activities that demonstrate progress on outcomes; and on understanding the resources necessary to bring about change.

The framework of the Transformation Plan shares common attributes with a number of current youth-focused community-based initiatives, including the Youth Action Plan. It focuses on a common set of shared outcomes that were developed transparently, collaboratively and strategically in partnership with multiple stakeholders; and will achieve results through collective accountability and the use of data to align efforts across organizations.

Since 2008 King County government has been developing and implementing a performance and accountability system that focuses on results. The purpose of this system is to improve King County government's ability to measure how it is operating and performing, to plan for the future and to report on its performance across all of the services delivered to citizens. A cornerstone of that performance and accountability system is the **County's Strategic Plan**, adopted by the Council in July 2010 via Ordinance 16897. The plan calls for improved customer service, greater efficiency in government and more robust partnerships across the region.

King County is committed to **social justice and equity** for all who live here. In 2010 the County adopted its “fair and just” legislation, which names the 14 determinants of equity and furthers King County’s intentional work of promoting fairness and opportunity and the elimination of inequities for residents of King County. Ordinance 16948 articulates King County’s focus on the principles of fairness and justice embodied in the Countywide Strategic Plan. The legislation defines “equity” as all people having full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential. The ordinance directs the County to focus on the populations with the greatest needs, particularly low-income populations, communities of color, and limited-English speaking populations. These populations are also concentrated in geographic areas, such as parts of South King County, where the greatest inequities exist.

The Youth Action Plan builds on this rich legacy. The County's adopted policy goals – as included in the Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan, Human Services Framework Policy, the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan, the Strategic Plan, and the Equity and Social Justice Initiative – were acknowledged and reflected throughout the development of the Youth Action Plan process.

How the Task Force Accomplished its Work: Approach and Methodology

King County Ordinance 17738 provided specific guidance and direction to the Task Force on what the Youth Action Plan should contain, calling for recommendations on several matters. This section of the Action Plan outlines how the Task Force accomplished its work, including how it organized itself to tackle the analytical and policy questions posed in the legislation, the gathering and review of significant amounts of data, and how it reached out to engage with communities and youth.

To assist the Task Force in achieving its objectives, the King County Council engaged a consulting firm from Washington DC specializing in services that help leaders improve partnerships and policies for young people. While the Forum for Youth Investment (FYI) brought its national expertise to the work of the Task Force, FYI also utilized local subcontractors to assist with and inform the YAP process.

In order to deliver on its charge under Ordinance 17738, the Task Force approached its work in two distinct stages: the Framework Strategy Team stage and the Age Group Strategy Team stage. Concurrently with the work of the strategy teams, the Task Force planned and executed a community and youth outreach strategy, holding five regional community conversations that included more than 225 attendees and conducted a survey of over 1,000 King County youth.

The Task Force met 8 times between May 2014 and March 2015, with the Strategy and Age Group Teams meeting throughout the process. FYI, or their local subcontractors, facilitated and supported a majority of the Task Force and Strategy Team meetings. The Task Force utilized their meetings to learn from each other and systems experts, review and revise materials, and create recommendations based on their combined breadth of experience and knowledge. There was significant work performed by the Task Force members outside of the Task Force meetings such as gathering and reviewing data and reviewing information provided by the consultants and King County staff.

Vision, Framework and Core Principles

The Task Force hit the ground running and quickly accomplished three foundational tasks that influenced all aspects of the work of the group by establishing a vision, framework, and core principles.

Firstly, the Task Force identified the **vision** of the YAP. The group reviewed and determined whether the Executive's stated vision, as cited in the legislation – that “infants reach adulthood

healthy and safe, academically and vocationally succeeding, and socially and civically engaged” – reflected the perspective of the Task Force. As part of its analysis, the Task Force also evaluated other vision statements and frameworks used by the County, including the King County Strategic Plan, the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan and the King County Equity and Social Justice principles.

Drawing on the expertise, perspective, and values articulated by its members, the Task Force made two important changes to the Executive’s vision statement:

1. Incorporated *equity* into the statement
2. Emphasized *current* success for children and youth, not only future success

The Task Force maintained the broad age range and set of outcomes stated in the Executive’s vision. The Task Force decided on the following unifying and actionable vision statement for the Youth Action Plan:

YOUTH ACTION PLAN VISION STATEMENT

King County is a place where everyone has equitable opportunities to progress through childhood safe and healthy, building academic and life skills to be thriving members of their community.

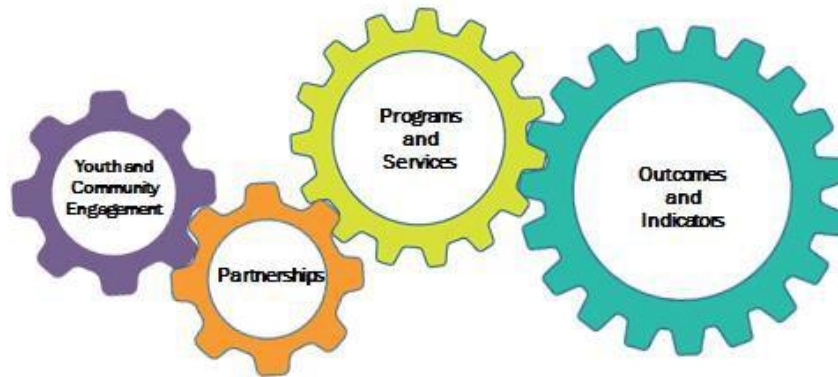
The consensus established around the vision demonstrated that a diverse group of stakeholders share the same vision for the YAP and understand their role in helping to fulfill it. Furthermore, the vision serves as the cornerstone to determine desired outcomes and implement strategies to achieve those outcomes. As the community’s work progresses on the implementation of the YAP, all efforts will be guided by this shared vision.

Next, based on research provided by the consultants, the Forum for Youth Investment, the Task Force established the YAP **framework**, also known as the Task Force’s “theory of change”. The framework provided the Task Force with a consistent way to organize the many elements needed to navigate the YAP planning and analytical processes, including information collection, stakeholder participation, strategy planning, and recommendation identification.

The Forum for Youth Investment shared its standard three gear framework/theory of change

that it utilizes to help communities improve youth outcomes. The Forum for Youth Investment also shared research on youth development and on successful coalitions and partnership showing that: a) improving child and youth outcomes requires a coordinated, high-quality set of family, school and community supports and services; b) leaders across all sectors must work in partnership to make these improvements at scale; and c) to be effective, leaders must be informed by and engaged with the target population, so that the perspectives of children, youth and families drive the work.

Figure 1.

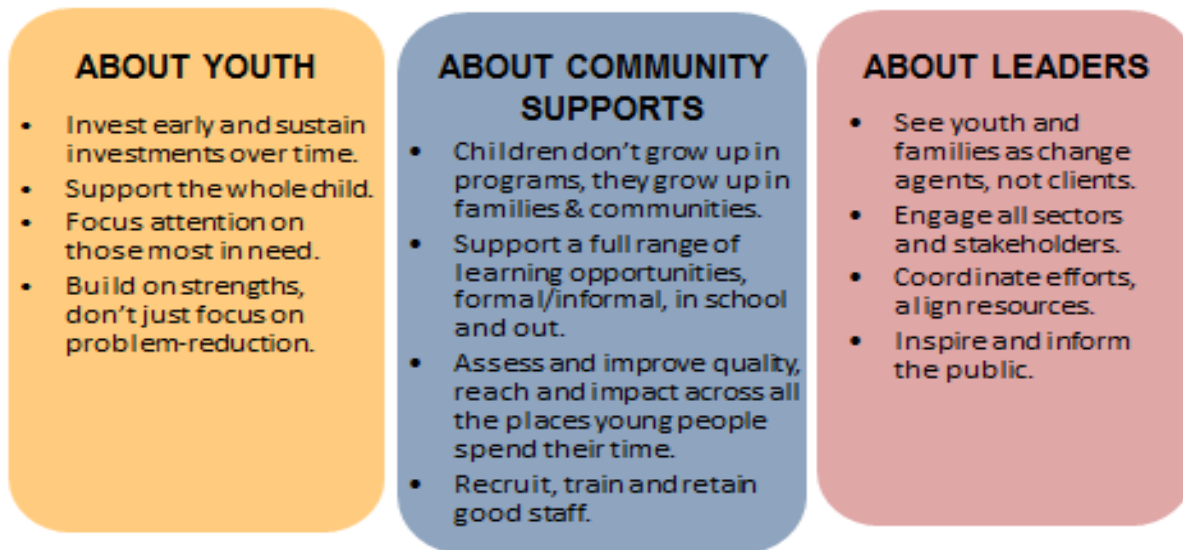


Based on the Task Force’s research on youth development and successful coalitions and partnerships, the Task Force expanded the Forum for Youth Investment’s standard three gear framework by adding a *fourth gear* as seen above in Figure 1. The Task Force added the fourth gear to highlight the importance of youth and community engagement as a driving mechanism for informing and aligning the work of the partnerships that have been created to improve the quantity, quality and coordination of programs and services in the county.

Finally, Task Force members identified and agreed on a set of **core principles** that supported their work and that were representative of their shared beliefs. Figure 2 below summarizes the Task Force’s core principles.

Figure 2.

Core Principles



In a survey and in subsequent discussions, Task Force members were asked to evaluate the core principles (using a scale from 1 to 5) based on two separate questions: 1) how important is the principle, and 2) how well is King County living up to the principle?

Task Force members responded that all of these principles were either “very important” or “urgently important,” but that the County was only doing “poor” to “fair” at adhering to the principles. The Forum for Youth Investment noted that the results were common, and that the exercise affirmed the importance of tackling the policy questions outlined in the Ordinance.

Framework Strategy Teams

Moving from establishing the foundational principles and approach, the Task Force next formed four Framework Strategy Teams corresponding to the four gears in the framework in Figure 1 on page 25. Each Framework Strategy Team was responsible for a specific area of work that paralleled the theory of change that was used by the Task Force. This approach was used as a consistent and thorough way to navigate the questions in the ordinance, including the required information collection, stakeholder participation, strategy planning, and evaluation considerations. The following are the four Framework Strategy Teams:

- Youth/Community Engagement Strategy Team
- Partnerships Strategy Team
- Programs and Services Strategy Team
- Child and Youth Outcomes Strategy Team

Each team was composed of six to seven Task Force members, a King County staff member, and a member of the consulting team. Between May and August 2014, the Framework Strategy Teams surveyed the landscape for King County’s children and youth in their respective subject areas. Each Strategy Team was assigned a series of policy questions identified in Ordinance 17738 to review and respond to. As part of that process, each Strategy Team gathered and analyzed data and contributed their knowledge, experiences and resources to the work.

Detailed information that the four Framework Strategy Teams reviewed, including indicator⁶ data, can be found in the Youth Action Plan Progress Report that was transmitted to the Council and Executive in 2014⁷.

Age Group Strategy Teams

As the Framework Strategy Teams completed their respective work, the Task Force shifted into new teams focused on the developmental stages of childhood. These teams looked at the range of data and information about how young people in King County are faring, what is at the root of conditions for young people, and the current County-funded programs and services to support them. Three Age Group Strategy Teams were formed in the following groupings:

- Early Childhood Strategy Team - prenatal to age 8
- Middle Childhood Strategy Team - ages 9 to 15
- Youth and Young Adulthood Strategy Team - ages 16 to 24

Many of the recommendations offered in this report are the product of the work carried out by the Framework and Age Group Strategy Teams.

Engaging Youth and Communities

One key aspect of the work of the Task Force was engaging King County’s youth and families. This was accomplished in a number of ways, including convening five regional community conversations held throughout King County in Kirkland, Kent, South Seattle, Snoqualmie, and Shoreline. In addition to the community conversations, the Task Force conducted a youth survey, supplemented by outreach performed by youth leadership bodies, to give voice to what young

⁶ A measure of child well-being, ideally at the population level.

⁷ <http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/issues/YouthActionPlan.aspx>

people say about the pressures facing young people in King County.

The community conversations were primarily facilitated by consulting staff (except for the Shoreline conversation), drawing more than 225 participants from around the county (please note that many more individuals attended and participated in the Community Conversations than signed in or identified what group they represented). Participants engaged in a “data walk”, where attendees reviewed data and indicators on children and youth outcomes in King County. Participants engaged in small and large group discussions where they were asked to identify the indicators that they were most concerned about and what they thought the root causes of those indicators were⁸. Table 1 below shows the makeup of the community conversation attendees.

Table 1.
Youth Action Plan Community Conversation Attendees

Self-Identification	Number of Participants	Percent of Participants
Students	63	28%
Parents	37	16%
Community Leaders	56	25%
Service Providers	61	27%

The conversations were structured around two key questions from Ordinance 17738. Participants were asked:

- What are the barriers within and outside of King County government that prevent children, youth and families from realizing their full potential and how can we eliminate those barriers?
- What are the children, youth and family programs, methodologies, and service models that the county should prioritize to achieve outcomes and meet policy goals?

The youth survey drew more than 1,000 responses from across King County, including from youth in jail. It was available via web link and hard copy and was open from September 17 to November 3, 2014. There were 10 questions. Of the respondents, 66 percent identified as youth of color or multi-racial and 34 percent of survey takers identified as white. The survey provided the Task Force with important information on the perceptions of youth around the questions of what the

⁸ The Youth Action Plan Task Force Progress Report contains a list of the trends and indicators that were reviewed by the Community Conversation participants. The report can be found here: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/issues/YouthActionPlan.aspx>

most pressing issues facing youth in King County are and how youth want to be meaningfully engaged with the County.

Detailed discussions of barriers, root causes, and solutions resulting from the community conversations and the youth survey are included in the “Facing Challenges: Identifying Barriers and Solutions” section of this report starting on page 40. Full survey results are in Appendix B.

Ages and Outcomes for the County Focus On

Very early in its process, the Task Force concluded that King County should focus on prenatal to 24-year-olds, in recognition of the brain development that occurs during these first two and a half decades of life, along with the opportunities to have a positive impact on each youth’s development during that time period. The Task Force also recognized that children have the best outcomes when they grow up in supportive and stable environments, but that not all children have such opportunities. Therefore, data tracking, interventions, and engagements should reflect the environment of the child, which includes, but is not limited to, families.

Based on the collective work of the Framework and Age Group Strategy Teams, the Task Force developed the recommended outcome statements shown below in Table 2 to provide milestones for the County to aim for along the prenatal-to-24 age continuum. See Appendix A for the Age Group Strategy Team packets that the teams used to conduct their work. The goal areas are as follows:

- **Academic Success:** Kindergarten readiness, graduation rates, achievement scores, college readiness, education about careers, early childhood education, library services, truancy and dropout prevention, etc.
- **Vocational Success:** Career readiness, successful transitions, youth employment, internships, etc.
- **Healthy:** Immunization, developmental screenings, physical standards, nutrition, hygiene, exercise, avoiding risky behaviors, sex education, sexually-transmitted disease testing, mental health counseling and treatment, alcohol and drug prevention, services for chemical dependency, well-being, etc.
- **Safe:** Emergency shelter/housing, homelessness prevention, legal services, juvenile detention services, child abuse prevention and legal services, crime and violence prevention, etc.

- **Socially Engaged:** Connections to caring community/adults, legal services regarding child support and families, attachment to school, peer relationships, self-expression, socially-acceptable behavior, sense of independence, LGBTQ services, culturally appropriate opportunities for social engagement and personal/social growth, hope, etc.
- **Civically Engaged:** Civic responsibility (participation in government, church, and/or memberships of voluntary associations), volunteerism, religious services, environmental awareness, culture of contribution, civic engagement (identify and address issues of public concern), etc.

The Task Force created the following age group and outcome dash board. Please note that the age groupings used in the table below and in subsequent tables were established to assist the Task Force in organizing and accomplishing its Youth Action Plan work. The age groupings are intended to be a recommendation for how the County should approach delivery of services.

Table 2. Age Group Outcomes Dash Board

Goal Area	Outcomes Prenatal-8	Outcomes 9-15	Outcomes 16-24
Academically & Vocationally Competent	Young children have access to positive, high quality early learning environments	Children progress toward an academically and vocationally successful life	Youth and young adults are successfully engaged in school, work/a career pathway
Healthy & Safe	Babies are born healthy and young children have safe, supportive environments for optimal healthy development	Children and youth progress toward a physically and behaviorally healthy and safe life, including having their basic needs met	Youth and young adults are healthy, housed and safe
Socially & Emotionally Competent	Young children have optimal social-emotional well-being and healthy relationships with caregivers	Children and youth engage in healthy peer and adult relationships.	Youth and young adults have social and emotional skills for healthy relationships
Civically Engaged	Adults parenting young children have knowledge, skills, support, resources and community connections to effectively advocate for their child’s needs	Children and youth achieve meaningful connection to community.	Youth and young adults are connected and contributing to their communities

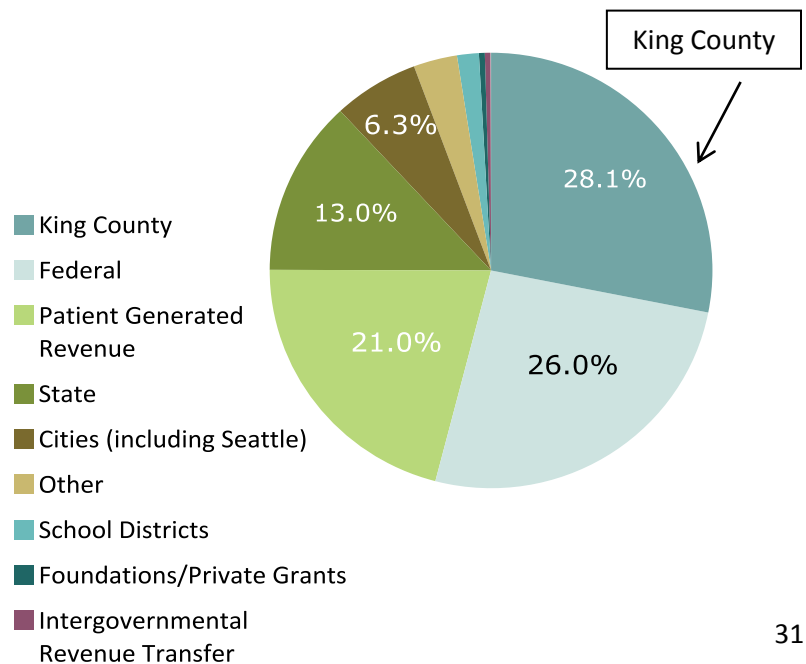
Collection and Review of King County Programs, Services, and Funding Data

In order to ground the Task Force in the scope of King County’s work serving children, youth, and their families, King County staff gathered information from all King County departments and agencies that might serve children, youth, and their families. Departments and agencies were requested to submit a detailed inventory of programs and services for 2013 to the Task Force for review and information purposes.

The data collected from nine of the County’s departments and agencies covered 15 variables on numerous facets of King County programs and services including location, type of service, number served, number of full time employees associated with the program or service, and performance metrics. Programmatic funding sources were also gathered. The goal of gathering and reviewing this data was to gain a big-picture understanding of King County’s investments in children, youth and their families. The Task Force also utilized the program descriptions and performance metrics provided to look beyond the dollars to get a sense of the types and effectiveness of programs under each outcome area. This information was used throughout the YAP process by the Task Force, particularly in its scoping of recommendations.

More than \$162 million dollars flowed within and through King County government in support of children and youth in 2013. The majority of these dollars (72 percent) were not resources from the County’s budget, but funds made available from federal, state, municipal and private sources and school districts. The complexity of the investment sources for these programs and services underscores the County’s track record in coordinating resources and working with a variety of implementation partners. Please note that the data and its analysis was limited in scope to King County government investments (whether direct or as state or federal pass-through) only; data about private investments or funding by other jurisdictions was not readily available.

Figure 3.
Total estimated funding for children and youth flowing through King County in FY13 was \$162 million



In 2013, \$45.5 million or 28 percent of the total estimated funding flowing into King County government for support of programs and services for children, youth and their families was King County specific funding, including revenue from property taxes, sales taxes, and fees⁹. King County specific revenue does not include state or federal funds, though much of the King County specific revenue is dedicated to specific activities as described below in Table 3. The following dashboard of King County revenues shown in Table 3, prepared for the Task Force by the consultants, shows how those funds were allocated by King County across ages and outcome area.

Table 3.

Age by Outcomes Dashboard - Total Estimated County-Level Funding

Primary Outcome Area	Pre K (0-5) Total: \$4.2 M	School Age (6-10) Total: \$6.9 M	Middle (11-14) Total: \$13.8 M	High (15-18) Total: \$13 M	Young Adult (19-24) Total: \$5.3 M	Families Total: \$2.4 M
Academically Successful Total: \$1.5 M	\$0.1 M	\$0 M	\$0.2 M	\$0.7 M	\$0.4 M	\$0.1 M
Vocationally Successful Total: \$0.5 M	\$0 M	\$0 M	\$0.1 M	\$0.3 M	\$0.2 M	\$0 M
Healthy Total: \$18.8 M	\$2.1 M	\$1.9 M	\$6.2M	\$4.9 M	\$2.8 M	\$0.9 M
Safe Total: \$17.5 M	\$1.2 M	\$4.1 M	\$5.4 M	\$5.2 M	\$1.1 M	\$0.5 M
Socially Engaged Total: \$7.1 M	\$0.9 M	\$0.9 M	\$1.9 M	\$1.9 M	\$0.7 M	\$0.9 M
Civically Engaged Total: \$0 M	\$0 M	\$0 M	\$0 M	\$0 M	\$0 M	\$0 M
Key	\$0 M to \$0.1 M	\$0.2 M to \$0.9 M		\$1.1 M to \$6.2 M		

The age-by-outcome areas dashboard above shows that King County funding provided the most support in the Healthy and Safe outcome areas, which include physical and behavioral health and criminal justice services and programs. Of the \$45.5 million in King County funding provided for programs and services aimed at children, youth and their families, \$36.3 million, or 80 percent, focused on health and safety. It is important to note that 73 percent of the County’s 2013 General Fund was allocated to support criminal justice activities, with about 4 percent supporting health and human services functions. Further, it is important to note that many of the funding streams are

⁹ County Level Funding is defined as any of the following funding sources that could be disaggregated from the Total Adopted Program Budget; a) General Fund (property tax), b) Children and Family Set Aside (mixed revenues and fees), c) County Millage (dedicated property tax percentage), d) Document Recording Fees, e) Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (sales tax), f) Veterans and Human Services Levy. Specific County funding allocated to programs for age categories were not included in this analysis.

dedicated for certain services or activities, resulting in funding constraints and a lack of flexibility.

The existence of non-County funding for some of the other outcome areas could be a reason that the county doesn't provide as much funding in those areas. For instance, school district funding is not included in Table 3, because schools are not operated by King County government. Resources focused on children's developmental needs, such as education, are often managed directly by school districts. School districts are also the frequent recipients of county, state and federal grants that address other outcome areas (e.g., civic engagement or career readiness) because they have ready access to students.

It is worth noting that while activities were plotted in Table 3 based on their primary targeted outcome, some funded activities might have multiple purposes which could include strengthening more than one outcome. For example, out-of-school time programs with the primary targeted outcome of leadership development could also be strengthening youths' civic engagement.

It is also important to note that the data reflected in Table 3 is a snapshot of King County department and agency data from 2013, prior to changes such as the Affordable Care Act taking full effect. The data reflected in this snapshot is also limited in its scope; the data do not indicate important indicators such as who is accessing the services (and relatedly, who is not using the services) and what outcomes result from these investments.

Other Indicator Data

In addition to the creation of an inventory of over 300 County-funded programs and services organized by stated outcome, the Task Force gathered and reviewed indicator data based on suggestions from the consulting teams, the Task Force's own expertise and knowledge, and input from experts in the community. The Task Force reviewed and examined data and indicators from a wide array of sources. Data was provided by 20 local experts from youth-focused government agencies, programs and services, coalitions and collective impact organizations, and research/higher education groups, including:

- Youth Development Executives of King County (YDEKC)
- Road Map Project
- University of Washington Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- Community Center for Education Results (CCER)
- Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ)
- Children's Home Society of Washington
- Boys & Girls Clubs of King County
- School's Out Washington
- Neighborhood House
- Eastside Pathways
- Washington State Center for Court Research
- Public Health Departments - Seattle and King County
- Seattle Office for Education
- Seattle's Office of Economic Development
- Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), Developmental Disabilities Division
- DCHS/CSD/Housing and Community Development (HCD)
- Office of King County Executive Dow Constantine

More than 140 indicators were identified during this component of the Task Force's process. To begin to narrow the County's focus to a more manageable set of indicators, the Forum for Youth Investment created a preliminary dashboard using indicators that tend to have high proxy power¹⁰ based on the Forum for Youth Investment's experience in other communities. Using this preliminary dashboard as a basis for discussion, members identified indicators that could be used to measure outcomes.

Limitations of Data

The research and analysis conducted by the Task Force highlights issues around the limitations of data. While data from the 2010 U.S. Census was used, the Task Force found that some data was difficult to uncover or did not exist in a way that the Task Force was able to utilize for its work. The data was spread among many public and private agencies, and the Task Force was reliant on the good will of individuals and organizations to find and share it. Additionally, the Task Force often found that it was difficult to disaggregate data on 18- to 24-year-olds from the rest of the adult population. The county's large and complex geographic, organizational, and political boundaries also presented a challenge, making comparisons among school districts, zip codes and cities difficult. Task Force members also noted that data didn't always disaggregate race and ethnicity as well.

¹⁰ An indicator has strong proxy power when it says something of central importance about the outcome and can stand as a representative for the outcome statement of well-being.

Finally, as noted, the County's program and services inventory documented the major public programs serving children and youth in King County and provided information on goals, services, target age groups and funding. While the Task Force members familiarized themselves with the wide array of programs, looking across the range of ages and outcome areas, as well as across sources of funds and performance measures used in those programs, it should be noted that the Task Force did not conduct a qualitative review of the programs and services. Similarly, the Task Force did not inventory the vast array of programs and services that are offered in the community but are supported by non-King County funding sources.

As a result of these challenges, the Task Force's recommendations reflect the need for a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to the collection and dissemination of data and outcome metrics, both within County departments and agencies and as a community. The Task Force recognizes that a fundamental challenge to achieving a more comprehensive approach to data collection and dissemination is that much of the work is currently carried out in silos. The next logical step is to develop indicators that intersect with multiple systems. For the Task Force's recommendations on data, see page 61 "Get Smart About Data".

The Current State: How Children and Youth are Faring in King County

The data trends paint a rich and complex picture of evolving child and youth well-being in King County. While some indicators for the approximately 543,000¹¹ 0- to 24-year-olds in the county have been slowly improving or holding steady, others show conditions are worsening for some youth. Additionally, population growth and the recent economic downturn increased demands for family and youth services. For example, between 2005 and 2010, the percentage of children under five years old living in poverty increased from 13.4 percent of the total population to 15.4 percent, or 3,092 additional young children living in households of poverty in King County. Applications for free and reduced price lunch have increased by almost one-third, from 74,510 students in 2004 to 99,880 in 2013^{12 13}.

The following provides a more in-depth review of data on child and youth well-being in King County by indicator area.

Academic Progress: The data on academic progress portrays a mixed record of success for King County's youth. According to the King County Report, "Determinants of Equity" released in 2015, "American Indian, Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian and Hispanic students lag the farthest behind in demonstrating kindergarten readiness; the most significant disparity is in math."

On-time high school graduation rates in King County have held steady over the 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years at 80 percent; however, sub-population groups' on-time graduation averages are significantly lower in comparison to White and Asian youth who have a graduation rate of 85 percent, compared to Hispanic/Latino at 62 percent, Black/African American at 65 percent, Native American at 55 percent, English Language Learners (ELL) at 51 percent over the same time period of school years.

Third grade math performance at standard in 2011-13, was 71 percent across all populations, with Native American 42 percent, Black/African American at 44 percent, ELL students at 36 percent, and Special Education students at 35 percent among the lowest population sub-groups. Eighth grade reading performance at standard in 2011-2013 was 74 percent across all

¹¹ American Community Survey data from 2010 Census

¹² Retrieved from Kids County Data Center, last updated in 2012 by Washington Kids Count; Original data source: The U.S. Census Bureau's American Fact Finder, 2005-2007, 2006-2008, 2007-2009, and 2008-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) 3-Year Estimates.

¹³ Retrieved from Kids County Data Center, last updated in April 2014 by Washington Kids Count; Original Data Source: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Child Nutrition Services. The sources of this data are the annual October headcounts April 22, 2014.

King County school districts, with Black/African American at 52 percent, Native American at 54 percent, Hispanic at 55 percent, ELL at 16 percent, and Special Education 30 percent¹⁴.

Safety and Well-being. In 2002, the percentage of 10th grade students who reported not feeling safe at school was 15 percent; in 2012, that figure had dropped to 14 percent. Data from Public Health-Seattle and King County indicate that obesity rates for 8th, 10th, and 12th graders hovered around 9 percent, with higher rates for Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders (23 percent) and Hispanics (14 percent)¹⁵. Bullying rates have remained steady at 20 percent of all students reporting being bullied between 2004-2014. The proportion of 10th graders reporting they don't feel safe at school declined from 20 percent in 2004 to 14 percent in 2014¹⁶.

Homelessness. During the 2013-2014 school year in Washington State, school districts reported enrollment of over 32,494 homeless students, including 6,458 students in King County schools¹⁷. On any given night, more than 750 unaccompanied youth and young adults are homeless or unstably housed – including over 100 sleeping in parks, abandoned buildings or under bridges. Of these youth, 50 percent were female; 22 percent identified as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered or Questioning; 12 percent were under the age of 18; and 51 percent were of color. Youth and young adult homelessness is not an isolated issue in King County, as the youth and young adults were from nearly every zip code in King County¹⁸.

Prenatal Care: Prenatal care rates have held fairly steady over the last decade. In 2003, 83.4 percent of mothers received first trimester prenatal care. By 2013, the percentage of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care had dropped very slightly to 82.7 percent.¹⁹

Teens and Unintended Pregnancy: Adolescent pregnancy rates have been improving in recent years, decreasing from 20.0 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-17 in 2009 to 11.9 pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-17 in 2013. However, significant disparities in adolescent pregnancy rates persist by race, ethnicity and neighborhood.

¹⁴ Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction “Data and Reports” website: <http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/default.aspx>

¹⁵ Public Health – Seattle and King County School Age Obesity PDF <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/data/indicators.aspx>

¹⁶ Washington State Healthy Youth Survey data <http://www.askhys.net/Reports/Additional>

¹⁷ Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction “Homeless Education Office” website <http://www.k12.wa.us/homeless/>

¹⁸ Count Us In 2015 Report <http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/HomelessYouthandYoungAdults.aspx>

¹⁹ Not statistically significant change; source: Birth Certificate Data, Washington State Department of Health ; Prepared by Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Unit; Public Health-Seattle & King County

Unintended pregnancy, a significant risk factor for adverse birth and child developmental outcomes, remains a major issue in King County. Although there has been some improvement in recent years, 45 percent of all pregnancies in King County were reported as unintended in 2010, well below the Healthy People 2010²⁰ goal of 30 percent. When looking at women under age 20, however, that gap widens significantly, with 80 percent of all pregnancies reported as being unintended^{21 22}.

Differences Between Places and Groups-Uncovering Disparities: On the whole and compared with other counties and regions across the country, King County children, youth and families appear to be doing better on a range of indicators. According to the 2014 KIDS COUNT Data Book²³, overall the state of Washington ranks 18th compared to other states in economic indicators, 9th in health indicators, 18th in education indicators, and 17th in family and community indicators. In addition, *Time* magazine recently ranked Seattle as the 4th wealthiest city in America²⁴. Despite these positive indicators, many children and youth in King County continue to struggle.

King County as a whole, compared to other counties in Washington State, fares evenly to better for most indicators. For example, while King County is in the top rankings for 3rd and 8th grade reading and math scores and has comparatively low childhood obesity rankings, King County is not faring as well as many other Washington counties in areas such as the number of low-birth weight babies and teen pregnancies. Drilling down into the data uncovers deep discrepancies between communities within King County and within subpopulations as noted above. These discrepancies cover a wide range of conditions and outcomes. For example (1-3 below)²⁵:

1. The birth rate for Hispanic teenagers fell from 43.8 per 1000 teen females in 2001-2003 to 23.9 per 1000 females in 2011-2013. Although this is a marked improvement, the rate is alarmingly high compared with other ethnicities.
2. The teen birth rate for African-American women is 3.5 times the rate for whites, and the teen birth rate for Hispanics is 9.3 times the rate for white youth.
3. The teen pregnancy rate for Hispanics is almost 5 times the rate for white youth.

²⁰ Birth Certificate Data, Washington State Department of Health ; Prepared by Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Unit; Public Health-Seattle & King County

²¹ Health of Washington State: Unintended Pregnancy, Washington State Department of Health, Office of Healthy Communities, Surveillance and Evaluation Section. Last updated January 2014.

²² Healthy People 2010 was a national health promotion and disease prevention initiative to increase quality and years lived and eliminate health disparities.

²³ <http://www.aecf.org/resources/the-2014-kids-count-data-book/>

²⁴ Chiles, Ryan. "These Are the Wealthiest Cities in America." *Time Magazine* 30 Oct. 2014: Web. 16 Mar. 2015.

²⁵ Birth Certificate Data, Washington State Department of Health; Prepared by Assessment, Policy Development & Evaluation Unit; Public Health-Seattle & King County

4. Black/African-American youth were five times more likely to be referred to the juvenile justice system in 2013 than were White youth²⁶.
5. The student homeless rate is 10.2 percent in Tukwila and 4.9 percent in Highline, but only 0.7 percent in Issaquah and 0.2 percent on Mercer Island.
6. The percentage of 4th graders who met state reading requirements ranged from 58.3 percent in Highline and 60.8 percent in Tukwila up to 90.6 percent in Tahoma and 90.8 percent on Mercer Island²⁷.
7. Nearly half of Hispanic King County households with at least one child reported having run out of food at least once within the past 12 months – a higher rate than the County as a whole²⁸.

It is important to recognize that these are not the only areas or populations of disparity, as noted in the academic progress and safety and well-being sections above.

The poverty, economic, and racial disparities data paint a picture of inequity - the opposite of what King County wants for its young people. King County is committed to giving every child an equal opportunity to become thriving members of his or her community. To achieve that goal, the Task Force focused on understanding the barriers that currently contribute to that outcome as well as identifying potential solutions for eliminating those barriers. The Task Force's efforts related to understanding barriers and developing solutions can be found beginning on page 40.

²⁶ "The Determinants of Equity: Identifying Indicators to Establish a Baseline of Equity in King County." *Equity and Social Justice - King County*. King County Executive, Jan. 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015, page 10.

²⁷ Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction "Homeless Education Office" website <http://www.k12.wa.us/homelessed/>

²⁸ "The Determinants of Equity: Identifying Indicators to Establish a Baseline of Equity in King County." *Equity and Social Justice - King County*. King County Executive, Jan. 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015, page 74.

Facing Challenges: Understanding Barriers, Identifying Solutions

This section outlines the barriers as identified by the Task Force and the community —both within and outside of King County government—that prevent children, youth and families from realizing their full potential and outlines potential solutions to overcoming those barriers. It also highlights select examples of what the County is doing right in serving children, youth and their families, on its own or in partnership with providers, philanthropy, and/or other jurisdictions.

The barriers and their potential solutions outlined below were identified through the YAP processes, including the community conversations and youth survey, and during the activities and analysis of the Framework and Age Group Strategy teams. Community members and youth, along with Task Force members and their constituencies, worked together over the course of the last year to identify and detail the information below.

What We're Doing Right

As the Task Force learned throughout the Youth Action Plan process, King County and its partners across the region have much to be proud of regarding support for children and youth. In addition to the work that King County government is doing, broad coalitions of organizations and entities are working together to improve outcomes for those living in King County.

Examples of local coalition leadership working in key issues for children, youth, families and young adults include:

- **The Road Map Project**, a region-wide effort aimed at improving educational outcomes and student achievement from cradle to college and career in South King County and South Seattle. The project builds off the belief that collective effort is necessary to make large scale change and has created a common goal and shared vision to arrive at coordinated action, both inside and outside of schools. The goal of the Road Map Project is to double the number of students in South King County and South Seattle who are on track to graduate from college or earn a career credential by 2020.
- **Suburban King County Coordinating Council on Gangs**, developed by the Center for Children & Youth Justice (CCYJ) recognizes that no one community is equipped to effectively reduce gang and youth violence alone. CCYJ brings together schools, law enforcement, policymakers, social service providers and other organizations to develop a coordinated and innovative approach to prevent violence, save lives and change the future for our communities. Since 2011, the Council, and its many agency and community partners, have worked in collaboration to leverage existing resources and implement robust prevention,

intervention and re-entry strategies to assist gang affected youth and families in the region. The Council is the first multi-jurisdictional effort in the nation to use a proven model from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to address gang involvement in such a large, diverse region.

- **Uniting for Youth**, another example of a collaboration of state and local agencies, including King County, systematically working together to improve the coordination and integration of the juvenile justice, child welfare, mental health, chemical dependency, education and other youth-serving systems to improve outcomes for children, youth, and families²⁹. Uniting for Youth is an ongoing collaboration in Washington State whose ultimate goal is to improve outcomes for multisystem-involved children and youth. The initiative's immediate aim is to change the way all systems, including education, mental health, etc., work together in support of children, youth, and their families.
- **The King County Commercially Sexually Exploited Children's Task Force**, in partnership with separately elected criminal justice partners, CCYJ, service providers, and other jurisdictions, King County operates the King County Commercially Sexually Exploited Children's (CSEC) Task Force. It is the mission of the King County CSEC Task Force to ensure the safety and support of commercially sexually exploited children and to prevent further exploitation. The CSEC Task Force consists of representatives from local and federal law enforcement, schools, survivors, child welfare, youth and family service providers, the Harborview Center for Sexual Assault & Traumatic Stress as well as business and advocacy organizations such as the Federal Way Coalition Against Trafficking, Seattle Against Slavery, and Businesses Ending Slavery and Trafficking. Partner agencies collaborating within the CSEC Task Force coordinate the provision of services and resources throughout King County such as community advocate services for children and young adults, a 24/7 hotline, and free training for a wide array of individuals who are likely to come into contact with commercially sexually exploited individuals.
- **The Homeless Youth and Young Adult Initiative** is a community-wide response to prevent and end homelessness among young people. The Initiative is led by the Committee to End Homelessness in King County, advised by agency and government leaders, supported by private philanthropy and the public sector, and grounded in the voices and input of

²⁹ Rinaldi, Linda, and Nancy Ashley. "King County Uniting for Youth Implementation Evaluation." *Models for Change: Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice*. Models for Change: System Reform in Juvenile Justice, 31 Dec. 2012. Web. 10 Mar. 2015.

homeless and formerly homeless young people. Its goals are to make homelessness rare, brief, and one time only, and to reduce disparities for youth of color and LGBTQ youth³⁰.

- **SOAR** is a community coalition working in the childhood and youth sectors to promote the healthy development of children, youth and in King County to ensure that all children succeed in school and in life. SOAR's efforts have brought together over 1,000 partners on countywide action agendas³¹. Public Health – Seattle and King County and the Department of Community and Human Services are involved with the SOAR partnership. SOAR is another example of innovative initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for King County's children, youth and their families.
- **Reclaiming Futures** is in its 13th year at King County, building off an initial 2002 investment by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This initiative successfully enhanced juvenile justice reforms and developed comprehensive model of care targeting youthful offenders experiencing mental health and substance use challenges. In 2014 Reclaiming Futures expanded the model to provide Screening Brief Intervention and Treatment (SBIRT) to five middle schools in Seattle, expanding the scope of Reclaiming Futures beyond juvenile's involved in the justice system to offer prevention and intervention services to those youth who may be facing truancy interventions from a specific school or a formal truancy filing with King County Superior Court Juvenile Services. Also in 2014, the Reclaiming Futures Fellowship convened over 200 community members in 2014 to create a Vision for Youth in King County to span 10 years.
- **King County government** is leading efforts to tackle the tough issues of fairness and justice through its Equity and Social Justice Initiative. The County has also led the way in the state to implement initiatives that produce better outcomes for youth and families and that are less costly for citizens and county government. One such precedent is the Family Intervention Reconciliation Services (FIRS) model that the County is working to implement. The FIRS model provides an option for families and the justice system to instead of processing youth involved in intra-family domestic violence cases (involving parents and siblings, not domestic partners) via detention, charges, and court appearances, such cases would be diverted to a service provider to help the youth and their families address the crisis that lead to the domestic dispute.

While there are many entities working collaboratively together and doing many things right in

³⁰<http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/HomelessYouthandYoungAdults.aspx>

³¹<http://www.childrenandyouth.org/>

providing youth supports and achieving outcomes, it is clear from the data that children and youth are not faring as well as they should.

Common Barriers That Prevent Children, Youth, and Families from Realizing Their Full Potential

The County's 2015 Determinants of Equity report states, "It is becoming more widely recognized that King County residents do not enjoy the same health, resources, and opportunities because of their race and where they live. Inequity threatens the region's ability to remain globally competitive."³² As the Task Force found, a variety of barriers hinder the success of King County's children, youth, and families including: economic, educational, health and wellness, racial, and institutional barriers.

The Age Group Strategy Teams and participants in the community conversations reviewed data on key indicators and compilations of trend lines, including academic, health and safety measures. The following are the top 6 barriers facing children and youth in King County, as selected by participants from the five community conversations:

1. School Safety
2. Disconnected Youth, Not in School and Not Working
3. Homeless Students
4. High School Graduation
5. Child Abuse and Neglect
6. High School Dropout Rate

All topics came up in each community conversation location, reflecting a notable uniformity of issues and concerns across the regions of the county where the conversations occurred.

Community conversation attendees were asked to identify barriers or root causes that impacted the child and youth indicator trends and then clustered them into groupings. The participating youth, families and community members identified a range of impediments as shown in Table 4 below.

³² "The Determinants of Equity: Identifying Indicators to Establish a Baseline of Equity in King County." *Equity and Social Justice - King County*. King County Executive, Jan. 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015.

Table 4.
Top Root Causes/Barriers as Identified in Community Conversations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY/PARENT CHALLENGES • CARING COMPETENT ADULTS • HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION • SAFETY • STRESS /HOPELESSNESS • MENTAL HEALTH & PEER PRESSURE • HEALTH • EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACK OF AWARENESS OF SERVICES & SUPPORTS • LACK OF ENGAGEMENT • RESOURCES • INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES • POVERTY & ECONOMIC STRUGGLE • CULTURAL DIFFERENCES • RACISM/SEXISM
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Interconnectedness of barriers is notable in the information gleaned from community conversations and reflected in Table 4 above. The clustering exercise generated the following groups of barriers, corresponding systemic and structural reforms needed, and the associated broader underlying causes of the barriers.

Table 5. Barriers, Broader Causes and Reforms

Individual & Family Barriers	Broader Underlying Causes	System and Structural Reforms Addressing Barriers and Causes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmet basic needs • Behavioral & physical health challenges • Family challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty and lack of economic opportunities • Limited educational and employment opportunities • Lack of safety, including school • Racism • Sexism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More help with basic needs • More caring, competent adults and professionals • Awareness of and access to services and supports • Cultural competency of workers providing services • More and ongoing community and youth engagement opportunities • More resources for children, youth, and families • Institutional and systemic reforms

The Youth Survey provided another opportunity to engage youth and uncover answers to two overarching questions:

- What are the most pressing issues facing youth in King County?
- How do youth want to be meaningfully engaged with the County?

The next section details the youth response to the question of meaningful engagement and suggested solutions by youth.

In response to the survey, more than 1,000 of King County's youth identified their top three categories of concerns as:

1. Education (73 percent)
2. Social/Emotional Well-being (67 percent)
3. Jobs/Employment (55 percent)

In the area of education, absenteeism (56 percent) and difficulty paying for college (61 percent) were the most commonly reported issues. However, some issues were ranked particularly high among respondents of specific races and ethnicities, such as: difficulty accessing college (cited by 32 percent of Asian American/Pacific-Islander respondents), failing classes or being held back (24 percent among multiracial respondents), and school disciplinary issues (26 percent among Black/African-American respondents). Depression was by far the most common social/emotional issue reported (83 percent), followed by self-harm/suicide (50 percent). Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino and Asian American/Pacific Islander respondents all reported higher incidences of discrimination based on immigration status, and higher incidences of bullying based on immigration status (23 percent, 41 percent and 23 percent, respectively). White, non-Hispanic respondents reported high incidences of bullying based on religion (48 percent) and on sexual orientation (45 percent). Lack of opportunities for youth employment was the primary concern in the job/employment domain (70 percent), followed by unemployed parents/guardians (53 percent) and lack of opportunities to get job skills or training (50 percent).

Engaging with youth and community members to learn about barriers, experiences, and concerns was a rich source of information for the Task Force. Clear themes between the youth survey and community conversations emerged, reflecting shared concern over conditions and experiences.

As noted earlier, the Age Group Strategy Teams focused on three age groups:

- prenatal to 8 (or 0-8)
- Ages 9-15
- Ages 16-24

The Age Group Strategy Teams reviewed the data trends, County’s investments, and the barriers outlined by the community conversations and the youth survey and developed problem statements reflecting what they saw and heard.

Table 6. Age Group Strategy Teams’ Problem Statements by Goal Areas

Goal Area	Problem Statements Prenatal-8	Problem Statements 9-15	Problem Statements 16-24
Academically & Vocationally Competent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor quality child care • High rates of expulsion from childcare & pre-K • Challenging transitions to school • Limited access to broad supports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple unsupported or challenging transitions: school, adolescence, and emotional development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Falling graduation rates • Lack of employment or post high school education opportunities • Fragmented “second chance” educational options
Healthy & Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toxic stress due to adverse childhood experiences (abuse, neglect, violence, poverty) • Unidentified developmental delays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaddressed physical issues; obesity; abuse and neglect • Unsafe environments; access to weapons, homelessness • Basic needs not met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness • Violence • Teen pregnancy • Justice system involvement
Socially & Emotionally Competent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and/or parenting challenges • Isolation • Lack of healthy relationships with caregivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unhealthy peer and adult relationships; • Bullying, abuse • Early drug and alcohol use/experimentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High depression rates • Substance abuse • Tenuous or broken family connections
Civically Engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults parenting young children lack knowledge, skills, support, resources and community connections to effectively advocate for their child’s needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little meaningful connection to or understanding of community (neighborhood, school, cultural heritage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of meaningful opportunities to engage, influence or contribute to their communities or express their voices

Potential Solutions for Helping Children, Youth, and Families Overcome or Eliminate Barriers

The results from the community conversations and youth survey served to clarify community conditions and concerns, which in turn enabled the Task Force to engage in dialogue with community members about potential solutions. This section is organized into two components: potential solutions identified by community conversation and youth survey participants and solutions generated by the Age Group Strategy Teams. **The barriers identified represent major systemic and societal challenges** and deficiencies which makes them difficult, but not impossible, to overcome or remove.

Solutions Generated by Community Conversations and Youth Survey: The Task Force and community conversation participants worked together to understand what was behind each barrier and what the County and community could potentially do together to begin to overcome or eliminate them.

Table 7. Community Conversation Generated Solutions

Area	Solution Ideas
Counseling	More resources for mental health, especially school counselors
Transportation and Housing	Needed for metropolitan areas Stop cutting bus service Increase transportation for community programs outside of school Increase amount /availability of low-income/affordable housing
Programmatic Enhancements	Provide treatment not jail Increase wraparound/integrated services Provide parent education & parenting classes Increase social/emotional learning programming, early intervention, family needs assessments, financial literacy holistic services for children and families Living wage job development Afterschool opportunities
Cultural Competence	Reach out to communities of color & minorities Provide appropriate translation services Enhance cultural competence and provide training for law enforcement, teachers, service providers Offer multi-lingual resources, especially on County websites Provide multi-lingual community forums, workshops, community centers Support cultural organizations More diversity and minorities on staff Offer more access to multilingual services
Youth Development	More mentorship programs (where caring adults support kids) Increased after school activities (more than just sports) More after-school activities at schools (with transportation to get kids home safely) Support mentoring programs e.g. - pay kids to mentor
Coordination	Better coordination across systems, especially transitioning from elementary to middle school Increased communication among/across systems

Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More community conversations Need to go to the people, not make people come to government More opportunities like community conversations Listen to community recommendations/solutions Convene community forums and listen
Access and Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect families to existing services Provide information Educate community about programs
Youth Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get law makers and youth in the same room Involve King County Youth Advisory Council Generate opportunities for horizontal leadership
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical assistance, particularly grant writing services, to smaller organizations Experiment with new programming Partner with community organizations
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make long term investments Address resource gaps More funding for programs and services for children and families, and youth and young adults Equitable distribution of resources

It is noteworthy that there were a greater number of suggestions and ideas generated around cultural competence and community engagement which is likely reflective of the disproportionality that many citizens experience in the access to some of the regions’ benefits and opportunities.

Similarly, the youth surveyed identified that intentional, direct engagement between the County and youth was among the best ways that King County can most effectively partner with youth. King County youth want to be engaged as change makers, but genuine engagement of young people requires a fundamental shift in the process of how decisions are made. In response to the question of “what are the three best ways the County can most effectively partner with youth to make decisions, 64 percent of youth responded, “Ask youth to identify problems and solutions.”

Age Group Strategy Teams: After analysis and discussion of the data and information, the Age Group Strategy Teams developed specific outcome recommendations for the goal areas, shown in Table 8 below.

Table 8. Age Group Strategy Teams' Goal Areas and Potential Solutions

Goal Area	Potential Solutions Prenatal-8	Potential Solutions 9-15	Potential Solutions 16-24
Academically & Vocationally Competent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training, coaching, and consultation to child care providers • Parent support and training • Increase access to broad supports, including family, friend, and neighbor caregivers • Support early childhood collaborations, pre K-3rd grade alignment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support parents and children preparing for challenging transitions: school, adolescence, and emotional development • Help parents avoid mid-year moves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help kids graduate or get GED • More employment and post high school educational opportunities • Streamline and make accessible “second chance” educational options to all
Healthy & Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll children and families in health care • Expand developmental and screening & link with trauma informed services • Stabilize and expand home visiting services, pre and post natal • Integrate behavioral health and primary care • Ensure access to family planning and health education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide health (physical and behavioral) screenings and interventions • Provide trauma informed care • Increase teen clinics • Eliminate food deserts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase availability and access to shelter and housing for homeless youth • More mental health and substance abuse services/treatment options • Increase accessibility of services to where children and youth are
Socially & Emotionally Competent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post natal support for mothers • Screen parents for depression • Train care givers and providers on healthy relationships • Expand knowledge and supports to caregivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build social/emotional skills • Screen for drug and alcohol use/experimentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote prosocial models (actions that benefit others) • Screen for drug and alcohol abuse • Support and restore family or meaningful connections

<p>Civically Engaged</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support those parenting young children by providing knowledge, skills, support, resources and community connections needed to effectively advocate for their child’s needs • Engage parents in decision making processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more community engagement and leadership opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more opportunities for youth leadership and decision making • Add youth positions on boards and commissions • Encourage volunteerism and voting
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Charting the Future: Recommendations for Policymakers, the Public, and Providers

As documented in this report, throughout the course of its work over the last year the Task Force has developed recommendations about how King County should go about the business of effectively getting the best outcomes for children and their families and youth and young adults. The Task Force members drew from a wealth of national resources of best practice research on a range of child and youth issues to look to their recommendations. By reviewing an extensive amount and range of data, and engaging with youth, parents, and others who are committed to better outcomes for children, youth, and young adults, the Task Force is uniquely positioned to advise King County's policymaking leadership.

The Youth Action Plan recommendations speak not only to the role of the County government but also to the commitments by the range of community actors who regularly work together to improve the lives and opportunities of children and youth in King County. Ultimately, the recommendations contained within this document may be considered a to-do list for policymakers to consider, but that also reflects a set of principles that the County should consider as it approaches the significant work ahead.

The Task Force identified three fundamental principles that are embedded within each of its Youth Action Plan recommendations. The Task Force urges King County to reflect these principles in its policies, priorities, services, and programs moving forward.

1. ***The well-being of children and families and youth and young adults should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, or immigration status.*** Responding to the data and documented disproportionate outcomes that many King County residents experience, the Task Force finds that this principle must guide and inform all policymaking, funding, and service decisions in county government. This finding closely aligns with Ordinance 16948 which articulates King County's focus on the principles of fairness and justice embodied in the Countywide Strategic Plan. The Task Force finds that the County must prioritize eliminating disproportionate outcomes for its citizens.
2. ***Youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include diverse youth/youth voices in authentic and meaningful ways.*** Engaging youth (and young adults) is a powerful way for King County to move its work forward. The unique experiences and perspectives of youth and young adults make them valuable partners with King County as it creates and improves services and programs for youth and young adults.

King County must develop and implement opportunities to involve diverse youth and the diverse voices of youth in decision making.

3. ***Policy development, services, and programming should intentionally incorporate voices of the people impacted by the policies and services in authentic and meaningful ways.***

Just as the previous fundamental principle recognizes that the voice of diverse youth has intrinsic value in the scoping and provision of services and policies that impact them, so too, should the County intentionally incorporate the voices of people impacted by its policies and services. The experiences and perspectives of those impacted by the County's policies and services, such as parents (of young children AND also parents who themselves are young) and caregivers, make them constructive collaborators with King County. Involving their perspective creates and improves services and programs, and will in turn, improve outcomes.

Foundational principles two and three reflect the perspective of the Task Force that the voices of youth are distinctly different than adult voices and are often overlooked and that the voices of parents are also missing in policy and services development. In recognition of these facts, the Task Force urges King County to intentionally and meaningfully engage with youth, parents, and caregivers as it develops policies and services for children and families, and youth and young adults. Providing a path for individuals who have not had the opportunity to inform the County's policies and services to provide input is a key finding of the Task Force.

The Youth Action Plan recommendations reflect the intensive work of the Task Force in reviewing data, barriers and solutions generated from the community conversations and the youth survey, and from the Task Force's Framework and Age Group Strategy Teams. The recommendations are also informed by the Task Force members' depth of knowledge and experience. Additionally, the Task Force surveyed many existing partnerships focused on children and youth in King County. The Task Force received updates on priorities from the cities and school districts within King County, as well as information from the state and federal government regarding cross-system coordination efforts. The Task Force also obtained input from experts in early childhood, middle childhood and young adulthood on promising work and initiatives already occurring related to each age group in the County. All of this data and information forms the basis for the recommendations that follow.

The Youth Action Plan recommendations that follow are grouped by area, generally corresponding to the requirements of Ordinance 17738.

Recommendation Area 1 – Equity and Social Justice

As King County’s 2014 Social Justice and Equity Report states, “One government alone can’t eliminate inequities – the solution lies in community organizations, governments, business, philanthropy, academia and other sectors working together to advance a shared equity agenda.” The Youth Action Plan enables the Task Force, with its diversity of representatives, to continue to prioritize the important work of eliminating inequities. As noted above, the Task Force identified as a fundamental principle for the Youth Action Plan that the well-being of children should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, or immigration status.

To eliminate inequities, the Task Force finds King County should:

- a. Provide resources to recognize, prevent, and eliminate institutional racism and other forms of bias within every aspect of County government, including contracting processes:**
 - (1) Provide technical assistance to refugee, immigrant, culturally specific, and/or smaller organizations to develop and deliver quality services, improve sustainability, and partner with King County to serve children and families and youth and young adults.
 - (2) Build and promote cultural competence across King County’s departments and agencies that serve children, youth, and families.
 - (3) Align County-funded services and programs for children and their families and youth and young adults with other County plans, including the Equity and Social Justice Plan, the County Strategic Plan, and the Transformation Plan. As these plans are brought up for review and renewal, the County should ensure that those implementing this Youth Action Plan be included in those discussions.

- b. Ensure young people and others with limited access to decision makers are engaged as partners in determining the services and activities meant to serve them:**
 - (1) Look to authentic youth engagement program models that already exist in the County, such as Mockingbird Society and the King County Youth Advisory Council, for best practices in outreach and engagement to reach young people, including the hardest to reach youth.
 - (2) Ensure that efforts to reach the following underserved or marginalized youth and young adult populations are intentional and incorporate effective engagement strategies. Populations to be engaged include, but are not limited to those who are
 - i. in alternative schooling;
 - ii. living with a disability;
 - iii. involved with foster care and kinship care;
 - iv. lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered or questioning (LGBTQ)

- v. involved with or at high risk of becoming gang involved;
 - vi. involved in the juvenile justice system;
 - vii. young, pregnant and/or parenting; and,
 - viii. refugees, immigrants, and/or English language learners.
- c. Ensure services for the at-risk gang or justice involved populations are geared toward prevention, re-engaging, and reconnecting this population.**
- d. Recognize areas of need, culturally diverse communities, and pockets of poverty throughout King County outside the City of Seattle and ensure that programs and services for children, youth and families, and young adult populations:**
- (1) take into account the diverse geographic and cultural communities within King County, are localized (i.e., not a one size fits all approach), and community based; and
 - (2) integrate cultural responsiveness, including making sure linguistic needs are met.
- e. Ensure adequate outreach, translation and interpretation services are available for immigrant communities and English language learners.**
- f. Reduce the disproportionate number of LGBTQ youth and youth of color who experience homelessness.**
- g. Partner with appropriate organizations to encourage voting.**

Recommendation Area 2 – Strengthen and Stabilize Families and Children, Youth and Young Adults

A key component of the County’s commitment to equity and social justice is helping children and youth grow into adulthood with opportunities that allow them to achieve their full potential. Families provide the building blocks for a successful and bright future for many children and youth, but not all families are able to do so. Many “downstream” conditions – homelessness, incarceration, and substance abuse – can be prevented when kids have safe, healthy childhoods, access to quality education, and other opportunities. The Task Force finds that the County should use its resources and convening power to strengthen and stabilize families, children, youth and young adults, and build on its, and the region’s, successes.

The Task Force finds that King County should:

- a. Support meeting the needs of the whole person starting before birth:**
- (1) Ensure access to pre-conception care, family planning, and health education to prevent unplanned and teen pregnancy and to support adequate birth spacing.

- (2) Support pregnant and parenting families with health and nutrition guidance, substance abuse prevention, and screening and linking to services for post-partum depression so that healthier babies are born across King County regardless of location, the age of their parents, their race/ethnic background or family income.
- (3) Increase infant and early childhood screenings, including:
 - i. Mental health screenings
 - ii. Developmental screenings that align with the American Academy of Pediatrics' Bright Futures Guidelines and link to services when indicated.
- (4) Provide more mental health and substance abuse services and broad parenting and family support programming.
- (5) Ensure all parents, including young parents, and caregivers, have access to supports they need to address not only their own emotional needs, but also the needs of the young children they are parenting or caring for, providing them with the parenting skills, education, and support they need to thrive.
- (6) Support and expand initiatives and strategies (such as Washington State's Healthiest Next Generations Initiative³³) to help children and families increase physical activity and improve healthy eating at home, and in schools, early learning and community settings.
- (7) Expand Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) programs.

b. Expand physical and behavioral health services to children and youth experiencing adverse childhood experiences (including homelessness, child abuse, and domestic violence). Such expanded services include but are not limited to:

- (1) Increasing infant and early childhood relationship-based mental health services, including increasing provider skills and competencies.
- (2) Increasing of high quality child care environments, with a specialty focus on trauma-exposed children (such as child care services for homeless families).
- (3) Increasing support services for victims of domestic violence who are parenting and link those services to the earliest point possible in families' encounters with the courts (i.e., connections made at protection order filings).
- (4) Increasing trauma screening for young children particularly for those at risk of adverse childhood experiences and link screening with engagement in prevention, early intervention, treatment or other resources and services as indicated

³³ Healthiest Next Generation Initiative children maintain a healthy weight, enjoy active lives and eat well.
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/healthiestnextgen>

c. Ensure King County residents have stable housing; improve availability and access to shelter and housing for youth and young adults.

- (1) Increase support for families with children and youth facing homelessness with case management, assessment, referral, and early learning or school supports.
- (2) Strengthen the ability of schools to identify homeless children and youth and improve referrals to services.

d. Support and expand services and programs impacting school-aged children:

- (1) Create and support connected pathways between K-12, colleges, vocational schools, and workforce sectors.
- (2) Support refugee, immigrant, and English language learner families' equitable access to supportive transitions, including transition to college.
- (3) Support social and emotional learning in schools through expansion of programs that support positive school climates and the ability of children to deal with adverse childhood experiences.
- (4) Provide programming or support for summer/out-of-school transition times for school aged youth, recognizing that access, availability, and preferences of opportunities vary in rural, suburban, and urban communities.
- (5) Build on the early successes of collective impact endeavors such as the Roadmap Project in South King County and Eastside Pathways by complementing and supporting their work with County programs and services.

e. Prioritize workforce development, and the development of economic opportunities, and match opportunity youth³⁴ with the best education and employment opportunities.

f. Prioritize services for those most in need.

Recommendation Area 3 - Stop the School to Prison Pipeline

Data shows that students who are suspended or expelled, particularly those who are repeatedly disciplined, are more likely to drop out of school than students who are not involved in the disciplinary system³⁵. The National Education Association states, "A suspension can be life altering. It is the number-one predictor—more than poverty—of whether children will drop out of school and walk down a road that includes greater likelihood of unemployment, reliance

³⁴ "Opportunity Youth" are youth and young adults ages 16-24 who are not engaged in work or school.

³⁵ Fabelo, Tony, Ph.D., and Carmichael, Dottie, Ph.D. "Breaking Schools' Rules: A Statewide Study of How School Discipline Relates." (2011). The Council of State Governments Justice Center Public Policy Research Institute, July 2011. Web. 13 March 2015.

on social-welfare programs, and imprisonment.”³⁶ Expulsions are occurring in pre-K programs at alarming rates with pronounced racial disproportionality. According to the U.S. Department of Education, black children represent 18 percent of preschool enrollment, but 48 percent of children receiving more than one out-of-school suspension; in comparison, white students represent 43 percent of preschool enrollment but 26 percent of preschool children receiving more than one out of school suspension³⁷.

To end the school to prison pipeline, King County should:

a. Support preventive practices and programs that reduce the likelihood of contact with the juvenile justice system, including:

- (1) Provide training, consultation and support to childcare and infant, toddler, and pre-K providers to eliminate the use of expulsion. This includes using training and technical assistance tools that are based on the demonstrated effective standards and guidelines (as seen in the competencies contained in Early Achievers and the Washington State Association of Infant Mental Health Endorsement Guidelines).
- (2) Ensure all families have access to high quality developmentally appropriate early care and education environments such as those programs which have top ratings in the state Quality Rating and Improvement System - Early Achievers.

b. Convene cross-system partners (school districts, justice system, families, youth, etc.) to:

- (1) collaborate on successfully reducing school expulsions and increasing the availability and use of alternatives to discipline policies that require students to miss school;
- (2) develop alternative pathways for school completion for those who have been expelled;
- (3) promote fairness in the application of justice policies across racial, ethnic, income, gender, and sexual orientation areas;
- (4) assess and eliminate institutional factors that increase disproportionate outcomes that lead to entry into the juvenile justice system;
- (5) align law enforcement, juvenile and criminal justice systems with education and employment pathways for youth through common goals, outcomes and indicators;
- (6) assist with reentry from jail to community for youth and young adults and open community-based alternative re-entry services to youth re-entering the community from jail, including reentry to school and housing;

³⁶ Flannery, Mary Ellen. "The School-to-Prison Pipeline: Time to Shut It Down - NEA Today." *NEA Today*. National Education Association, 05 Jan. 2015. Web. 13 Mar. 2015.

³⁷ Source: U.S. Department Of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection, 2011-12. "Civil Rights Data Collection: Data Snapshot (School Discipline)." *CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTION* [Http://ocrdata.ed.gov/](http://ocrdata.ed.gov/). U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, 24 Mar. 2014. Web.

- (7) establish and support partnering between law enforcement, criminal and juvenile justice systems to be aware of available services and connect youth to those services;
 - (8) ensure that alternative programs reach all youth populations throughout King County that are currently disproportionately represented in detention or confinement³⁸; and
 - (9) enhance existing law enforcement training with additional evidence based training for officers on effective and early interactions with youth.
- c. Reduce the use of, and move toward eliminating, detention for non-violent crimes of youth under age 18 by:**
- (1) Ensuring fairness in the earliest youth contacts with the juvenile justice system by setting improvement goals and providing cross-agency and public access to regular reports that disaggregate data on youth interactions by precinct, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation.
 - (2) Expanding and ensuring equitable access to community-based alternatives to arrest and prosecution; and creating mechanisms for referral of youth to community-based alternatives with a reporting commitment that tracks the availability of these options in communities.
 - (3) Expanding and enhancing promising juvenile justice programs that increase diversion, prevent detention or incarceration, provide treatment, and provide redemption such as restorative justice circles, peace circles, youth courts, Family Intervention Reconciliation Services, and restorative mediation pilots.
- d. Fund and promote programs that stop the school to prison pipeline, including pro-social activities and programs for youth of all ages.**
- e. Improve the capacity of incarcerated or formerly incarcerated parents to engage with their young children.**

Recommendation Area 4 – Bust Silos/We’re Better Together

Throughout the Task Force process, a number of key concepts were repeatedly raised by community members, Task Force Members, consultants, and staff. These concepts all share the

³⁸ For the purposes of this document, the terms “Prison,” “Incarceration,” and “Jail” refer to the youth and young adult population in the Adult Criminal Justice System; “Detention” and “Confinement” refer to the youth population involved in the Juvenile Justice System. Generally speaking, youth in the Juvenile Justice System are under the age of 18 and in some cases can remain until age 21. The Adult Criminal Justice System houses young adults over 18 years of age.

same theme: collaborate, integrate, share information, and work together for more powerful and meaningful outcomes. These recommendations speak to how the work of serving children and families and youth and young adults should be performed, both internally to King County and how the County should interact with its external partners. These concepts are also reflective of the organizing principles of collective impact.

Collective impact is a tool for solving complex problems---the ones facing children and families and youth and young adults throughout the region. The Task Force urges King County to utilize the collective impact model and its principles as best practices for approaching and organizing its complex, multifaceted work with children and families and youth and young adults, both internally as King County government and externally, as one partner among many. The five key elements of collective impact best practices include³⁹:

- A Common Agenda: working together to define what the collective wants to accomplish together
- Shared Measurement: working together to define how success will be measured across participants
- Mutually Reinforcing Activities: defining the work the collective will do that will contribute toward achieving the agreed upon results
- Ongoing Communication: defining how the collective will communicate regularly with each other about the work and results
- Support Functions: deciding who and how the collective will receive the logistical, data, communications, and other support functions they need to work together effectively.

The recommendations below recognize that while King County government is one player among many, and not responsible for some key systems involving children and youth, it is uniquely positioned to utilize its regional role and act as a collaborator and convener. Further, the Task Force urges King County to utilize the collective impact model internally among its departments and agencies. See Recommendation Area 7 – Accountability for an in-depth discussion of this recommendation.

³⁹ Hanleybrown, F., Kania, J., & Kramer M. (Jan 2012). *Channeling Change: Making Collective Impact Work*, Stanford Social Innovation Review. http://www.ssireview.org/blog/entry/channeling_change_making_collective_impact_work

Collaboration will enable the County and others to mutually identify and achieve shared goals and potentially leverage effort and resources. Conveners play an essential role in achieving successful outcomes in collaborative processes, especially when the solutions reached require action by multiple sectors and levels of government⁴⁰. The most significant factor in recommending that the County collectively identify and align its outcomes is to achieve maximum impact of its investments for children and youth.

The Task Force finds King County should:

- a. **Internally, King County should bring together all County department and agencies serving children, youth and family, and young adult population(s) to jointly and collectively:**
 - (1) identify and agree upon outcomes and indicators for populations to be served;
 - (2) collect data against identified outcomes and track and review outcomes, program measures, and quality improvement;
 - (3) shift to more robust performance measures; and
 - (4) develop and implement a holistic, intentional approach to serving children, youth, and their families, and young adults that is reflective of King County's Social Justice and Equity principles.
- b. **King County should regularly communicate internally among its departments and agencies, and externally with the broader community, on the status of the County's outcomes for children and youth.**
- c. **Externally, King County should act as a multi-system convener, engaging and collaborating with existing coalitions, coordinating councils, partnerships, governments, and school districts that represent the full spectrum of the prenatal to 24-year-old services and interests to:**
 - (1) Partner, coordinate, and align its children, youth and family, and young adult services, goals, and policies with external entities (service providers, youth leadership groups, state agencies, local governments, etc.) as part of King County's holistic, intentional approach to serving children, youth, and their families, and young adults.
 - (2) Engage with the King County Early Learning Coalition, the King County Interagency Coordinating Council and other early learning community groups which represent

⁴⁰ Arthur, Jim, Christine Carlson, and Lee Moore. "The Role of Convener." *A Practical Guide to Consensus*. Santa Fe, NM: Policy Consensus Initiative, 1999. 29-31.

the full spectrum of the Early Learning Community. In particular, the County should consider alignment with or support of the long-term and annual goals identified by the range of state plans for children and youth such as the State Birth - 3 Years plan, the State Early Learning Plan and yearly work plans by the State Early Learning Advisory Council and its local representatives.

- (3) Support the convening of learning providers, caregivers, and school districts to increase collaboration and improve successful transitions to elementary, junior high, and high schools.

Recommendation Area 5 – Get Smart about Data

"We value what we measure rather than measuring what we value" is an expression commonly heard in data circles. It could not be more accurate with regard to data on children and youth outcomes. The things we truly hope to gain as a result of our investments in children and youth are not being measured. There is also a perception that too much data is already being collected without feedback loops resulting in a "data rich, information poor" environment.

One of the key findings of the Task Force from the Youth Action Plan process is that outcome and indicator data are vitally important to inform decision, recommendation, and policy making. Yet, as noted earlier in this report, the Youth Action Plan process highlighted significant gaps and issues around data. Those issues included:

- Data was difficult to uncover or did not exist in a way that lent itself to outcome analysis.
- Data was spread among many public and private agencies that routinely don't share it or don't necessarily talk to each other.
- It was difficult to disaggregate data.
- The County's large and complex geographic, organizational, and political boundaries presented a challenge to making comparisons among school districts, zip codes and cities.

The Task Force learned that the County does not have shared identified outcomes or outcome measures for children and youth services and programs in its department and agencies. Without a comprehensive, countywide approach to data and outcome metrics for children and youth, King County will be hampered in making data informed decisions or uncovering gaps in services or outcomes. It is crucial that King County strategically identify and invest in collecting the right data and use it to inform decisions. While King County government is already carrying out aspects of this work through its Lean continuous improvement approach and the Task Force recognizes that this recommendation area strongly aligns with King County's commitment to the Lean approach, the Task Force recommends expanding those efforts.

Additionally, the Task Force recognizes that many external organizations and programs may be committed to continuous improvement and data development but do not always have the capacity given their limited resources. The County, as a partner and funder, should assist these agencies with data development.

The Task Force finds King County should:

- a. **Bring together all County department and agencies serving children, youth and family, and young adult population(s) to jointly and collectively:**
 - (1) identify and agree upon outcomes and indicators for populations served;
 - (2) collect data against identified outcomes and track and review outcomes, program measures, and quality improvement;
 - (3) work to obtain data for the 0-24 age range; and
 - (4) shift to more robust performance measures.
- b. **Identify examples of cross-agency data systems and government-community data sharing within the County, support the documentation and, if appropriate, replication of these systems across the County.**
- c. **Establish data-use expectations. In order to effectively use data for decision making and strategic direction, assess progress and target interventions, any data collection effort should ensure that it has the capacity to:**
 - (1) track data on prenatal- to 24-year-olds and their families;
 - (2) refine and improve the indicators the County tracks, focusing on those that meet the proxy power, data power and communication power criteria; and
 - (3) use the data to drive investments, set benchmarks and target interventions, particularly paying attention to disaggregation by income, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status and geographic location.
- d. **Invest in data development; develop the capacity to know who is accessing King County services, who is not, and what outcomes result from the investments.**
- e. **Examine and evaluate data collection approaches to determine which data collection efforts are not useful and could be eliminated.**
- f. **Commit to enhancing and supporting promising organizations and networks in building their data and continuous improvement capacity so that those organizations and networks are better able to serve communities.**

- g. **Create the capacity to map, coordinate and align programs and services across the agencies, governments, school districts and other silos that intersect with youth and families.**
- h. **Create and support data sharing infrastructures that measure cross-County health and well-being outcomes and provide for disaggregation of data from prenatal to age 24.**
 - (1) Utilize existing outcome data structures and systems whenever possible, both internally and externally with partners.
- i. **Create a culture of data internal and external to King County government through:**
 - (1) Incentivizing the collection and use of data by all stakeholders, and lifting up and building on good examples of data work occurring with Youth Development Executives of King County, the Road Map Project, Puget Sound Educational Service District⁴¹ and others;
 - (2) Developing shared measurement processes for health and well-being outcomes, particularly in the area of early childhood, and align these efforts with work with Thrive Washington and the Washington State Department of Early Learning around metrics being identified for home visiting programs and early achievers;
 - (3) Establishing regular check-ins between the lead County government agencies and community-based organizations and the public on the status of outcomes;
 - (4) Establishing policies that hold funded agencies accountable for reporting on their contribution toward common outcomes.
- j. **Institutionalize the use of youth-developed youth surveys.**
 - (1) Explore and implement expanded, comprehensive youth surveys that reach youth in school and out, measure social/emotional domains and are culturally appropriate.
- k. **Build on and increase support for the continuous improvement of programs and services of King County government by:**
 - (1) aligning the existing quality improvement systems of the various County agencies and departments;
 - (2) beginning to shift toward more robust performance measures to track access, reach, quality and ability to achieve outcomes;
 - (3) determining the efficacy of County-delivered services versus contracted services;

⁴¹ Puget Sound Educational Service District is working on a shared data system across school districts, with a module dedicated to sharing secure data with community-based organizations in the seven-school district Road Map/Race to the Top consortium (Seattle, Tukwila, Renton, Kent, Highline, Auburn and Federal Way).

- (4) working with the community and other providers to align service offerings and align measures to track those services and their outcomes; and
- (5) promoting and rewarding partnerships among providers.

l. Maintain an ongoing data development agenda.

m. Publicly post a dashboard tracking indicators.

Recommendation Area 6 – Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Outcomes

As noted earlier in this report, research shows that improving child and youth outcomes requires a coordinated, high-quality set of family, school and community supports. To put into place the complex array of supports that help achieve improved child and youth outcomes as outlined in the Recommendation Areas above, leaders across all sectors throughout the region must work in partnership to finance these improvements to bring them to scale.

It was beyond the scope of work for the Task Force to conduct a detailed assessment of specific programs, agencies, or potential required levels of funding for programming. However, through its analysis of indicators and data, and drawing on its depth and breadth of knowledge and expertise, the Task Force identified key aspects and essential components of a well-funded, robust system for serving children and families and youth and young adults.

The County’s Dedicated Funding Streams - As with most large governments, King County’s resources are largely dedicated to specific activities and thus siloed. Additionally, flexible county funding such as the County’s General Fund, is shrinking resulting in fewer available dollars overall and fewer dollars available to be spent on health and human service programming. At the same time as General Fund revenues are shrinking, the County looks to the other revenue streams in its control to provide funds for important and needed health and human services. Funds from the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) sales tax, and the Veterans and Human Services Levy (VHSL) property tax, along with a variety of fee generated revenue (document recording fees, marriage license fees, etc.) are generally able to be utilized for health and human services, and more specifically, services for children and families, and youth and young adults. These revenues, however, are currently fully programmed but could potentially be changed in future years.

Repurposing The County’s More Flexible Funding Streams - The County could revisit the allocations of the aforementioned funding streams and repurpose them to fund more or different services for children and families, and youth and young adults. This would result in changes to existing programming funding levels, likely impacting both King County operated

programs and community partner programs and contracts. Changes to allocation of these revenues are possible, though both the MIDD and VHSL both have adopted spending plans and are overseen by appointed citizen oversight boards; changes to the application of these funds would require involvement by the citizen boards, the public, as well as the Executive and Council. It must be noted that the councilmanic MIDD revenue expires at the end of 2016 unless renewed by the Council. The County is preparing to launch its MIDD renewal efforts with the recognition that the needs of children, youth, families, and young adults must be a priority moving forward.

Invest More with New Revenue – Should the County successfully obtain a new, flexible revenue source such as Best Starts for Kids, a significant portion of funding of the new revenue should be allocated to support children and families, and youth and young adult needs across the age and needs spectrum. The County should prioritize the programs, services, and approaches as identified in the Recommendation Areas in this report, particularly investing in outcomes that successfully reduce disparities in the county and outcomes that are collectively working. The new funding should be blended with existing funding for maximum impact. New revenues must also support increased capacity to serve more individuals and families across King County.

Invest In Innovation – The County should push itself to change the way it approaches funding services and programs. Instead of continuing to fund siloed programs and services under a business as usual model, King County government should work with a wide array of community partners and funders to collaboratively and transparently examine its practices, investments and outcomes so that children and families and youth and young adults are served in the most effective and efficient ways possible. It should utilize collective impact models and best practices, building on the promising work of existing coalitions such as the Road Map Project, Eastside Pathways, and the County’s Communities of Opportunity work that is associated with the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan.

King County government should continue to lead efforts to blend and braid its funding streams, and when possible, with those of philanthropy and other funders. It should expand successful effort such as the 2014 innovative partnership with the Seattle Foundation to jointly fund a diverse package of health, housing, and economic opportunity projects that aim to close gaps in health and well-being among King County residents. The County has an upcoming opportunity with the potential of a renewed MIDD sales tax to blend and leverage MIDD funds with new revenue to fund King County’s holistic, intentional approach to serving children, youth, and their families, and young adults.

Finally, the Youth Action Plan Task Force affirms and supports the recommendations contained in the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan:

- Protect existing resources from further reductions and continue to advocate for the stability of resources.
- Integrate the resources, tools, principles, and reform strategies into current local, state, and federal funding resources. This includes designing ways to measure and strategically reinvest savings to support lower-cost interventions that improve health and social conditions⁴².

Invest Early – The Task Force found a heavy concentration of funding focused on the health and safety areas, with much of those funds focused on upstream, reactive programming and services. This raises the question around the potentially significant opportunity to shift the pendulum of funding from reactive to proactive funding, funding prevention and intervention more robustly for future savings and more robust health, human services, and justice outcomes. While there will always be a need for treatment and crises services, the Task Force asks whether the need for these services could be lessened, with a shift to outcomes measurement and a concomitant commitment to direct new funds and redirect funds saved in order to make more up-front investments in prevention.

Invest in Outcomes – Similar to the Transformation Plan recommendation, the YAP Task Force urges the County to invest in strategies that produce improved outcomes for the citizens of King County. Funding must support and reward the results that reduce inequities and move the needle in a positive direction on the determinants of equity. As acknowledged in Recommendation Area 5 above, “Get Smart about Data”, the County needs a unified and robust approach to data to track and reward outcomes internally and with its contractual partners.

The Task Force finds that King County should:

- a. Fund prevention activities supporting positive child and youth development, prevention and early intervention, and encourage/incentivize the development of grassroots youth- and community-based solutions.**
- b. Fund services and programs for children, youth and families, and young adults that are based on best and promising practices.**

⁴² "Transforming Health and Human Services in King County." *King County Health and Human Services Transformation Plan*. King County, 26 June 2013. Web. 14 Mar. 2015. Pg. 29.

- c. **Support the transition to funding outcomes rather than funding service provided, following the national shift in funding models, and:**
 - (1) Incentivize the use of evidence based and promising practices among the programs and services that the County funds
 - (2) Assist programs that are struggling to document or achieve more challenging performance measures with training and technical assistance to build capacity
 - (3) Provide support to communities to leverage efforts by focusing on shared outcomes across multiple sectors; and
 - (4) Reward progress made toward achieving outcomes.
- d. **Work across County agencies and departments and with external partners such as local jurisdictions and service providers to identify communities in need and invest adequately to reach outcomes.**
- e. **Invest in continuous improvement, with County goals, outcomes, and indicators aligned across departments and agencies, and use as the basis for determining the effectiveness of existing County efforts.**
- f. **Support new resources for early childhood development appropriate to the County’s role.**
- g. **Support new resources to connect services for children and youth in and around schools.**
- h. **Support new resources to encourage youth engagement and leadership in policy-decision making.**
- i. **Support new resources to promote cultural competence and eliminate institutional racism across departments and agencies.**

Recommendation Area 7– Accountability

Ordinance 17738 asked for recommendations from the Task Force on whether King County should establish a single point of accountability for children and youth services, programs and policies, along with recommendations on what form, model or structure that point of accountability should take, and on its role and duties.

Because accountability means accepting responsibility for activities and disclosing the results of those activities in a transparent manner, the Task Force examined accountability of the County in two ways: how King County government is accountable internally for its work that impacts children and families and youth and young adults and how it is accountable externally to other entities, organizations, and coalitions for that work. The Task Force recommends three strategic objectives that will position the County to achieve maximum impact from its policies and

investments, and improve outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults throughout King County.

It is important to note that recommendations in this area align with and reflect King County's commitment to Lean/continuous improvement philosophy and methodology that is intended to result in more value delivered to the citizens of King County. The continuous improvement cycle calls for developing a shared vision and a plan to achieve the vision, that along with gathering and reviewing data, helps determine if course corrections are needed or if the work can be implemented more broadly.

- 1. Create Shared Accountability:** The Task Force finds that internal and external accountability is most effectively accomplished when it is shared, particularly for outcomes related to such significant populations as children and families and youth and young adults that many other entities are working with and serving. With regard to King County's internal accountability, the Task Force understands that while the King County Executive is ultimately responsible for the day-to-day operations of King County government and the Council is the ultimate policy setting body for the County, it is the various departments and agencies within King County that are entrusted with the obligation to provide services and programs for children and families and youth and young adults in King County. Yet, due in large part to the historical structure of funding siloes and other limitations, the County has not internally established shared accountability for outcomes for these populations. Thus, the opportunity exists for the County to begin crafting the practice of shared accountability for outcomes between its various departments and agencies. A first step would be to convene all of the departments and agencies providing services and programs to children and families and youth and young adults together to jointly identify and agree upon the County's top outcomes for these groups, as referenced below. The Task Force's recommendations on creating shared accountability externally are addressed below.
- 2. Identify Outcomes and Collect Data:** As a result of its analysis and discussions, the Task Force identified a key component in its examination of accountability: the strong and crucial relationship that exists between accountability, outcomes, and data. Understanding that much of King County government is in the midst of shifting to being accountable for outcomes (results), rather than outputs (what is done), the Task Force finds that there is a need for King County government to take two important steps: 1) establish mutually agreed upon outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults for all departments and agencies in King County, including the separately elected entities including Superior and District Court, the Prosecutor, and Sheriff, and 2) to jointly collect measurable results toward those outcomes via data and indicators. As demonstrated by the data provided to

the Task Force from King County departments on their 2013 services and programs for children and families and youth and young adults, it is clear that the departments and agencies do not share a coordinated approach to outcomes or data collection on outcomes.

- 3. Align with External Efforts and Groups:** King County must not only recognize the fact that it alone cannot move the needle on inequities and improve outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults in our region, just as the departments and agencies of King County government working alone within funding or other structural siloes cannot move the needle on inequities and improve outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults. It must act on this fact. While King County government takes steps internally to develop, align, and measure outcomes as recommended above, King County must also take these same steps with external coalitions, groups, and entities. As one player among many working to improve the well-being of and reduce disparities for children and families and youth and young adults, King County is well positioned to participate in the efforts of the broader community working to achieved better outcomes for these populations. Currently, it is not clear internally or externally if, how, or who within King County is aligning with the significant work going on in the broader community. The Task Force learned that various departments and agencies are involved with a number of broader community coalitions and efforts, but the involvement is not necessarily coordinated for maximum impact. Nor is it consistently reported on to the County's internal leaders and policymakers in ways that inform policy or operational discussions or decisions.

In order to accomplish the three objectives, the Task Force recommends the County take the following steps:

- A. Establish a Position to do the Work:** The position should be established within the Executive branch of King County government to coordinate the work of King County's departments and agencies' policies, services, programs, and data involving children and families and youth and young adults. This position would also work with external entities and coalitions to ensure alignment, collaboration, and participation of King County's endeavors with the broader community.

The scope of work necessary for the County to develop shared accountability, identify outcomes and a data approach, and align with external efforts requires at least one, if not more, positions be created. This is not work that should be parsed out among existing County positions, an approach that has exacerbated the lack of coordination and disjointedness around services and programs for children and families and youth and young adults.

It is important to clarify that this role not be viewed as a “single point of accountability” for all of the work that the County engages in, because one person cannot be responsible for the broad successes, or failures, of the County meeting outcomes. Among its duties, the Task Force recommends that the position:

- i. Convene King County agency and department heads to mutually identify and agree on outcomes for King County’s services for children and families and youth and young adults. This would include separately elected agencies within King County, recognizing their statutory requirements and obligations serving these populations. This task must be informed by and align with external partners and coalitions, leveraging existing work when possible.
- ii. Conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of King County government’s programs, services, and outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults.
- iii. Participate with, track, and report on efforts of partnerships, coalitions, and networks throughout the region, bringing in County department and agency representatives as needed to develop an aligned King County government response that leads to improved outcomes.
- iv. Convene a team comprised of internal and external experts to review existing King County government data collection mechanisms and develop improvements that enable tracking of and reporting on the mutually identified outcomes. Identify and implement quality improvement metrics to assist departments and agencies to deliver on outcomes.
- v. Develop responses to emergent needs in partnership with King County government departments and entities and with external partners and coalitions.

B. Create an Advisory Body to the Executive and Council: Establish an advisory body to the Executive and the Council that supports King County’s system wide accountability for serving children and families and youth and young adults. The Task Force is not recommending restoring the defunct Children and Family Commission, but rather an inclusive body comprised of a wide array of citizens, stakeholders, and entities that can draw upon experience, knowledge, and information to assist King County policymakers as they consider outcomes, policies, and investments for children and families and youth and young adults. As envisioned by the Task Force, the body would undertake the following tasks:

- i. Receive and review King County outcomes and data, recommending improvements and modifications to achieve outcomes and support strong data collection/indicator protocols.
- ii. Assist with the comprehensive review and analysis of King County government's programs, services, and outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults for alignment with other initiatives and coalitions that have outcomes identified for children and families and youth and young adults.
- iii. Recommend policy, budget, and other findings to the King County Executive and Council, ensuring alignment with other initiatives and coalitions that have outcomes identified for children and families and youth and young adults.
- iv. Participate with, track, and report on efforts of partnerships, coalitions, and networks throughout the region to inform the development of an aligned, region wide response that leads to improved outcomes.
- v. Be a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas in response to emergent needs, promising practices, and continuous improvement.

As County government contemplates and enacts the necessary coordination and collaboration steps around accountability, the Task Force urges the County to take a thoughtful and intentional approach in its work, internally among its departments and agencies, and externally with stakeholders. Further, it is imperative that the branches of government work together in its support of better outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults. All branches working collaboratively with external coalitions will be able to more successfully address disproportionality than the branches working alone.

The Task Force urges the County to be strategic in its work, as there is a perception among stakeholders in the region of repeated cycles of various coalition meetings, oftentimes with insufficient progress to show for the effort, resulting in "collaboration fatigue." Thus the Task Force recognizes the need for King County government to develop a more efficient way to participate in the work of various coalitions.

Recommendation Area 8 – Youth Bill of Rights

Ordinance 17738 asked for recommendations from the Task Force on a Bill of Rights for King County's youth, akin to the youth bills of rights adopted by jurisdictions in California and elsewhere around the country.

The youth survey indicated that King County youth want meaningful input into programs and policies that impact them. They also want to be engaged with policymakers in a variety of ways, but genuine engagement of young people requires a fundamental shift in how decisions are made. Consequently, while developing a Youth Bill of Rights is of interest to King County youth, many youth in King County identified other priorities they would like to pursue first. Before undertaking a Youth Bill of Rights, local youth would most like the County to partner with them in decision making. See Appendix C for a detailed discussion of youth engagement and the Youth Bill of Rights.

As reflected in the youth survey, in response to the question of “what are the three best ways the County can most effectively partner with youth to make decisions, 64 percent of youth responded, “Ask youth to identify problems and solutions.” Reflective of specific recommendations in Recommendation Areas 1 - Equity and Social Justice and Recommendation Area 6 – Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Outcomes, and Recommendation Area 7 – Single Point of Accountability, the Task Force finds that King County should:

- a. **Look to authentic youth engagement program models that already exist in the County, such as Mockingbird Society and the King County Youth Advisory Council, for best practices in outreach and engagement to reach young people, including the hardest to reach youth.** (Recommendation Area 1)
- b. **Support new resources to encourage youth engagement and leadership in policy-decision making.** (Recommendation Area 6)
- c. **Ensure that youth participate in the recommended advisory body to the Executive and Council on children and families and youth and young adults.** (Recommendation Area 7)

Recommendation Area 9 - Evaluation and Reporting/Process and Implementation Timeline

The Task Force recognizes that the evaluation and reporting and process and implementation components for many of the recommendations in the report will be heavily influenced by the success of acquiring new revenue in King County. Additionally, many of the recommendations call for integrated, collaborative planning and implementation across King County government and with external stakeholders. The Task Force recognizes that to be successful, any Youth

Action Plan related evaluation, reporting, and process implementation timelines work best undertaken in collaboration with the involved entities whereby mutually agreed upon steps and outcomes can be determined, utilizing a collective impact model.

Additionally, identifying mutually agreeable outcomes and establishing appropriate data structures are future steps that will drive evaluation and reporting structures and functions. Therefore, the Task Force finds that King County should develop appropriate evaluation, reporting, and implementation structures, along with an oversight component, for its holistic, intentional approach to serving children, youth, and their families, and young adults as a next phase of the Youth Action Plan.

With this overarching finding in mind, the Task Force offers the following recommendations for establishing evaluation, reporting, implementation, oversight structures.

The Task Force finds that King County should:

- a. **Implement the Task Force’s recommendations around accountability, including establishing a position within the Executive branch to coordinate the complex work called for in the report.** The development and execution of successful evaluation, reporting, implementation, oversight structures should be primary deliverables during year one of the position called for in the Accountability recommendations.
- b. **Look to and replicate when appropriate successful evaluation, reporting, implementation, and oversight structures that are currently in use, such as for MIDD and the Veterans and Human Services Levy, Eastside Pathways, and the Road Map project.**
- c. **Require effective, ongoing community engagement occur during the development and execution of the evaluation, reporting, implementation, and oversight structures. Engagement must be transparent, accessible, and occur with frequency.**
- d. **Prioritize developing a unified, comprehensive and coordinated approach to data based on mutually agreed upon outcomes.** This will enable the County to implement performance based contracting, invest in outcomes, and invest in continuous improvement.
- e. **King County must evaluate and revise its contracting processes to enable smaller, geographically, ethnically, and culturally specific organizations to successfully compete for the ability to provide services and programs against larger, established, and well-funded entities.** Providing technical assistance or other innovations to traditionally disenfranchised

communities and organizations will demonstrate to the citizens and communities of King County that it is willing to change its bureaucracy to reduce disparities and increase access.

Conclusion

The facts are clear: King County's children and youth are not faring as well as they should. Pockets of deep disparity exist throughout the region. Many King County residents do not enjoy the same health, resources, and opportunities because of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, income, immigration status or where they live. These negative outcomes are exactly what we *don't* want for our children and families and youth and young adults.

Because of these facts, the Youth Action Plan Task Force urges King County to take bold action to overcome these disparities. The recommendations that we have carefully assembled in this report are a blue print to help King County do just that, building on its strong social justice and equity foundation, the Health and Human Services Transformation Plan, and the work of many existing coalitions and partnerships. Furthering the County's important work on social justice and equity is foundational to achieving positive outcomes for children and families and youth and young adults. The County's social justice and equity work should continue to be prioritized and funded by King County.

The Task Force urges bold action by King County because King County is a leader in the region, responsible for important systems involving and impacting children and families and youth and young adults: the publically funded mental health and substance abuse systems, the public health system, and criminal justice system. Because of the unique and meaningful role that the County holds in the state and region, the Task Force urges King County to boldly embrace the structures and functions that support effective, shared accountability, through the best practices of collective impact.

The Task Force finds that it is time for King County government to develop and implement an intentional, holistic, internally and externally coordinated approach to serving children and their families, youth, and young adults across all branches of its government. While the Courts, Prosecutor, and Sheriff are separately elected officials, the Task Force calls upon them to authentically partner with each other and the Executive and Council to achieve mutually agreed upon outcomes that improve the lives of children and their families, youth, and young adults living in King County.

Similarly, because no one government or system alone can solve the underlying problems that cause disparities and inequities, and singlehandedly improve outcomes, it is time for King County government to authentically partner with the broader community efforts underway to improve the lives of children and their families, youth, and young adults living in King County. King County is one of many players across the region working to get positive results children

and families and youth and young adults, along with schools and the educational systems, the foster care and child welfare systems.

Because the voices of youth matter in the deliberation and discussion of services and programs aimed at youth, the Task Force strongly encourages King County government to invite youth to the policy and services tables where these discussions happen. This principle applies to all individuals who are impacted by the services, programs, and policies of King County, particularly those who have historically not had access to decision makers and leaders. To be effective in meeting the outcomes it will establish, King County must be informed by and engaged with the target populations of services, so that the perspectives of children, youth and families drive the work.

It is time for King County to effectively engage communities across the region by removing barriers that may have previously prevented residents from successfully working with county government. Effective engagement enables all communities to participate in a way that fosters trust, creates more effective services, programs and policies, and supports community-led solutions.

We find that the recommendations contained within this document fully respond to the requirements of Ordinance 17738. These recommendations provide the necessary policy basis for the Council and Executive to develop and implement the policies recommended herein. The Youth Action Plan that we have prepared can be used by the Executive and Council to guide and inform the County's investment in services and programs to ensure that all of King County's young people thrive.

A thorough and well-crafted child and youth action plan is more than a blueprint for county staff. It is a tool for policymakers and leaders to use as a call to action, generating community excitement and rallying key players – including early childhood and youth development experts, youth and families, and business and philanthropic leaders – to support intentional community and systems change.

The County can use this action plan to ignite significant changes that improve the lives and futures of its children and families and youth and young adults. By showing that residents are united around the cause of young people and by identifying strategies to overcome and eliminate the barriers to success that are outlined in this report, the County can motivate and support internal and external stakeholders to break out of silos and work across systems and sectors to adopt clear, shared outcomes with research-based strategies to achieve them.

The County is able to move forward on many of the recommendation put forward by the Task

Force, irrespective of the outcome of the potential Best Starts for Kids ballot measure. Of course, having more resources to support outcomes is vitally important, but policymakers should be clear about the message in this report: King County could and should move forward on the recommendations in this report regardless of what happens or doesn't happen in an election.

As we conclude this phase of our work, the Youth Action Plan Task Force offers one final recommendation to King County: reconvene this Task Force, or a similar body, in a year to review the County's progress on the recommendations contained within this document. It is with great anticipation that the Task Force looks forward to 2016 when we will have a chance to examine the work of the County, potentially fine tune our recommendations, and catalogue many expected successes with our County partner.

Ordinance 17738 Requirements Index

Ordinance 17738 Requirement	Where to Find it in the Report
1. Identification of the mission and vision of the YAP, and whether the Executive’s stated vision that “infants reach adulthood healthy and safe, academically and vocationally succeeding, and socially and civically engaged” reflects the recommendations of the task force	Pages 23-25
2. A bill of rights for King County’s youth, akin to the youth bills of rights adopted by jurisdictions in California and elsewhere around the country	Page 72
3. Whether King County should establish a single point of accountability for children and youth services, programs and policies, along with recommendations on what form, model or structure that point of accountability should take, and on its role and duties	Pages 67-71
4. Identification of what age range the YAP will address, and whether families are included in the plan	Page 29
5. Identification of improvements, efficiencies, gaps and opportunities to take promising practices to scale, along with areas for better integration or coordination of services, programs and policies for children and youth within and outside of King County government	Throughout recommendations, pages 51-77
6. Recommendations on King County’s role and involvement with early childhood learning programs and initiatives	Throughout recommendations, pages 51-77
7. Identification of the barriers within and outside of King County government that prevent children, youth and families from realizing their full potential, and recommendations on how to eliminate those barriers	Pages 43-50
8. Recommendations on the update to the King County Strategic Plan, and on social justice and equity goals, as related to youth	Page 51 and throughout recommendations, pages 51-77
9. Identification of the children, youth and family programs, methodologies and service models that the county should prioritize to achieve outcomes and meet policy goals	Throughout recommendations, pages 51-77
10. Recommendations on the county’s funding of services and programs for youth, including the prioritization of existing and potential new resources to achieve recommended outcomes	Pages 64-67
11. Identification of an evaluation and reporting structure, process and implementation timeline for the youth action plan	Pages 72-74

Appendices

Appendix A: Age Group Strategy Teams Packet

Appendix B: Youth Survey Results

Appendix C: Youth Engagement Best Practices and Bill of Rights

Appendix D: Public Comment

Early childhood (0-8 year olds) Packet

In this packet you have the data and information collected from the Indicators Strategy Team work plus the Community Conversations “Common Causes” and Solutions. Also included are a summary of the relevant Programs and Services for early childhood from the inventory and a listing of relevant Partnerships (from mapping moving trains) and Strategic Plans.

1 Indicators – *see attached*

- Low Birth Weight Babies
- Prenatal Care
- Elementary Education Outcomes
- Unexcused Absences
- Homeless Students
- Child Abuse and Neglect

2 Common Causes – clusters of underlying local conditions – *see handout & attached*

- a. Heat Map Overview – to be provided
- b. By theme (for 0-8)

3 Solutions – generated from Community Conversations – *see attached*

Summary chart answers 4 questions: Are there King County programs and services that are currently doing a good job in addressing the common root causes? Are there King County programs and services that could be doing a good job in addressing the common root causes? What could we, as community members in this room – with the power, ability and connections we represent – do to make a difference in those underlying issues? How can King County support us as community leaders in this work?

4 King County Programs – *see attached*

- a. For 0-8
- b. For Families

5 Partnerships & Strategic Plans – *see below & attached*

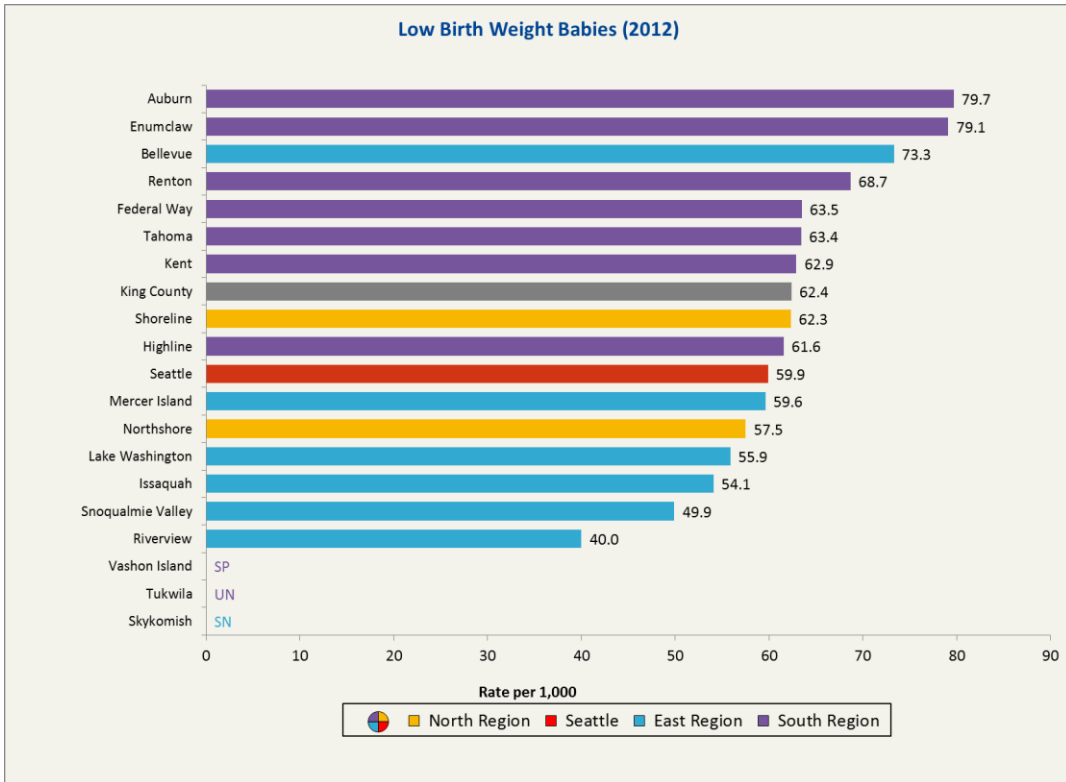
Partnerships

- SOAR Early Learning Coalition and Promotores Network
- King County United Way
- Youth and Family Services Association
- The Roadmap Project
- Community and Human Services and Public Health Agencies; City Govts.
- Dept of Community and Human Services

Plans

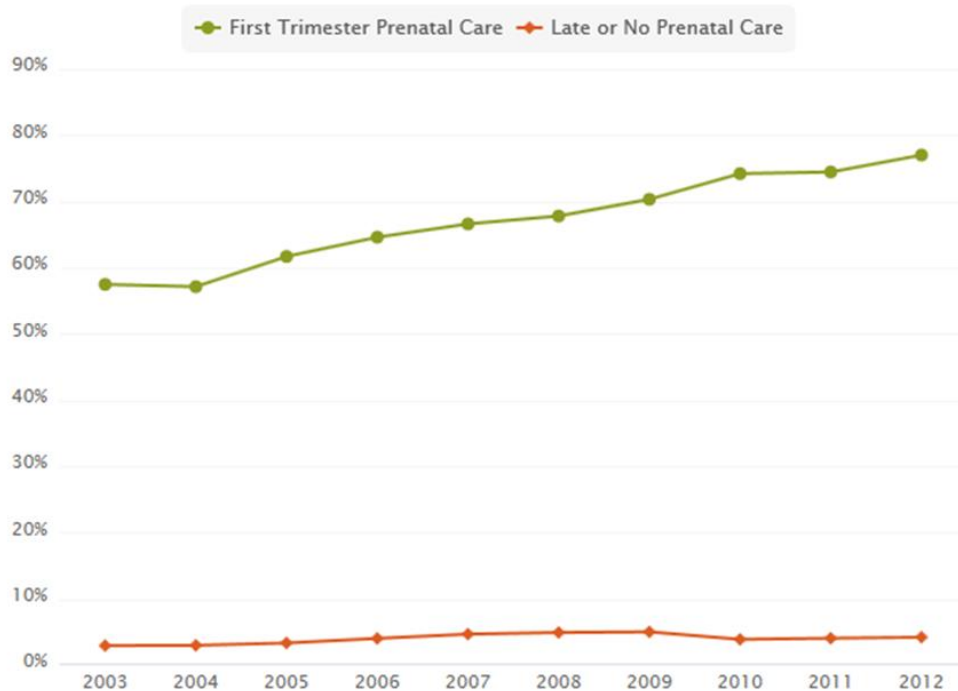
The Roadmap Project Baseline Report
Health and Human Services Transformation Plan
K.C. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Action Plan

Early Childhood Indicators

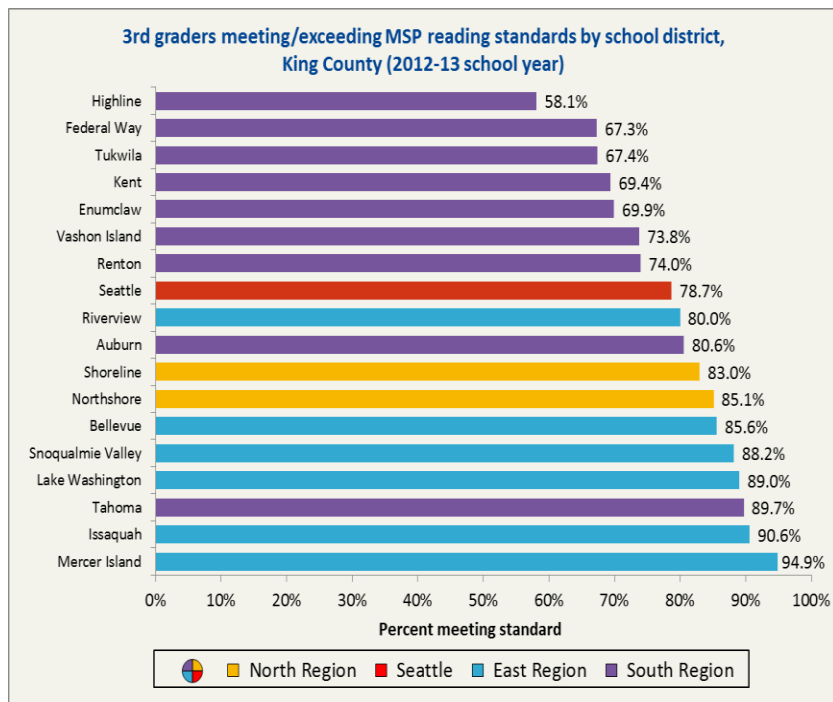


Prenatal Care

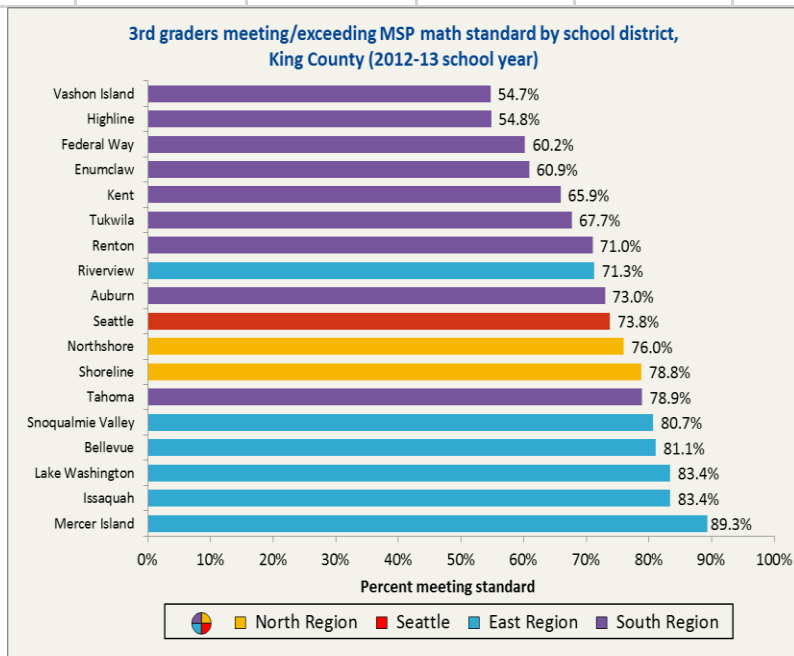
King



Elementary Education Outcomes

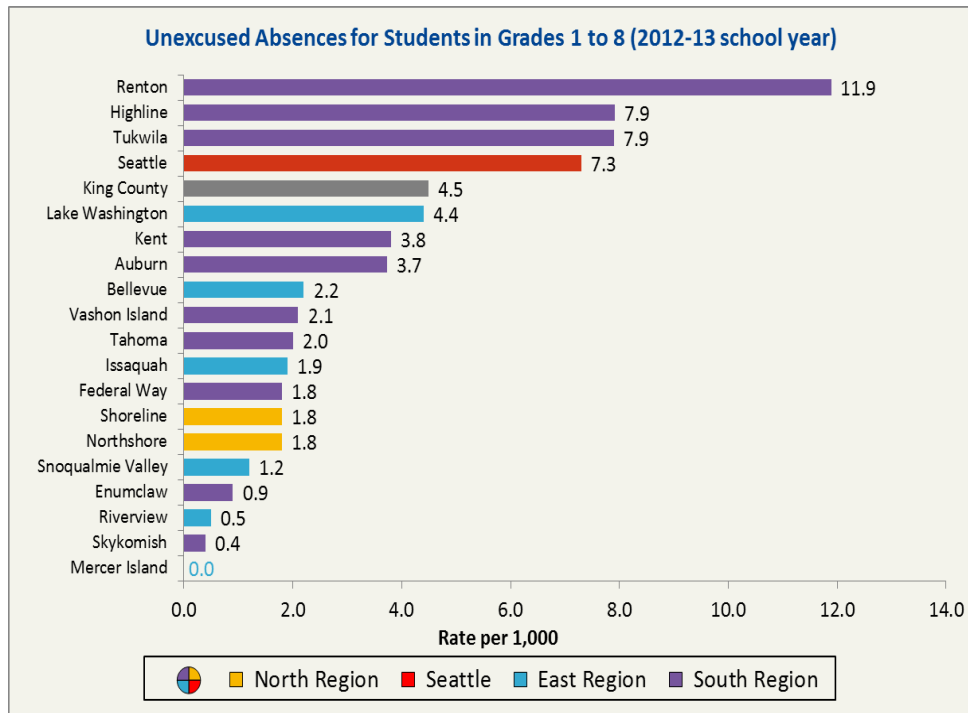


2007 - 08	2008 - 09	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13
76%	77%	77%	79%	75%	79%

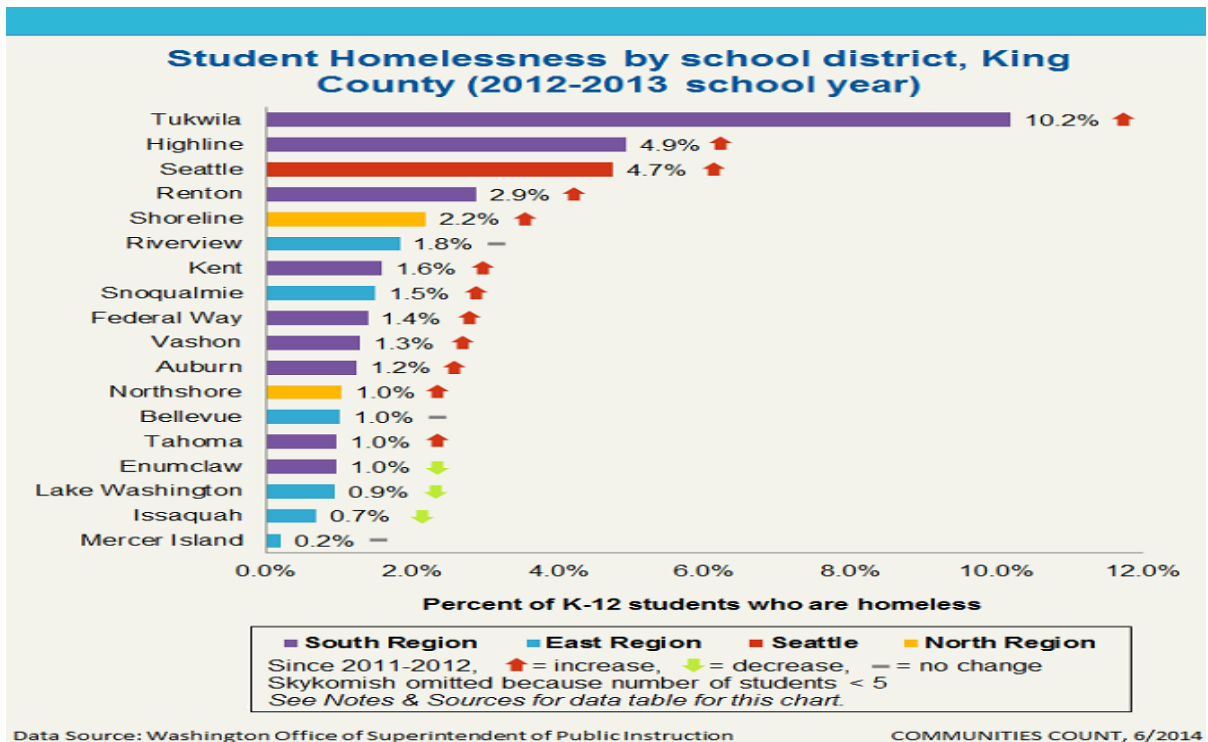


2008 - 09	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13
73%	69%	69%	73%	73%

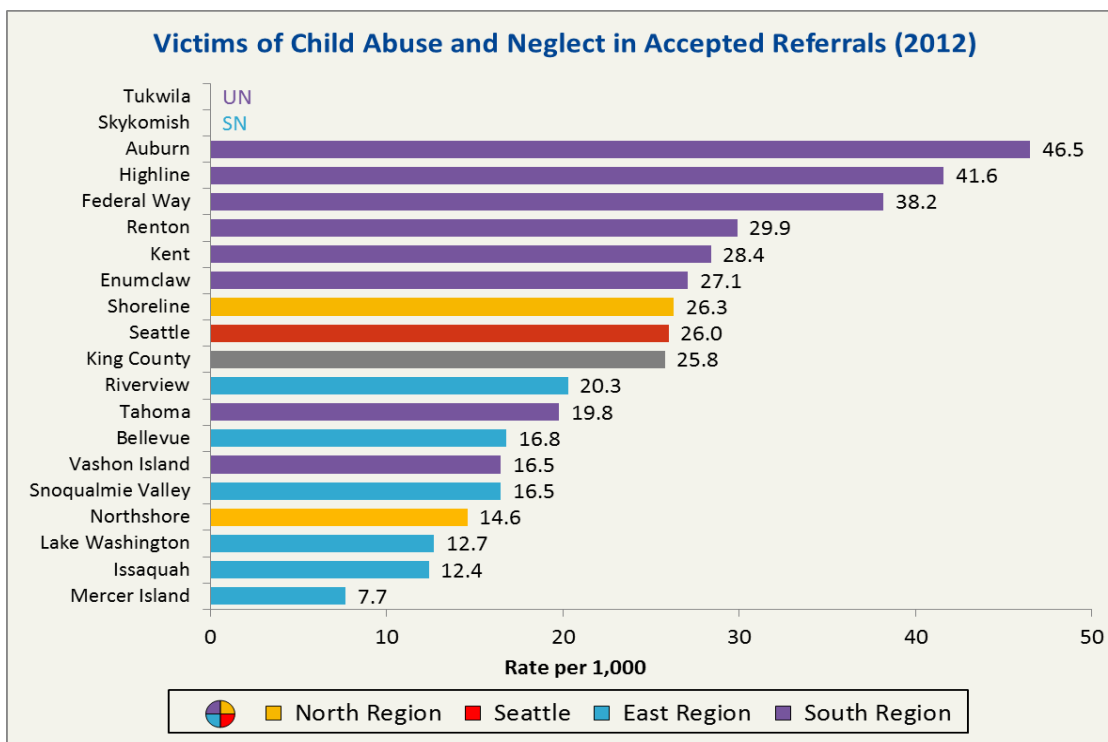
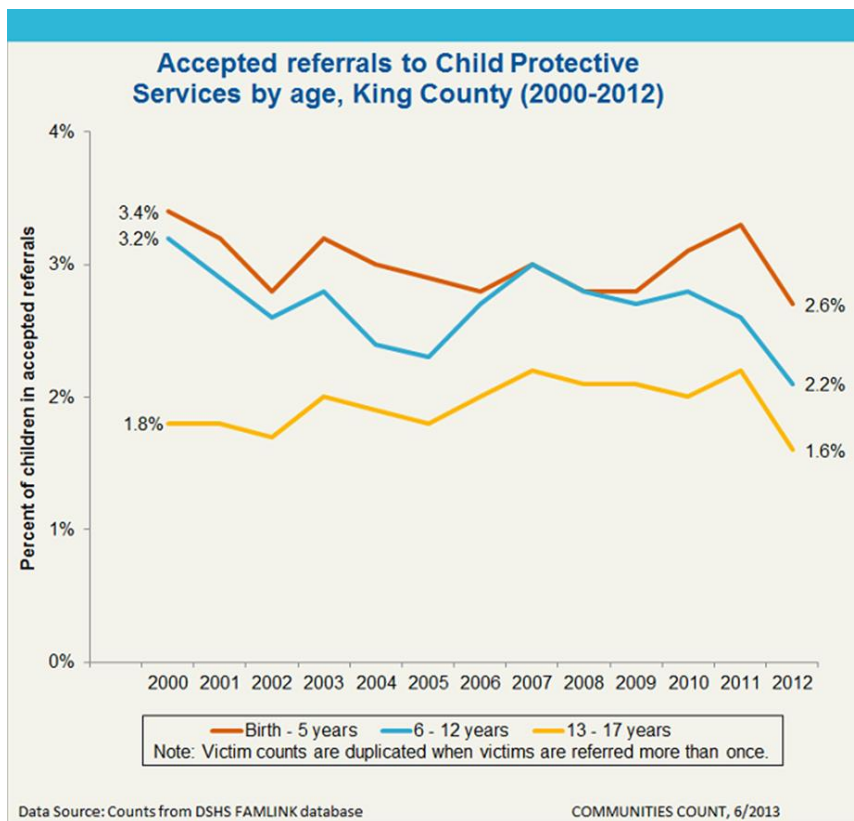
Unexcused Absences



Homeless Students



Child Abuse and Neglect



Common Causes by Theme (0-8) – Clusters of underlying local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation	
COMPETENT ADULTS Caring, Competent Families Professionals & Role Models	FAMILY/PARENT CHALLENGES			
	Lack of Parent Supports	Lack of support for parents	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent
		Parental Support	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
	Lack of Parental Involvement	Parental Engagement	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
		Lack of Parental Involvement	Unexcused Absences	Snoqualmie
		Parents not engaged or don't know school policies on absences	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Family Issues	Family issues and attitudes around education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Family issues at home, family not involved in child's education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Family obligations, lack of hope for further schooling, boredom, need to work	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Family Expectations	Family issues and attitudes around education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Rebelling against parents' expectations	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline
	CARING COMPETENT ADULTS			
	Lack of Teachers / School Connection	Lack of teachers	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
	BASIC NEEDS & SERVICES Safety, Housing & Transportation	HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION		
Transportation		Transportation (lack of resources)	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
Lack of Affordable/Safe Housing		Lack of affordable/safe housing	Homeless Students	Kent
Many Faces of Homelessness		Many faces of homelessness	Homeless Students	South Seattle
SAFETY				
Community Environment		Acceptance of violence	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		Community Structure	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
		Community Atmosphere	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
Negative Media		Negative culture/media	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
WELLNESS SUPPORTS Stress, Mental Health, Physical Health		STRESS // HOPELESSNESS		
	Stress / Trauma / Pressure	Stress: Limited access to resources	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		PTSD-refugees' experience	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent
		Trauma/intergenerational	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent
		Inability to manage emotions	Unexcused Absences	Snoqualmie
		Pressure/rigor of school work; Lack of sleep due to homework load and early start time; Family issues; Lack of motivation/energy	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Lost / Not Motivated	Feeling lost	Unexcused Absences	Kirkland
		Motivated	Unexcused Absences	Kirkland
	Peer Pressure	Peer pressure to skip w/ friends (nobody skips alone anyway)	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	School Pressure	As grade increases, students become more academically challenged and feel they don't have as much time to bully	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	MENTAL HEALTH & PEER PRESSURE			
	Stigma	Stigma of mental health	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		Stigma of mental health	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
	Drugs & Mental Health	Mental health, chemical dependency	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Mental Health	Mental Health	Homeless Students	Kent
	HEALTH (including substance abuse)			
	Poor Nutrition & Lifestyle	Culture of poor eating/nutrition	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
		Sedentary lifestyle	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
		School education focuses on prevention of pregnancy, not what to do when pregnant later in life	Prenatal Care	Shoreline
	Parental Health	Parents themselves don't have self discipline about self care/nutrition	Prenatal Care	Shoreline
		Substance use by mom	Birth Weight Babies	Shoreline
		Lack of access to prenatal care	Birth Weight Babies	Shoreline
		Medical practices relational, c-section	Birth Weight Babies	Shoreline
Drugs & Alcohol	Alcohol abuse	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent	

Common Causes by Theme (0-8)- Clusters of underlying local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Conversation	
EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT	EDUCATION Y& EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES			
	Limited Ed / Structures	Lack of education	Homeless Students	Kent
	Lack of access to jobs/training	Low-paying jobs	Homeless Students	Kent
LACK OF ACCESS, AWARENESS, & ENGAGEMENT	LACK OF AWARENESS OF SERVICES & SUPPORTS			
	Lack of Access	Access to Resources/Healthcare, knowing about it	Prenatal Care	Shoreline
		Lack of access or late access to pre-natal care	Birth Weight Babies	Shoreline
		Schools Infrastructure for homeless	Homeless Students	Kent
	Lack of Awareness/Knowledge	Lack of awareness of community resources	Obesity Rate	Snoqualmie
		Lack of access or knowledge of resources for homeless	Homeless Students	South Seattle
	Shame	Those who are homeless might be ashamed of the fact they are homeless and don't seek help	Homeless Students	Shoreline
	LACK OF ENGAGEMENT			
	Hopelessness/Fear	Hopeless/Helpless cycle	Unexcused Absences	Snoqualmie
	Struggle/bored/Irrelevant	Students who struggle in certain subjects skip classes to avoid work/test	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Students find themselves uninterested in school, thinking what they learn won't help in the future, associating school with being bored, etc	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Not being challenged to their potential/not interested, engaged	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		When students feel that what they are learning in school is pointless, they may feel less inclined to attend school and they skip	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL FACTORS	RESOURCES			
Poverty, Cost, Funding, Limited Resources	Limited Knowledge of resources	No insurance; Lack of knowledge of resources available; Difficulty accessing resources	Prenatal Care	Shoreline
		Unmet needs	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
	Lack of resources for rural & small towns	Lack of resources/lack of programs in rural areas	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
		Small cities have few resources and can't prioritize youth and young adults	Homeless Students	South Seattle
	Uneven resources, eligibility	Restricted funding and eligibility	Homeless Students	South Seattle
		Uneven/unequal distribution of funding	Homeless Students	South Seattle
	Lack of funding for programs	Lack of outside-of-school help , poverty, other problems at home	Elementary Education Outcomes	Shoreline
	Lack of quality	Lack of quality	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
	INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES			
	POVERTY & ECONOMIC STRUGGLE			
		Extreme poverty	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		Poverty	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent
		Abuse might be occurring when parents struggle financially and are too tired to teach their children good work habits and what they should do - when this happens the student might struggle in school and as punishment the parent releases their stress and rage by abusing their struggling child	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline
		Economic struggles could trigger abusive parents ; substance abuse; history of abuse; mental health	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline
		Poverty, lack of support	Elementary Education Outcomes	Shoreline
		Poverty, immigration/refugee status (English-language learners)	Elementary Education Outcomes	Shoreline
		Economy (Losing Homes)	Unexcused Absences	EXTRAS
CULTURAL & SOCIETAL FACTORS	CULTURAL DIFFERENCES			
Language, Culture, "Isms"	Lack of cultural awareness	Lack of training and cultural awareness	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		Cultural differences, belief that it is acceptable , vicious cycle, parents pass on to children	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline
	Cultural Differences	Lack of awareness about psychological/emotional affects	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline
		Cultural differences, western education not as important, educational system not as understanding of said cultural differences, lack of emphasis on the benefits of holistic education	High School Graduation	Shoreline
	Language Differences	Immigrant communities English as a second language	Elementary Education Outcomes	Shoreline
	Rural	Lack of internal access, rural- wanting kids to be farmers	Elementary Education Outcomes	Shoreline
	RACISM/SEXISM			

	OVERALL SUMMARY THEMES
<p>Are there King County programs and services that are currently doing a good job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples.</p>	<p>Many programs and services were listed but top ones were: Hopelink, YMCA, Nurse Family Partnership, Home Visits, Boys and Girls Club, WIC, Parenting Classes, School lunch program, All day kindergarten.</p>
<p>Are there King County programs and services that could be doing a better job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples. What could be improved?</p>	<p>Connect families to existing services, increase wraparound/integrated services, access for multilingual, address resource gaps. many approaches listed including parent education, SEL programming, early intervention, family needs assessment, living wage job development, financial literacy, holistic services for children and families.</p>
<p>What could we, as community members in this room – with the power, ability and connections we represent – do to make a difference in those underlying issues?</p>	<p>Advocacy, increased funding, provide more information to community leaders/advocates, increase programming & daycare were top themes. Suggestions included better understanding frontline worker needs, support parent engagement, increase cultural competence, increase youth voice, among many others.</p>
<p>How can the King County support us as community leaders in this work?</p>	<p>Listen. Funding. Provide information. Experiment with new programming. Educate community about programs, poverty & changing demographics, convene community forums, ensure equitable distribution of resources, parenting classes, afterschool opportunities. Partner with community organizations.</p>

King County Programs for 0-8

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	DDD / Early Intervention Birth to Three Program	BT3 (Birth to Three) Program works with organizations throughout King County to provide services to children birth to three who have disabilities and/ or developmental delays. Eligible infants and toddlers and their families are entitled to individualized, quality early intervention services in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C. Link to provider network: http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/DDD/services/babiesAndToddlers/navigate.aspx	\$6,355,330.00
DPH	Cultural Navigator	(VHSL) Strengthen families by supporting the healthy interactions between parent and child by providing cultural navigators and access to services for minority and immigrant populations with limited and non-English speaking individuals and families. Provides referral and information; family support and Play and Learn groups to model to caregivers how children learn through play.	\$70,000.00
DPH	Family, Friend, and Neighbor & Kaleidoscope Play and Learn Project	(VHSL) FFN is a comprehensive, community-based network of supports and resources for family, friend, and neighbor caregivers and the children in their care. FFN provide care	\$53,000.00
DNRP	Waste Reduction and Recycling School Education Program	Provides an assembly program to elementary schools on resource conservation. Provides classroom workshops to K-12 classrooms. Provides project ideas for student Green Teams.	\$251,400.00
DNRP	King County Green Schools Program	Assists K-12 schools to improve conservation practices, engage their school communities in environmental stewardship, and operate environmentally efficient facilities	\$201,000.00
DNRP	Brightwater Center Family Programs	Monthly family programs are offered at Brightwater Center that teach about the natural world and how to protect our environment.	\$20,000
DCHS	Mental Health Outpatient Services	Provided at over 30 agencies throughout the county - A wide range of mental health services provided in an outpatient format that address symptoms of emotional disturbance and trauma with a goal of developing pro-social skills and resiliency.	\$26,000,000.00
DPH	Pediatric dental services	The Dental Program provides preventative and restorative dental services to low income children. Services include comprehensive and periodic (6-month) exams, X-rays, cleaning, and restorations.	\$11,385,000.00
DPH	Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	The purpose of WIC is to improve pregnancy outcomes and children's growth and development through checks for healthy food and nutrition education. Nutrition education helps families learn how to select a healthy diet on a limited budget. The program serves low-income pregnant women and children five and younger. WIC services include conducting brief health screenings to monitor growth (weight and height), review blood iron levels, identify health risks, and assess diet and eating patterns. Dietitians provide nutritional counseling. Each client receives checks to buy healthy foods each month.	\$10,287,000.00
DPH	Seattle School Based Health Centers (SBHC)	A full range of primary care, reproductive care, health education services, mental health counseling, and dental care are offered in support of academic success at all of Seattle's comprehensive high schools and selected elementary and middle schools, within the context of well child and adolescent primary care. 26 centers are run by 6 sponsor agencies: PHSKC, Neighborcare Health, Group Health Cooperative, International Community Health Centers, Odessa Brown, & Swedish Medical Center. During the 2012-2013 School Year there were over 33,000 medical and mental health visits.	\$6,012,000.00
DPH	Primary Medical Care for children and youth	Services include primary medical care for children: illness care, well child check-ups, immunizations, child's health, growth and development, and referrals to specialists.	\$4,903,000.00

*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs for 0-8

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	6a. Wraparound Services	An evidence based practice providing facilitated child/youth and family teams for multi-system- involved youth. Five agencies provide Wraparound Delivery Teams: Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation, Community Psychiatric Clinic, Sound Mental Health, Therapeutic Health Services and Center for Human Services.	\$ 4,500,000.00
DCHS	Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - YMCA Crisis Services	Provides emergent and urgent crisis response for children/youth and their families experiencing behavioral health crises. These are children/youth who are not enrolled in outpatient services. This program includes a partnership with Region Two South Division of Children and Family Services (Child Welfare).	\$ 2,877,313.00
DPH	WA State Immunization Information System & Child Profile Health Promotion	Staff works on contract with Washington Department of Health (DOH) to conduct day-to-day operations of the statewide Immunization Registry and Health Promotion system. Through the Health Promotion component, parents across Washington are sent a series of mailings for their children between birth and age 6 with well-child visit and immunization reminders, nutrition, development, safety and more child health information. The Immunization Registry is used by 95% of health care providers who give immunizations to track and forecast immunizations on people of all ages. The Health Promotion mailings reach 90% of the target audience statewide.	\$ 1,705,000.00
DPH	Child Care Health Program	Offers health direct consultation and training to improve the health and safety of child care environments throughout Seattle & King County. Onsite consultation identifies strategies to address communicable disease prevention, environmental health, nutrition, disaster preparedness, immunizations, child development, social/emotional/behavioral concerns. Supporting children with special needs and advocates for the needs of children in child care through community partnerships and policy development. Indirect serves are provider via phone, email and website. Number of children served varies.	\$ 1,333,000.00
Healthy			

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program	Home visiting by Public Health Nurse to children with medically fragile/complex health or developmental conditions to assist families with transition from hospital to home, assure coordination of care and establish a Healthcare home. For birth to three children with developmental delays, assure connection to Early Intervention Services. PHNs provide assessment on children with special needs and the impact of that health condition on the parent ability to participate in WorkFirst activities. Phone services to assist establishing specialty and community based services. Consultation available to community providers that are working with high risk, high needs children.	\$ 864,000.00
DPH	King County Dirt Alert	Raise awareness about lead and arsenic exposure in soil from the former Asarco smelter. Long term exposure can lead to severe immediate and lifelong health consequences, especially for children. KCDA has awarded three community grants to Latino Community Fund, Korean Women's Association and Child Care Resources. They will work together to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach to Spanish, Korean and Somali residents and child care providers in South King County.	\$ 500,000.00
DCHS	1f. Parent Partner Youth Peer	Funds a family support organization, called Guided Pathways-Support for Youth and Families (GPS), to provide information, resources and supports to parents/caregivers of youth with serious emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse including access to Parent Partners and Youth Peer mentors.	\$375,000.00
KCSC	Family Integrated Transition (FIT)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 5-6 months with Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Families may also receive psychiatric services and medication management.	\$ 284,900.00
DCHS	DDD / Children's BeST Program	Children's Behavior Support Team (BeST) Program. Empower families with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the causes of problem behavior and to effectively implement positive behavior supports in natural family contexts. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at risk and most in need to prevent or reduce more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration, and other emergency medical or crisis responses.	\$ 259,596.00
DPH	Healthy Outcomes Prevention and Education (HOPE)	Preventing infant mortality and improving infant health outcomes by linking women and their families in minority communities to health care and needed services. Research shows that linking women of color and their families to health care and other services and providing culturally appropriate support will reduce stress and lead to improved birth outcomes.	\$175,000.00
DCHS	Institute For Family Development	Provides Functional Family Therapy (FFT), an evidence-based program, to youth and their families. FFT includes assessment, development of family goals, specific intervention techniques, and teaches skills necessary for success.	\$149,600.00
KCSC	Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 4-6 months. Family structure required, but can serve foster and extended families and families in crisis.	\$127,400.00
DPH	Volunteer Training Network	A train-the-trainer program that equips community members (speaking a language other than English) to educate their peers (friends, family and neighbors). The trainers teach workshops and build capacity to reduce toxins in the home setting. Trainers receive training and teaching resources (in their first language) from subject matter experts from the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program.	\$ 65,000.00
Healthy			

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
Healthy	KCSC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	\$50,500.00
	DPH	Healthier and Toxic Free Homes	\$ 50,000.00
	DPH	Eco-Healthy Childcare	\$ 31,000.00
Safe	DPH	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	\$ 12,000.00
	KCSC	Juvenile Courtroom Support	\$ 1,132,000.00
	DPH	Early Intervention Program (EIP)	\$1,035,000.00
	KCSC	Family Treatment Court	\$ 534,400.00
Safe	DJA	Step Up Program	\$ 206,715.00
	KCSC	Interpreters	\$ 158,700.00
	DCHS	Family Reunification Program Pilot	\$ 150,000.00
DCHS	Project SAFE	Project SAFE: phone-based clinical consultation for parents/caregivers responsible for a youth ages 12–17 in crisis or youth who have run away from home or who are at risk of running away. Referrals are made directly from parents, via sister agencies or through National Safe Place. The family therapist assists parents and caregivers in developing an action plan that confronts issues that may be underlying their teen's behaviors, often making referrals for ongoing outside individual or family counseling.	\$ 150,000.00

*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Coming Up	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 143,000.00
KCSC	Parent for Parent Program	Parent to Parent Program assists families by providing peer parents who are approachable and a culturally relevant connection to the dependency process. The program promotes early engagement in the dependency process which is critical for improving the chance of reunification.	\$ 95,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Mediation	This program provides mediation for families in the dependency system at the YSC courthouse to help resolve issues related to child abuse and neglect prior to adjudication by the court.	\$ 94,500.00
KCSC	FJCIIP	This program ensure the efficient running of the dependency related services and court processes and makes recommendations for improved programs and efficiencies.	\$ 85,200.00
DCHS	Open Doors	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 85,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice 101	The Juvenile Justice 101 program helps close the information and support gap for families at the initial court phase of the juvenile justice process. Using a peer support model, the program informs families of court basics and community resources through onsite orientation and one-on-one support. The community outreach component of the JJ 101 program has worked with the Somali community through a series of workshops and community meetings. Additional grant funding will continue the outreach with the Somali community and expand into the Hispanic community in 2014 and 2015.	\$ 55,000.00
KCSC	Family Court Services	MSW level social workers provide mediation, evaluation, domestic violence assessment and other services to families with children who are involved in the family law court process. FCS also provides adoption related services including assistance with paperwork, confirmations of consent, and non-identifying adoption searches.	\$ 1,977,900.00
KCSC	UFC Judges	King County Superior Court Judges assigned to handle family law cases with children.	\$1,229,800.00
KCSC	Family Law Commissioners	Commissioner assigned to family law handle pre-trial family law matters and child support related cases.	\$ 883,000.00
KCSC	Family Law Facilitators, Early Resolution Case Managers & Family Law Orientation	Facilitators assist family law pro-se parties (people not represented by an attorney) by explaining forms and processes. Inform parties of possible settlement options and review court documents prior to their submittal to court. Family Law Orientation is a one-hour orientation class for pro-se litigants in family law cases which provides them with information on court rules, court processes and resources to help them throughout their case. All of these programs work together to assist pro se families in family law matters.	\$ 556,600.00
KCSC	Family Law Support	Court support staff ensures the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$ 394,600.00
KCSC	Parent Seminar	This is a three-hour seminar required for all parents that are party to a family law case. The seminar provides detailed information on how to write a parenting plan and what kinds of issues that they should expect.	\$ 141,100.00
KCSC	Parent Youth Connections Seminar (PYCS)	Thirteen hours of education, skill building and resource connection. Evidence-based program for low risk and diversion youth. Family member participation required.	\$ 129,500.00
DCHS	Youth Development Services	Provides case management and youth development services	\$ 10,000.00

Prepared by The Forum for Youth Investment for the King County Youth Action Plan Task Force—December 2014

*total funding across all age groups

The Forum for Youth Investment conducted a limited scan of key planning documents developed by various entities across King County. Each of these plans outlines priorities for improving services and supports to children, youth and families living in King County. In this review, we summarized the following questions: How are core elements of these plans currently funded? How do they define outcomes? What ages are they focused on (and broken down by our age categories)? What level of intervention do these plans address (youth development, prevention, intervention, treatment, etc)? Is it King County government led? Which agencies? Do these plans emphasize any of the common causes generated in community forums?

Key Document	Current Funding	Defined Outcomes	Ages of Focus	Level of Intervention	King County Government Leadership	Common Cause Connections
King County Health & Human Services Transformation Plan (2014 – 2018)	KC Department of Community & Human Services	<p><u>Thriving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of healthy years that residents live. • Protect the health of communities • Increase supports for optimal growth & development of children & youth • Network of integrated & effective health and human services is available to people in need 	All ages.	Prevention, Intervention, Treatment with greater emphasis on prevention than in previous years	King County Department of Community and Human Services and Public Health-Seattle & King County City governments (Seattle, Bellevue, Sea Tac)	Health Barriers to Access Institutional Structures
King County Mental Illness & Drug Dependency Action Plan	King County Council	<p><u>Thriving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased access to mental health & substance abuse services 	0 – 18	Intervention, Treatment	KC Department of Community & Human Services	Family/Parent Challenges Safety Mental Health Barriers to Access Lack of Resources

Middle Childhood (9-15 year olds) Packet

In this packet you have the data and information collected from the Indicators Strategy Team work plus the Community Conversations “Common Causes” and Solutions. Also included are a summary of the relevant Programs and Services for early childhood from the inventory and a listing of relevant Partnerships (from mapping moving trains) and Strategic Plans.

1 Indicators – *see attached*

- Middle School Education Outcomes
- School Safety
- Homeless Students
- Obesity Rate
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Unexcused Absences

2 Common Causes – clusters of underlying local conditions – *see handout & attached*

- a. Heat Map Overview – to be provided
- b. By theme for 9-15 - attached

3 Solutions –

- a. Generated from Community Conversations – see attached
- b. Youth Survey results – to be provided

4 King County Programs – *see attached*

- a. For 9-15
- b. For Families

5 Partnerships & Strategic Plans – *see below & attached*

Partnerships

- Youth Development Executives of King County
- King County United Way
- Youth and Family Services Association
- The Roadmap Project
- Homeless Youth and Young Adult Initiative
- Community & Human Services & Public Health Agencies; City Govts.
- Dept of Community and Human Services
- Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative
- Department of Community and Human Services & King County Prosecutor; Uniting for Youth
- United Way of King County
- SOAR Youth Development Network & Promotores Network
- Suburban King County Coordinating Council on Gangs

Plans

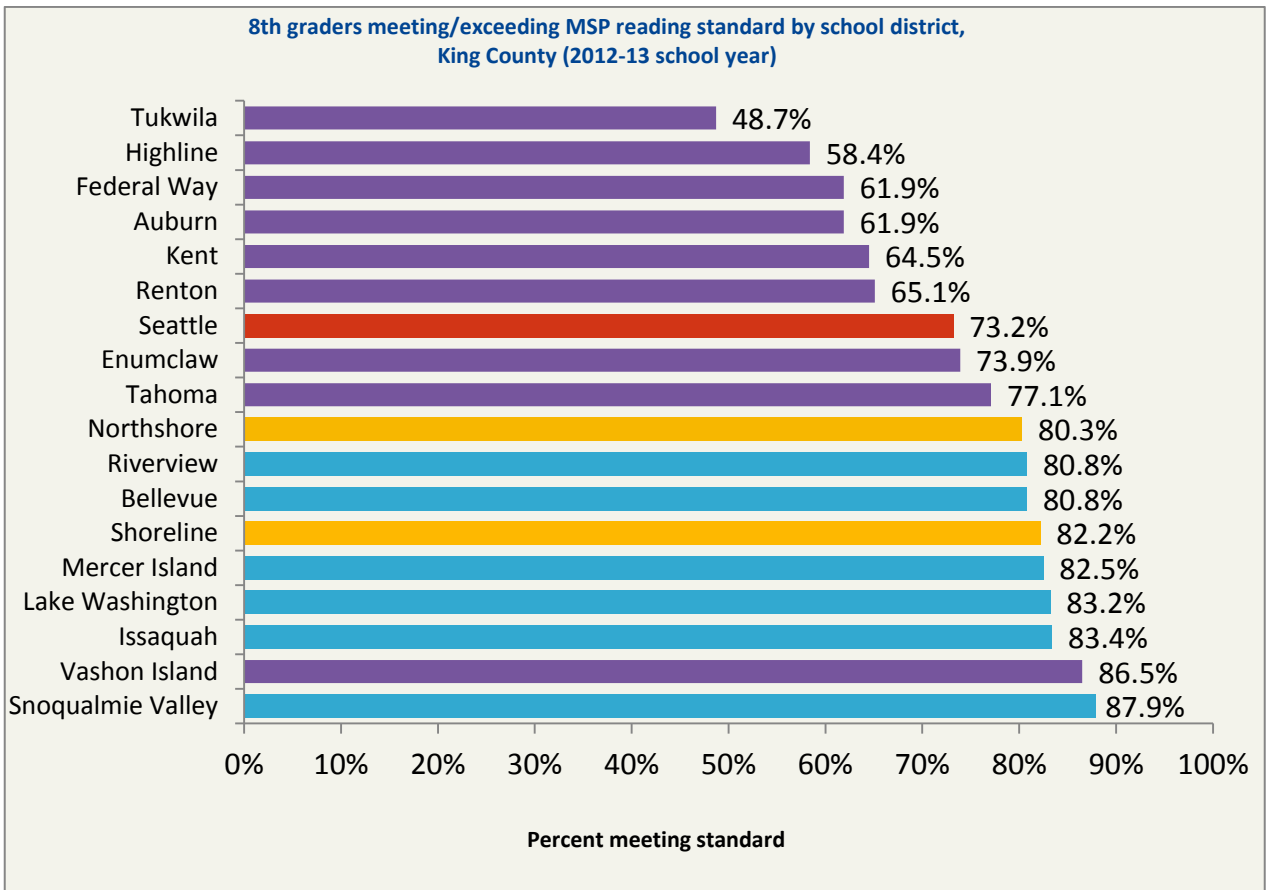
Skills & Dispositions that Support Youth Success in School

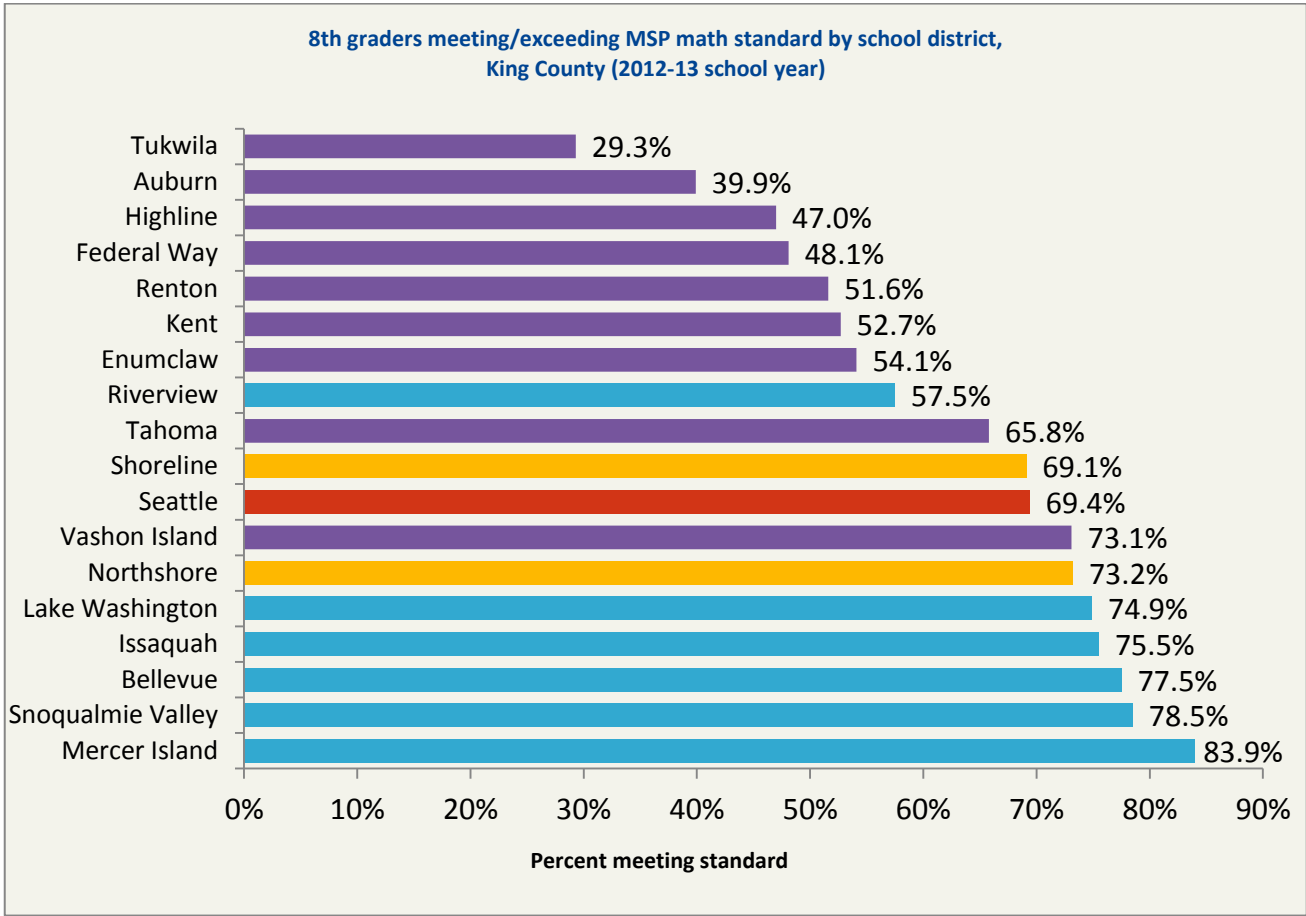
The Roadmap Project Baseline Report

Health and Human Services Transformation Plan
K.C. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Action Plan

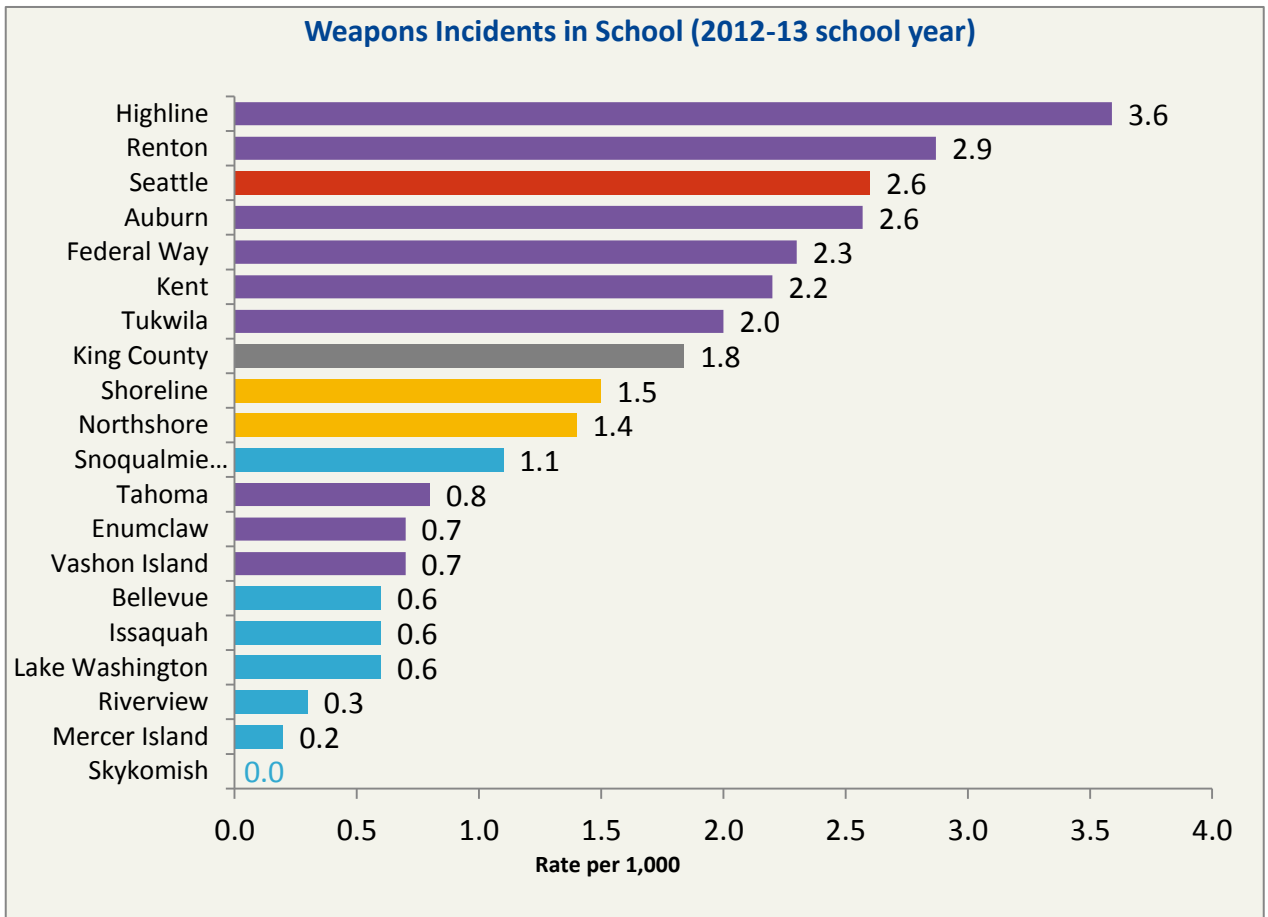
King County Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan

Middle Childhood Indicators

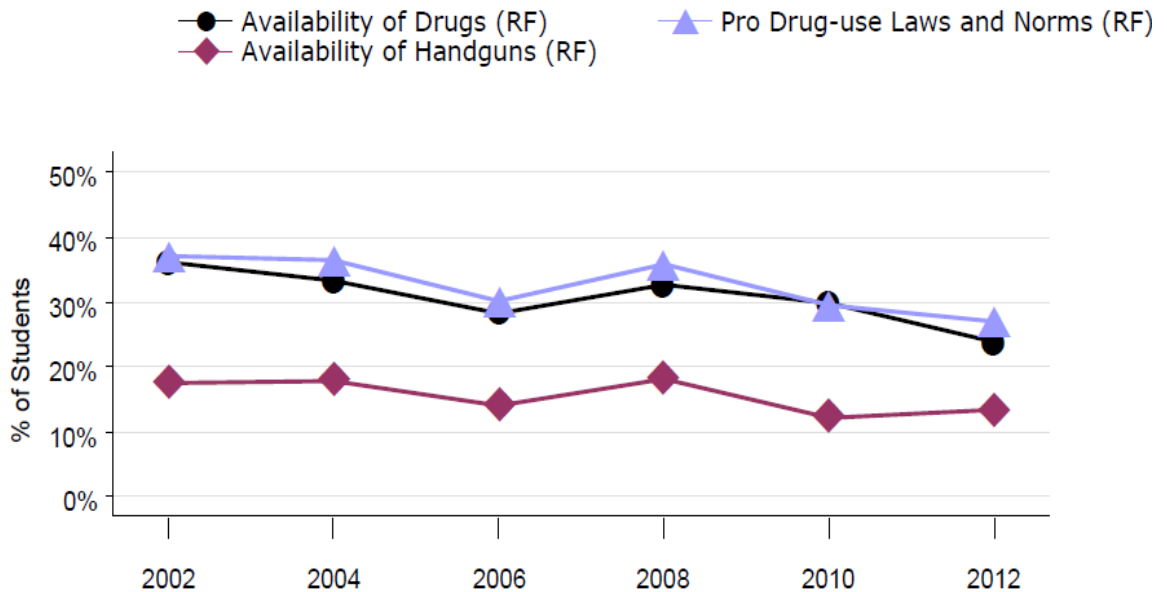




School Safety

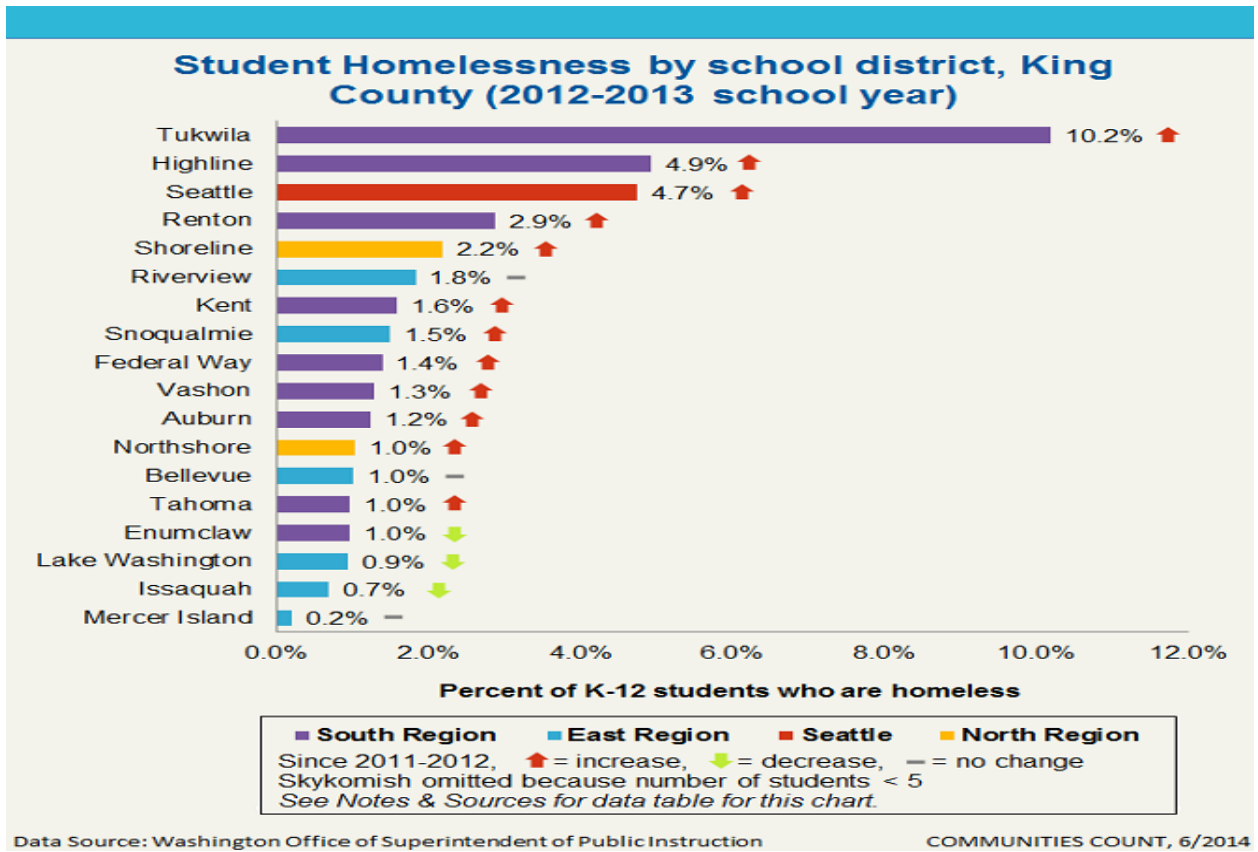


Community Risk Factors Trends, Grade 10

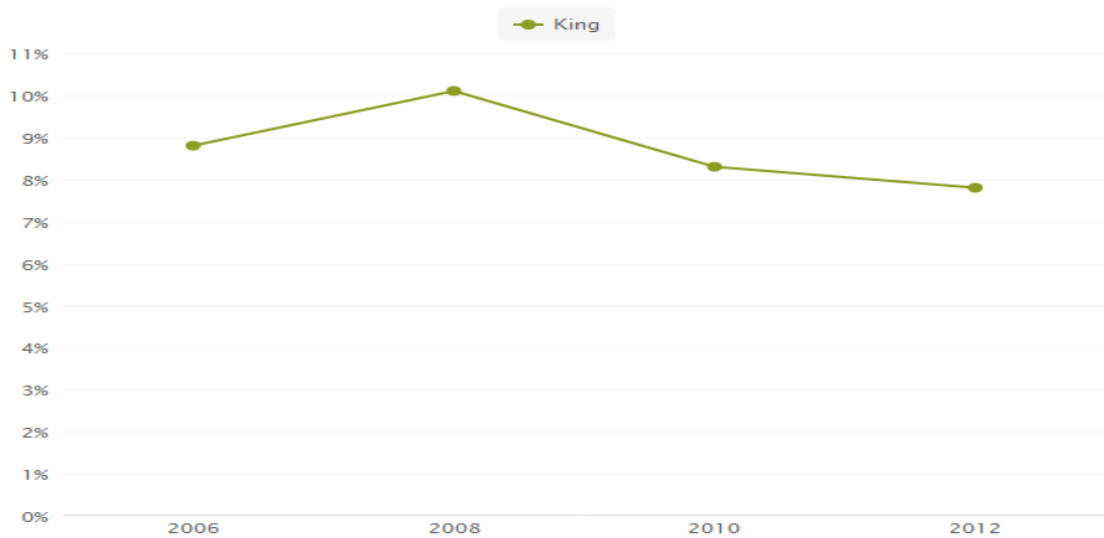


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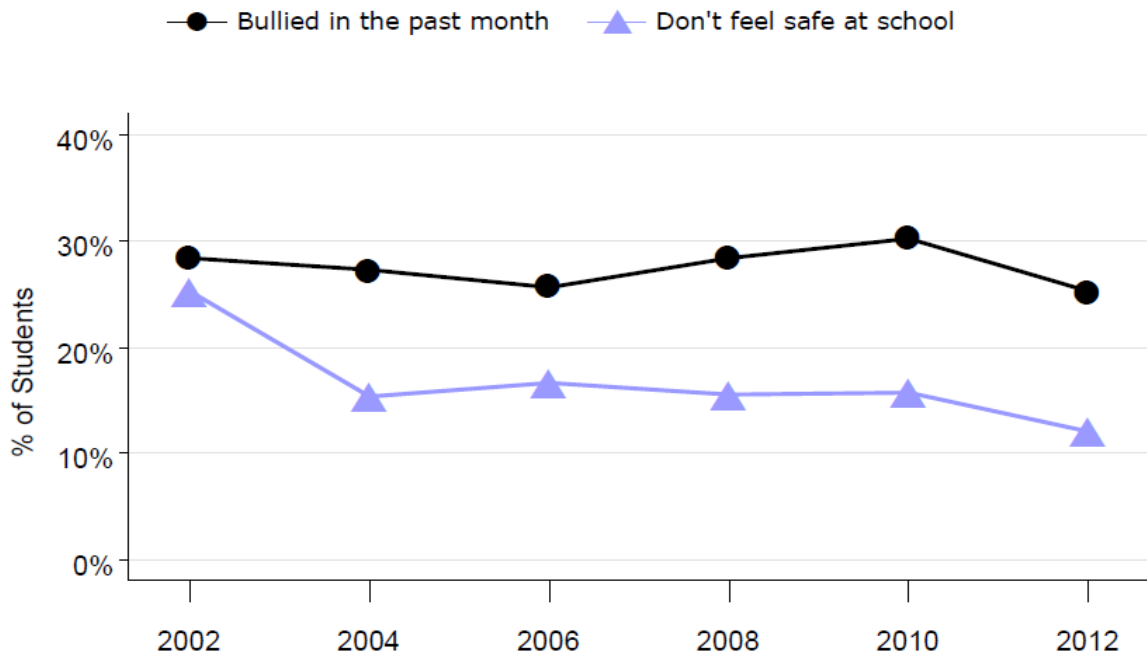
Homeless Students



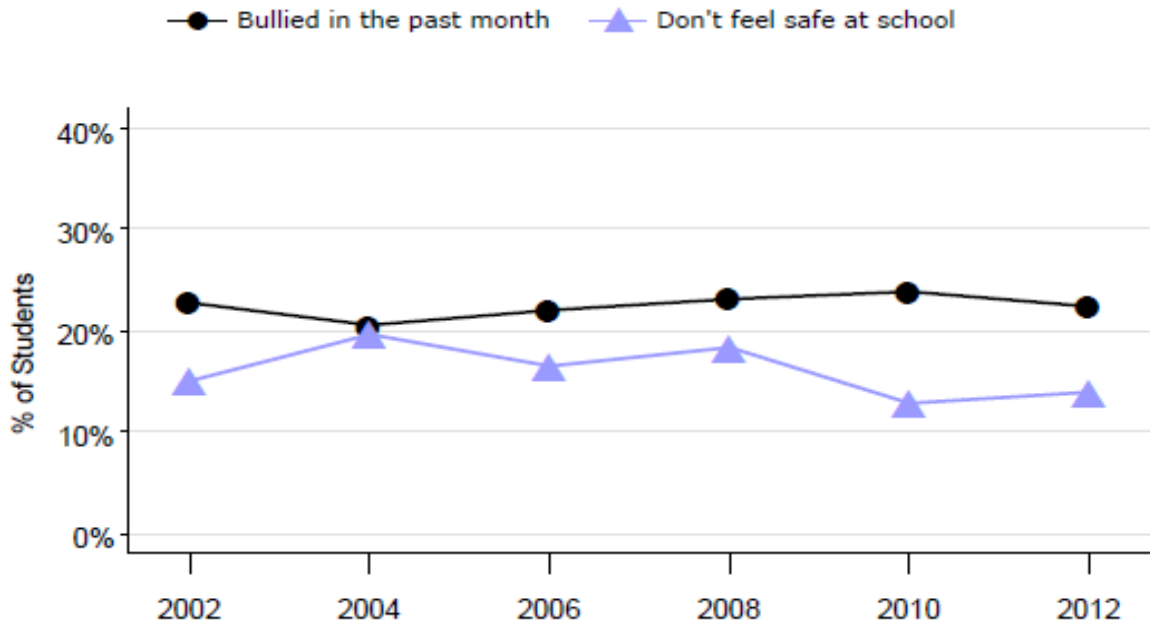
10th Grade Obesity Rate



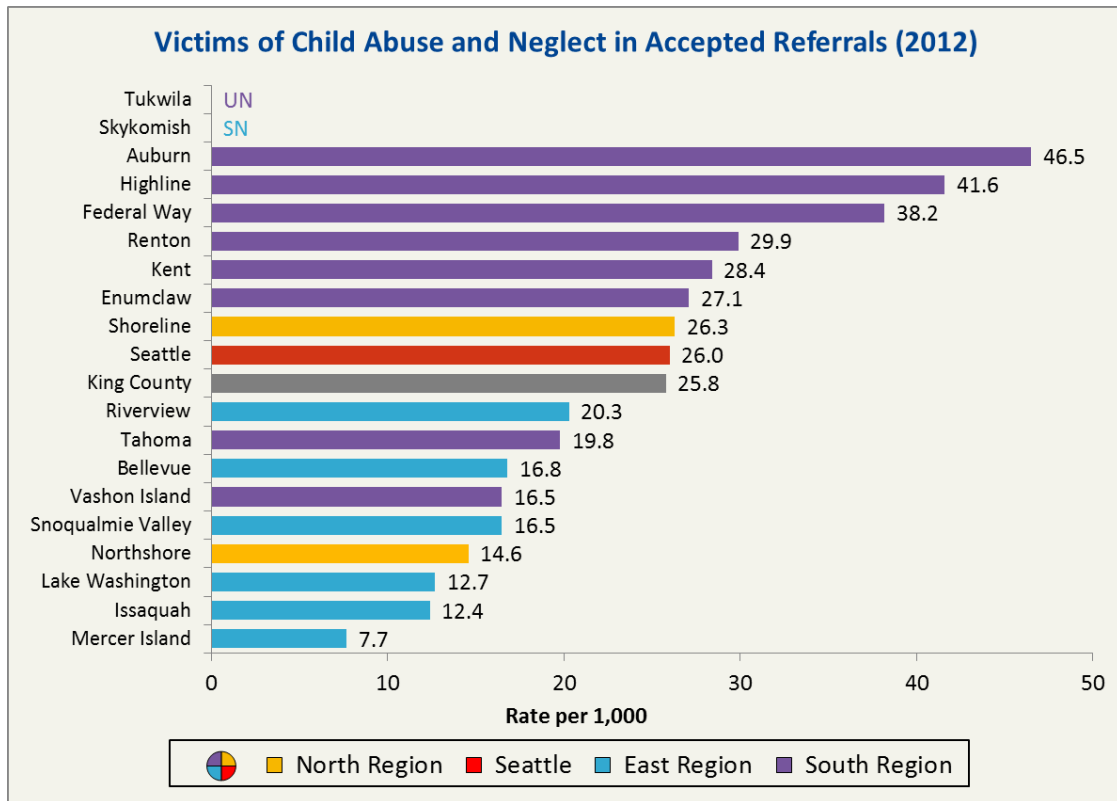
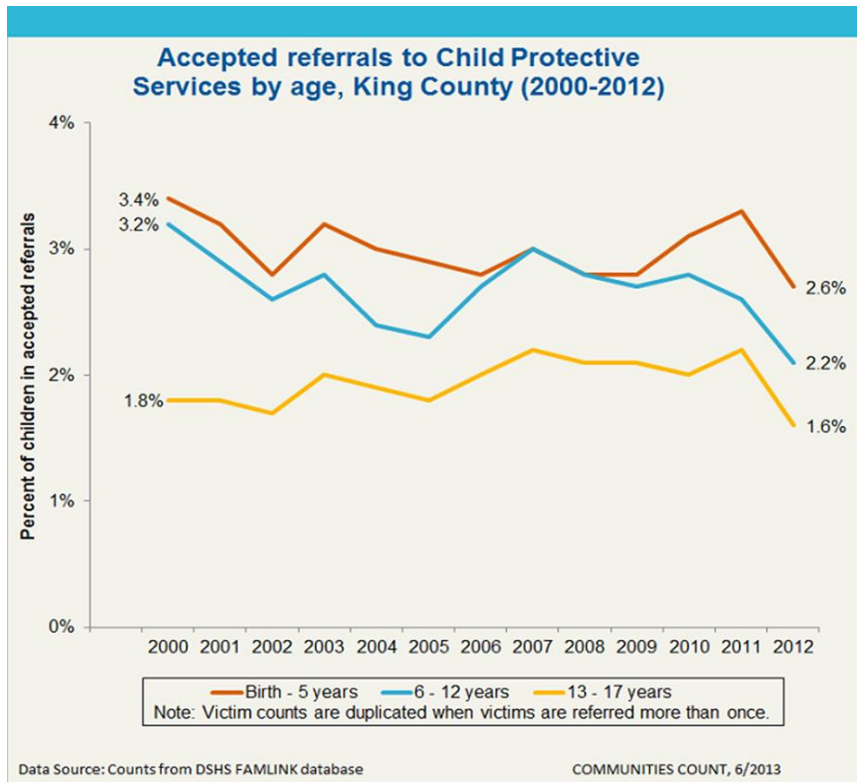
Bullying and Harassment Trends, Grade 8



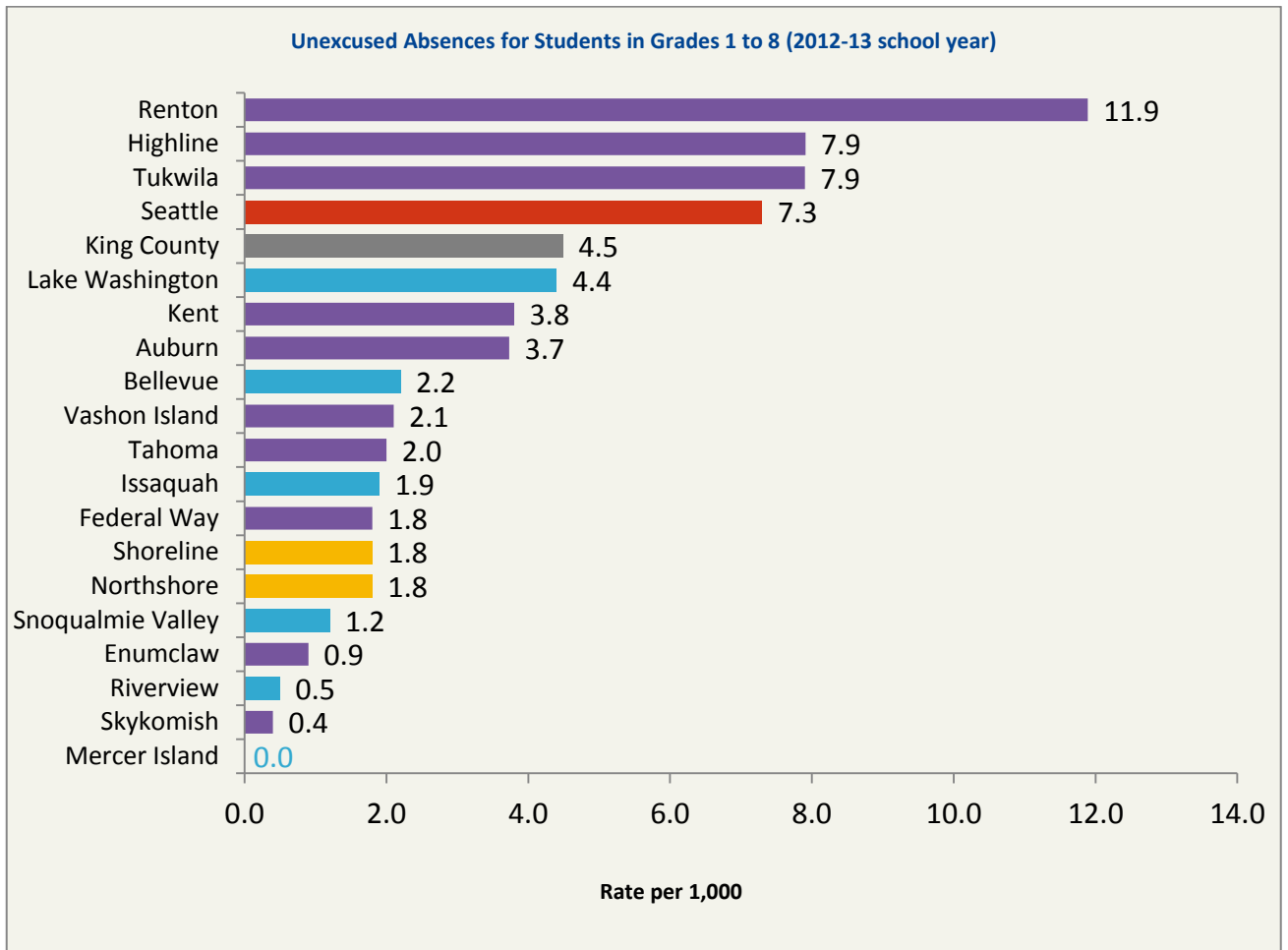
Bullying and Harassment Trends, Grade 10



Child Abuse and Neglect



Unexcused Absences



Common Causes by Theme (9-15) – Clusters of local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation	
COMPETENT ADULTS Caring, Competent Families Professionals & Role Models	FAMILY/PARENT CHALLENGES			
	Lack of Parent Supports	Lack of support for parents	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent
	Lack of Parental Involvement	Parental Engagement	Elementary Education Outcomes	Kirkland
		Lack of Parental Involvement	Unexcused Absences	Snoqualmie
		Parents not engaged or don't know school policies on absences	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Lacking parents ' involvement, don't know how to respond/help	Bullying	Shoreline
	Family Issues	Family issues and attitudes around education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Family issues at home, family not involved in child's education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		Family obligations, lack of hope for further schooling, boredom, need to work	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Parent Skills/Experience	Parenting Skills Needed/Parenting Support (Go to Them)	School Safety	Snoqualmie
	Both Parents Work	Both parents work	Obesity Rate	Kirkland
	Family Expectations	Lack of parents telling their children what they could do with their life	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
		Family issues and attitudes around education	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
		CARING COMPETENT ADULTS		
Lack of Role Models / Caring Adults	Lack of caring adults/role models	Bullying	Snoqualmie	
BASIC NEEDS & SERVICES Safety, Housing & Transportation	HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION			
	Lack of Affordable/Safe Housing	Lack of affordable/safe housing	Homeless Students	Kent
	Many Faces of Homelessness	Many faces of homelessness	Homeless Students	South Seattle
	SAFETY			
	Gun Availability / Exposure	Gun Violence (Access)	School Safety	South Seattle
		A higher availability to weapons causes students to feel that they can protect themselves more	School Safety	Shoreline
		No gun responsibility education-people don't feel responsible for their firearms	School Safety	Shoreline
		Exposure to gun-related activities, lack of awareness on gun safety (they aren't toys)	School Safety	Shoreline
		Availability , no enforcement at school (policy? Or lack of teacher involvement)	School Safety	Shoreline
	Community Environment	Acceptance of violence	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
		Reinforce Positive Behavior and Create Positive Environment	School Safety	Snoqualmie
	Bullying	Bullying	School Safety	Snoqualmie
	Negative Media	Every time there is a shooting, it's broadcasted a lot. This makes other potential killers get ideas and cause bigger damage than a previous crime	School Safety	Shoreline
	EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT Systems, Teachers, Pathways	EDUCATION Y& EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES		
Limited Ed / Structures		Lack of education for all kids	School Safety	South Seattle
		Lack of education	Homeless Students	Kent
Lack of access to jobs/training		Access to good local jobs & training	School Safety	Kent
		Low-paying jobs	Homeless Students	Kent
		Working multiple jobs	School Safety	Kent
LACK OF ACCESS, AWARENESS, & ENGAGEMENT	LACK OF AWARENESS OF SERVICES & SUPPORTS			
		Lack of updated nutritional education in the home, elementary schools. Poor nutritional information available, big corporate monies influencing eating habits		
	Lack of basic information		Obesity Rate	Shoreline
	Lack of Access	Exclusionary Practice	School Safety	South Seattle
		Intentional Connections	School Safety	South Seattle
		Schools Infrastructure for homeless	Homeless Students	Kent
	Lack of Awareness/Knowledge	Lack of awareness of community resources	Obesity Rate	Snoqualmie
		Lack of access or knowledge of resources for homeless	Homeless Students	South Seattle
	Cost	Cost of extra-curricular activities	Obesity Rate	Kirkland
	Lack of Collaboration	Lack of collaboration/cohesive w/school, government, families	School Safety	Kent
		Those who are homeless might be ashamed of the fact they are homeles and don't seek help		
	Shame		Homeless Students	Shoreline
		LACK OF ENGAGEMENT		
	Hopelessness/Fear	Hopeless/Helpless cycle	Unexcused Absences	Snoqualmie
Struggle/bored/Irrelevant	Students who struggle in certain subjects skip classes to avoid work/test	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline	
	Students find themselves uninterested in school, thinking what they learn won't help in the future, associating school with being bored, etc	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline	
	Not being challenged to their potential/not interested, engaged	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline	
	When students feel that what they are learning in school is pointless, they may feel less inclined to attend school and they skip	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline	
Lack of Listening	Lack of listening/knowing kids	Bullying	Snoqualmie	

Common Causes by Theme (9-15) – Clusters of local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation	
WELLNESS SUPPORTS Stress, Mental Health, Physical Health	STRESS // HOPELESSNESS			
	Stress / Trauma / Pressure	Stress: Limited access to resources PTSD-refugees' experience Trauma/intergenerational Inability to manage emotions I think that the root cause of the higher bullying rate for 8th graders would be the surprising level of stress they are under, as middle school can be a time of major depression Pressure/rigor of school work; Lack of sleep due to homework load and early start time; Family issues; Lack of motivation/energy	Child Abuse and Neglect Child Abuse and Neglect Child Abuse and Neglect Unexcused Absences Bullying	South Seattle Kent Kent Snoqualmie Shoreline
	Lost / Not Motivated	Feeling lost Motivated	Unexcused Absences Unexcused Absences	Shoreline Kirkland
	Peer Pressure	Peer pressure to skip w/ friends (nobody skips alone anyway)	Unexcused Absences	Kirkland
	School Pressure	As grade increases, students become more academically challenged and feel they don't have as much time to bully	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	MENTAL HEALTH & PEER PRESSURE			
	Stigma	Stigma of mental health Stigma of mental health	Child Abuse and Neglect Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle South Seattle
	Drugs & Mental Health	Mental health, chemical dependency	Unexcused Absences	Shoreline
	Access to Mental Health Services	Availability for students to access mental health counseling Decline=more help available-still high because mental health aid is not as advertised in schools?	School Safety School Safety	Shoreline Shoreline
	Mental Health	Youth Mental Health Mental Health	Bullying Homeless Students	South Seattle Kent
	HEALTH (including substance abuse)			
	Poor Nutrition & Lifestyle	Busy Lifestyle	Obesity Rate	Snoqualmie
	Drugs & Alcohol	Alcohol abuse More recent and future statistics could be affected by the recent legalization of marijuana People know where to get it and they want to be like the "cool kids" Root cause: increased access to marijuana Many students are looking for a way to fit in so they give in to peer pressure and turn to drug use The level of drug use can be traced to levels of engagement in activities (particularly early engagement) and the level to which students feel connected to their community Easy access almost anywhere, not considered a "hard drug", seems safer Social media can glamorize drug use-different numbers, different classes and how they interact with one another I feel like everyone is doing it, which makes others do it too, why? What's the fun, besides being high and the money? Addiction to chemicals	Child Abuse and Neglect School Safety School Safety School Safety School Safety School Safety School Safety School Safety School Safety Obesity Rate	Kent Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Shoreline Snoqualmie

Common Causes by Theme (9-15) - Clusters of local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation	
ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL FACTORS				
RESOURCES Poverty, Cost, Funding, Limited Resources	Cost of Food Good perhaps rate going down- however lack of funds for food also causes lower weight Lack of access to healthy food choices because of expense School lunches; Lack of nutrition programs & further info about working out; gyms Too bad cheap food is unhealthy. You should not have to have a higher income to buy fresh fruit. Public gardens w/health educators; Provide healthy snack class Provide free breakfast to all students or breakfast for all so students do not avoid breakfast, stigma School lunches are not appealing so students walk/drive to places like McDonald's for lunch Lack of monetary resources to buy nutritional meals, TASTE; fast food easier to obtain Many unhealthy and appealing food is easy to acces you don't have to cook it it tastes good, it's cheaper Healthy food is expensive - business economy cheaper to mass-produced food. Lack of education on the subject of nutrition and future impact No insurance; Lack of knowledge of resources available; Difficulty accessing resources	Obesity Rate	Kirkland	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Obesity Rate	Shoreline	
		Limited Knowledge of resources	Unmet needs	Prenatal Care
	Lack of resources for rural & small towns	Lack of resources/lack of programs in rural areas	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle
	Uneven resources, eligibility	Small cities have few resources and can't prioritize youth and young adults Funding/Resources	Elementary Education Outcomes	Snoqualmie
			Homeless Students	South Seattle
Lack of funding for programs	Restricted funding and eligibility Uneven/unequal distribution of funding Pro-social activities/options (Chosen by them!)	School Safety	South Seattle	
		Homeless Students	South Seattle	
		Homeless Students	South Seattle	
		School Safety	Shoreline	
INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES				
	Land use decisions at county	Obesity Rate	Snoqualmie	
POVERTY & ECONOMIC STRUGGLE				
	Extreme poverty	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle	
	Poverty	Child Abuse and Neglect	Kent	
	Abuse might be occurring when parents struggle financially and are too tired to teach their children good work habits and what they should do - when this happens the student might struggle in school and as punishment the parent releases their stress and rage by abusing their struggling child	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline	
	Economic struggles could trigger abusive parents ; substance abuse; history of abuse; mental health	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline	
	Economy (Losing Homes)	Unexcused Absences	EXTRAS	
	Poverty and more diversity = drug selling for youth	School Safety	EXTRAS	
	Poverty	Bullying	South Seattle	
	Special Needs	Bullying	South Seattle	
CULTURAL & SOCIETAL FACTORS				
CULTURAL DIFFERENCES Language, Culture, "Isms"	Lack of cultural awareness	Child Abuse and Neglect	South Seattle	
		School Safety	Shoreline	
		Bullying	Shoreline	
	Cultural Differences	Cultural differences, belief that it is acceptable , vicious cycle, parents pass on to children Lack of awareness about psychological/emotional affects I think more Hispanic/Latina women women are pregant at younger ages because living conditions aren't stable enough, or the income may have an effect on the cause	Child Abuse and Neglect	Shoreline
			Middle School Education Outcomes	Shoreline
	Acceptance of early pregnancy	Rates of pregnancy differ with race because of cultural differences. Certain cultures may be more accepting of early pregnancy. Lack of resources and education about safe sex; Differ based on race because backgrounds have different ideas of relationships.	Middle School Education Outcomes	Shoreline
			Middle School Education Outcomes	Shoreline
	Cultural Food Practices	Cultural Food Practices	Middle School Education Outcomes	Shoreline
			Obesity Rate	Kirkland
	RACISM/SEXISM			
Racism	Racism	Bullying	South Seattle	
	Institutional racism in student body could lead to bullying people of different ethnicities, less support system for POC?	High School Graduation	Shoreline	
Sexism	Sexism	Bullying	South Seattle	

	OVERALL SUMMARY THEMES for 9-15 year olds
<p>Are there King County programs and services that are currently doing a good job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples.</p>	<p>Various programs and services were listed, but the following came up more with greater frequency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ YMCA/YWCA ○ Boys and Girls Club ○ Big Brothers/Big Sisters ○ REWA ○ Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts ○ Athletic leagues
<p>Are there King County programs and services that could be doing a better job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples. What could be improved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better coordination across systems, especially in transition from elementary to middle school • Meet kids where they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase mental health services available in schools, particularly by increasing number of school counselors ○ More after-school activities at schools (with transportation available to get kids home after activities are over) • Cultural competence of police, teachers, service providers • Multi-lingual resources, especially County websites • Increase amount of low-income/affordable housing
<p>What could we, as community members in this room – with the power, ability and connections we represent – do to make a difference in those underlying issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote , political advocacy, support levy • volunteer, educate others and raise awareness of issues • Be a good role model, mentor
<p>How can the King County support us as community leaders in this work?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to community recommendations/solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide technical assistance, particularly grant writing services, to smaller service providing organizations • Increased communication among/across systems • Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ equitable distribution of resources ○ Make long term investments • Support mentoring programs; e.g. - pay kids to mentor (time is money) • Reaching out to minorities –multi-lingual community forums, workshops, community centers, support cultural organizations

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
KCSC	At-Risk Youth Program & ARY Case Managers (Becca)	At-Risk Youth Programs handles Truancy, At-Risk Youth (ARY) and Child in Need of Services (CHINS) cases referred to the court and works with school districts throughout the county in developing truancy prevention programs. ARY Case Managers assist families in meeting their court obligations by identifying and referring them to local community resources as appropriate to their individual situations.	\$ 477,000.00
		In partnership with King County Superior Court Community Programs, this program provides education, training and employment services to youth involved in the justice system/gangs. Youth are referred by their Juvenile Probation Counselor (JPC) for services. The goal of the program is to increase school engagement/retention, increase job readiness, and decrease recidivism.	
DCHS	EER / South King County Education and Employment, Training (EET) for youth involved in gangs/juvenile justice system		\$ 265,000.00
DAJD	King County Library	Provide Library services to detained youth	\$ 201,945.00
KCSC	PathNet: Drop Out Retrieval	School re-engagement support, re-entry and drop-out intervention. Provides assessment and referral to appropriate education and work training resources.	\$ 75,000.00
KCSO	Truancy Prevention	Highline Public Schools will provide a truancy counselor/mentor to work with students and their families or guardians to accomplish the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to keep students in school, redirect students when they are habitually skipping classes or absent, and struggling with social issues in the school. Additionally, Contractor and the truancy counselor/mentor will pursue an initiative to eliminate out of school suspensions.	\$ 54,000.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	The purpose is an after school program designed to provide a safe place for students; assist students in their academics; provide healthy activities and build teamwork. Provide services after school for at-risk high school students, to include a focus on ninth graders who are entering high school and have been identified as students in need of services. Computers were purchased to be used for the following purposes class assignments and projects; allow certified teachers to work with students; allow students to do online credit retrieval through school district programs.	\$ 11,500.00
DCHS	Be Great Graduate	Provide support for youth to graduate their current education level and progress to the next.	\$ 10,000.00
DNRP	Waste Reduction and Recycling School Education Program	Provides an assembly program to elementary schools on resource conservation. Provides classroom workshops to K-12 classrooms. Provides project ideas for student Green Teams.	\$ 251,400.00
		Assists K-12 schools to improve conservation practices, engage their school communities in environmental stewardship, and operate environmentally efficient facilities	
DNRP	King County Green Schools Program		\$ 201,000.00
DNRP	King County Parks White Center Teen Program	Free recreational, educational and social enrichment programming for over 900 culturally diverse participants ages 12-19 each year. The program operates five days a week, forty-eight weeks a year and provides structured recreational classes and programs, homework assistance, educational and computer resources, leadership training, volunteer opportunities, special events, field trips, and drop-in activities. The program also provides youth with proactive conflict resolution strategies, health and wellness resources and referrals, and life skills and employment training.	\$115,000

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DNRP	Wastewater Treatment Division School Day Programs	Students visit Brightwater or South Treatment Plant for a one day field trip to learn about natural and man-made water systems. Professional development workshops are provided to teachers to help teachers integrate topics into classroom curriculum and to extend learning opportunities.	\$60,000
	Wastewater Treatment Division Wheels to Water Program	Free bus transportation is available for schools to attend Wastewater Treatment Division led or sponsored field trip opportunities. Available for schools in need who qualify based on the school's free and reduced lunch rate (25% or higher qualifies).	\$50,000
DNRP	Brightwater Center Family Programs	Monthly family programs are offered at Brightwater Center that teach about the natural world and how to protect our environment.	\$20,000
DPH	First Steps: Maternity Support Services	Maternity support services target low income pregnant women and offer office and home visits from an interdisciplinary team of public health nurses, nutritionists, social workers and community health workers. Services include education and support around having a healthy pregnancy including referral and linkages to community resources.	\$27,333,000.00
DCHS	Mental Health Outpatient Services	Provided at over 30 agencies throughout the county - A wide range of mental health services provided in an outpatient format that address symptoms of emotional disturbance and trauma with a goal of developing pro-social skills and resiliency.	\$26,000,000.00
DPH	Pediatric dental services	The Dental Program provides preventative and restorative dental services to low income children. Services include comprehensive and periodic (6-month) exams, X-rays, cleaning, and restorations.	\$11,385,000.00
DPH	Seattle School Based Health Centers (SBHC)	A full range of primary care, reproductive care, health education services, mental health counseling, and dental care are offered in support of academic success at all of Seattle's comprehensive high schools and selected elementary and middle schools, within the context of well child and adolescent primary care. 26 centers are run by 6 sponsor agencies: PHSKC, Neighborcare Health, Group Health Cooperative, International Community Health Centers, Odessa Brown, & Swedish Medical Center. During the 2012-2013 School Year there were over 33,000 medical and mental health visits.	\$6,012,000.00
DPH	Primary Medical Care for children and youth	Services include primary medical care for children: illness care, well child check-ups, immunizations, child's health, growth and development, and referrals to specialists.	\$4,903,000.00
DPH	Nurse Family Partnership	Intensive home visiting for young, first time, low income mothers and their children. Visits commence during pregnancy and last until the child's second birthday.	\$4,885,000.00
DCHS	6a. Wraparound Services	An evidence based practice providing facilitated child/youth and family teams for multi-system- involved youth. Five agencies provide Wraparound Delivery Teams: Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation, Community Psychiatric Clinic, Sound Mental Health, Therapeutic Health Services and Center for Human Services.	\$4,500,000.00
DCHS	Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - YMCA Crisis Services	Provides emergent and urgent crisis response for children/youth and their families experiencing behavioral health crises. These are children/youth who are not enrolled in outpatient services. This program includes a partnership with Region Two South Division of Children and Family Services (Child Welfare).	\$2,877,313.00
DPH	Public Health - Seattle & King County Teen Clinics and family planning services for teens	All services at Public Health Teen Clinics are free or low cost. Teen Clinics are safe, friendly, confidential places offering free condoms, Birth Control methods; STD and HIV tests; Emergency Contraception (Plan B); Pregnancy tests; HPV Vaccines	\$1,505,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Child Care Health Program	Offers health direct consultation and training to improve the health and safety of child care environments throughout Seattle & King County. Onsite consultation identifies strategies to address communicable disease prevention, environmental health, nutrition, disaster preparedness, immunizations, child development, social/emotional/behavioral concerns. Supporting children with special needs and advocates for the needs of children in child care through community partnerships and policy development. Indirect serves are provider via phone, email and website. Number of children served varies.	\$ 1,333,000.00
DPH	PH/Access & Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Insurance enrollment for the Apple Health for Kids program (birth-18); Youth over 18 who are eligible for Apple Health-Adults. Child care application assistance for parenting teens. Dental and vision resources for teens 19 and older. Help finding a medical home and health care providers. Basic Food assistance for all clients with a focus on homeless teens. Energy assistance for clients renting/leasing an apartment and access to medical/dental providers, referrals to maternity support services. 	\$ 1,316,000.00
DCHS	4c. School MH and SA Services	Collaborative school-based mental health and substance abuse services. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies, screenings, referrals, individual/group/family work, after school activities, assemblies, classroom presentations and school support in middle schools for those most at risk. Partner agencies/ organizations include: Auburn Youth Resources; Center for Human Services; Friends of Youth; Kent Youth & Family Services; Neighborcare Health; Northshore Youth & Family Services; Puget Sound Educational Services District; Navos; Seattle Children's Hospital; Therapeutic Health Services.	\$ 1,248,556.00
DPH	Access to Family Planning: <i>Increasing timely access to quality, population-appropriate reproductive health services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating materials and training gatekeepers to reduce barriers to the most effective methods of reversible contraception (IUD & implant). Developing and maintaining social marketing tools to inform teens about how to access reproductive health services (e.g., new TeenClinic.com web and Facebook pages). Creating and distributing state-of-the-art outreach and referral materials. Providing direct outreach in classrooms and agencies. Training school employees and partner agencies regarding teens' (especially Medicaid-eligible teens') access to clinical services. 	\$ 918,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Drug Court/CDDA	Intensive substance abuse treatment and supervision with weekly hearings for 9 – 12 months. (Evidence Based Practice); CDDA is a chemical dependency disposition alternative, all drug court youth are also on a CDDA.	\$ 881,200.00
DPH	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program	Home visiting by Public Health Nurse to children with medically fragile/complex health or developmental conditions to assist families with transition from hospital to home, assure coordination of care and establish a Healthcare home. For birth to three children with developmental delays, assure connection to Early Intervention Services. PHNs provide assessment on children with special needs and the impact of that health condition on the parent ability to participate in WorkFirst activities. Phone services to assist establishing specialty and community based services. Consultation available to community providers that are working with high risk, high needs children.	\$ 864,000.00
DPH	Seattle Nutrition Action Consortium	Improves the health and nutritional well-being of limited income families with children in Seattle and King County.	\$ 806,000.00
DCHS	Youth Outpatient Treatment	Provides chemical dependency treatment to youth in an outpatient setting.	\$806,000.00

Healthy

*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Group Care Enhancement	Provides substance abuse intervention and treatment services within selected host agencies that are not certified/licensed to provide such services.	\$600,718.00
DPH	King County Dirt Alert	Raise awareness about lead and arsenic exposure in soil from the former Asarco smelter. Long term exposure can lead to severe immediate and lifelong health consequences, especially for children. KCDA has awarded three community grants to Latino Community Fund, Korean Women's Association and Child Care Resources. They will work together to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach to Spanish, Korean and Somali residents and child care providers in South King County.	\$ 500,000.00
DCHS	Crisis Outreach for Youth Refer to above "Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - YMCA Crisis Services"	Description under CCORS.	\$500,000.00
KCSC	SSODA Counseling/Treatment Services	Specialized assessment, treatment and polygraph services for juvenile sex offenders.	\$487,100.00
DPH	School Based Oral Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides dental sealants, fluoride varnish applications, and preventive dental treatments in targeted schools primarily in the Seattle School District but also in Highline, Kent, and Renton School Districts. • Provides dental screenings for children at high risk for dental decay in targeted day cares (Child Havens) and immigrant/refugee populations in schools. • Provides dental information to other health care professionals such as school nurses, Head Start/ECEAP staff and other groups working with high-risk populations. 	\$416,000.00
DCHS	Assessments Juvenile Justice Youth	Assessment and referral of all youth involved in juvenile court services. Operated at Juvenile Court. .80FTE Psychologist, 1.0FTE Social Worker, 2.0FTE MHP and CDP & psychiatric consultation	\$403,736.00
DPH	Vaccines for Children Program	This program assures access to quality immunization services for King County children by allocating vaccine and managing the childhood vaccine distribution system, by conducting quality assurance activities, and by providing technical support to over 330 health care providers.	\$390,000.00
DCHS	Family Integrated Transitions program - U of W	An evidence-based practice for high risk juvenile justice involved youth.	\$387,000.00
DCHS	Parent Partner Youth Peer	Funds a family support organization, called Guided Pathways-Support for Youth and Families (GPS), to provide information, resources and supports to parents/caregivers of youth with serious emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse including access to Parent Partners and Youth Peer mentors.	\$375,000.00
DAJD	Medical	Provide health services to detained youth including acute and chronic care, medication management, reproductive health services, and 24/7 on-call MD	\$333,163.00
DCHS	Multisystemic Therapy- - Therapeutic Health Services	An evidence-based practice for high risk juvenile justice involved youth.	\$315,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
KCSC	Family Integrated Transition (FIT)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 5-6 months with Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Families may also receive psychiatric services and medication management.	\$284,900.00
DAJD	Mental Health	Provide mental health and psychiatric services to detained youth, behavioral management, 24/7 on call services	\$ 273,722.00
DCHS	DDD / Children's Best Program	Children's Behavior Support Team (BeST) Program. Empower families with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the causes of problem behavior and to effectively implement positive behavior supports in natural family contexts. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at risk and most in need to prevent or reduce more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration, and other emergency medical or crisis responses.	\$259,596.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice Assessment Team	Mental health assessment, psychological evaluations and consultations, psychiatric consultations, substance abuse screening, substance abuse/chemical dependency assessments, trauma screening and trauma focused CBT engagement.	\$226,800.00
DCHS	13b. Domestic Violence Prevention (Children's Domestic Violence (DV) Response Team - Sound Mental Health)	The agency provides a team of DV advocates and mental health specialists that provide both advocacy and mental health treatment services to children who have experienced DV.	\$224,000.00
DCHS	4d. School Suicide Prevention	A school and community based suicide prevention, early intervention and support strategy. Youth Suicide Prevention staff and Crisis Clinic Teen Link staff provide suicide awareness and prevention training to youth, school administrators, teachers and parents which includes presentations and consultations. Review and develop/modify school policies and procedures regarding suicide prevention, intervention and prevention throughout King County.	\$200,000.00
DPH	Healthy Outcomes Prevention and Education (HOPE)	Preventing infant mortality and improving infant health outcomes by linking women and their families in minority communities to health care and needed services. Research shows that linking women of color and their families to health care and other services and providing culturally appropriate support will reduce stress and lead to improved birth outcomes.	\$175,000.00
DCHS	Youth Engagement Program	Provides outreach and/or engagement services for minority youth, including sexual minorities, age 13 through 24 and link underserved City of Seattle and/or homeless youth to treatment or other recovery support services.	\$ 160,074.00
DCHS	Institute For Family Development	Provides Functional Family Therapy (FFT), an evidence-based program, to youth and their families. FFT includes assessment, development of family goals, specific intervention techniques, and teaches skills necessary for success.	\$149,600.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$142,496.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$ 141,841.00

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King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$ 141,841.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$ 139,241.00
DPH	Tobacco Youth Access Program	Tobacco retailer inspections that include both education and enforcement of the state's youth access to tobacco laws and regulations.	\$135,000.00
KCSC	Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 4-6 months. Family structure required, but can serve foster and extended families and families in crisis.	\$127,400.00
DCHS	Juvenile Justice Liaisons Navos	Mental Health Assessment and Referral to treatment services for youth who are on probation.	\$120,200.00
DPH	Neighborhood Health - 45th Street Homeless Youth Clinic	A walk-in clinic which provides medical services for homeless youth and young adults 2 evenings per week. Services include primary care, reproductive health services, mental health and chemical dependency counseling, STD testing, alternative health care.	\$ 73,000.00
DPH	Healthy Eating/Active Living In Childcare Settings	Provides technical assistance and education to childcare settings to encourage healthy eating, active living policies and, in coordination with the community transformation grant, participated in the education of 150 childcare providers.	\$70,000.00
DPH	Volunteer Training Network	A train-the-trainer program that equips community members (speaking a language other than English) to educate their peers (friends, family and neighbors). The trainers teach workshops and build capacity to reduce toxins in the home setting. Trainers receive training and teaching resources (in their first language) from subject matter experts from the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program.	\$65,000.00
DCHS	Youth Diversion (partnership with Superior Court)	Provides chemical abuse and dependency screening, brief counseling, and referral for ongoing treatment services to juvenile offenders.	\$ 59,772.00
DCHS	YFSA / NAVOS/Ruth Dykeman Children's Center	Provides substance abuse prevention and intervention services to youth in the Highline School District.	\$ 58,666.00
DPH	Country Doctor Teen Clinic	A walk-in clinic which provides medical services for homeless youth and young adults 2 evenings per week. Services include primary care, reproductive health services, STD testing, alternative health care.	\$58,000.00
KCSC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Weekly in-home family counseling sessions for 3-4 months. Family structure/committed caregiver is required; foster families eligible.	\$ 50,500.00
DPH	Healthier and Toxic Free Homes	A community-directed partnership with SOAR Coalition to raise awareness and build capacity to reduce toxics in the home setting. Communities involved in this project include Bhutanese/Nepalese, Chinese, Filipino, Latino, and Purepecha. Community members play a leadership role in identifying issues and solutions for household toxics.	\$50,000.00

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King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	YFSA / Southwest Youth and Family Services	Provides academic development and employment readiness services to youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system that reside in the Seattle School District.	\$38,821.00
DPH	Eco-Healthy Childcare	Offers county-wide training and chemical-related technical assistance visits to the child care industry. On-site services emphasize reducing children's exposure to toxics.	\$31,000.00
KCSC	Intensive Counseling Services	Individual, family, and group counseling as well as psychological testing and evaluation.	\$27,700.00
DPH	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	Environmental case management services to families of children identified as having above average blood lead levels (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). Includes a wide range of services: mailings, phone consultations, in-home consultations, environmental sampling and analysis, and case coordination and technical assistance with health care providers. Provide on-going analytical capacity to Public Health Centers and other low-income health centers to test for blood lead levels in children.	\$12,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Probation	Probation performs several functions: The Consolidated Intake Unit initially handles most filed on juvenile offender cases. Intake JPCs conduct risk assessments and prepare disposition reports for the court. The Supervision Units provide probation supervision including CMAP (case management assessment process), motivational interviewing and risk assessment for all adjudicated juvenile offenders. One JPC in each unit supervise juveniles adjudicated for sex offenses. Screening Unit reviews all cases where law enforcement is requesting that a youth be booked into secure detention. Screening JPCs determine if a juvenile meets the criteria for being held in detention pending court review and administer the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) which generates a placement recommendation for the first court hearing. The Records Unit manages electronic social files on all juveniles referred to Juvenile Court Services and is responsible for maintaining/updating information in the local information system (JIMS) and the state information system (JCS).	\$6,913,150.00
DPD	Public Defense - Juvenile Offender Legal Services	Public defense legal services for youth accused of committing an offense. Offenses may be misdemeanors (least serious), gross misdemeanors, or felonies (most serious).	\$2,333,622.12
KCSC	Dependency CASA	This program recruits, trains and supervises community volunteers who serve as advocates for children in dependency cases. Volunteers should have an interest in the best outcomes of children and do not need to be legal or social work professionals.	\$2,164,900.00
DPD	Public Defense - Child Dependency Actions	Public defense legal services for youth over the age of 12 involved in a dependency action in Juvenile Court. With passage of 2014 legislation, youth under the age of 12 who are legally free are also entitled to an attorney.	\$1,430,305.96
KCSC	Juvenile Courtroom Support	Court support staff ensure the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$1,132,000.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Full Time SRO's in the following contract cities: Burien (1), Sammamish (2), Seatac (1), Shoreline (1), Woodinville (1)	\$ 852,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Court Administrative Costs	General management costs that support all juvenile-only related programs.	\$ 840,500.00

*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
KCSC	Partnership for Youth Justice (Diversion Program)	The Partnership for Youth Justice Program is a diversion program for first time offending juveniles allegedly involved in minor offenses and infractions. Over 250 local community volunteers serve on 22 community accountability boards to which most of these juveniles' cases are referred.	\$ 548,000.00
KCSC	Family Treatment Court	Family Treatment Court is an alternative to regular dependency court and is designed to improve the safety and well being of children in the dependency system by providing parents access to drug and alcohol treatment, judicial monitoring of their sobriety and individualized services to support the entire family.	\$ 534,400.00
DPD	Public Defense - Becca Matters	Public defense legal services for youth involved in At-Risk-Youth (ARY), Child-in-Need of Services (CHINS) or truancy matters and, as a result, face potential Public sanctions including detention.	\$ 431,381.00
DAJD	Electronic Home Monitoring	Provide Electronic Monitoring for those youth that are court ordered and approved by Alternatives to Secure Detention Placement Specialists to be on the program	\$ 350,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Commissioners & Judge	Judicial officers assigned to the dependency calendar handle all pre and post-trial dependency matters.	\$331,800.00
DGHS	TeamChild	Provides civil legal services and community education to help youth involved in the juvenile justice system.	\$ 270,000.00
DGHS	Youth Housing Connection - Coordinated Engagement (YHC CE) for Homeless Youth and Young Adult	Coordinated Engagement (CE) will direct young people's access to housing by coordinating their applications, applying a common strengths-based assessment, and placing them in programs that have worked for other youth and young adults (Y'YAs).	\$243,240.00
Safe			
KCSC	Juvenile Offender Judges	King County Superior Court Judges and Commissioners assigned to Juvenile Court handle offender and at-risk youth matters.	\$227,700.00
DJA	Step Up Program	Group intervention program for youth domestic violence toward family members. The program is court based and designed to serve youth in the juvenile justice system who are on diversion, probation or At-Risk-Youth petitions referred for DV toward parents/family members, as well as self or community referred families. The program uses a 21 session cognitive behavioral, skills and strengths based curriculum including teen groups, parent groups and family groups. A Restorative Practice model is used to engage change process.	\$ 206,715.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Overtime to create a part-time SRO presence in Unincorporated King County schools	\$188,000.00
KCSC	Interpreters	Interpreters assist litigants during attorney-client consultations and arraignments, hearings, trials, and other court events. They also interpret for deaf jurors, classes for parents and truant youth, and appointments with court personnel. Interpreter services have been provided in 143 languages.	\$158,700.00
DGHS	Family Reunification Program Pilot	Family and Youth Focused in-home family reunification and diversion support. To provide prevention services and family reunification services to youth and young adults at risk of homelessness or homeless.	\$150,000.00

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Project SAFE	Project SAFE: phone-based clinical consultation for parents/caregivers responsible for a youth ages 12-17 in crisis or youth who have run away from home or who are at risk of running away. Referrals are made directly from parents, via sister agencies or through National Safe Place. The family therapist assists parents and caregivers in developing an action plan that confronts issues that may be underlying their teen's behaviors, often making referrals for ongoing outside individual or family counseling.	\$150,000.00
PAO	180 Program (pre-filing juvenile diversion)	The 180 Program is a pre-filing juvenile diversion program designed to divert youth facing their first or second misdemeanor out of the court system. In 2012, the 180 Program diverted 353 youth out of the court system. In 2013, the program diverted 310 youth out of the court system. Instead of filing charges against eligible youth, the PAO instead invites youth to participate in a Saturday half-day workshop where the curriculum and workshop are developed and lead by community leaders.	\$150,000.00
DPD	Public Defense - Juvenile Drug Court Program	Public defense legal services for youth involved in Juvenile Drug Court	\$102,570.00
KCSC	Parent for Parent Program	Parent to Parent Program assists families by providing peer parents who are approachable and a culturally relevant connection to the dependency process. The program promotes early engagement in the dependency process which is critical for improving the chance of reunification.	\$95,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Mediation	This program provides mediation for families in the dependency system at the YSC courthouse to help resolve issues related to child abuse and neglect prior to adjudication by the court.	\$ 94,500.00
KCSC	FJICIP	This program ensures the efficient running of the dependency related services and court processes and makes recommendations for improved programs and efficiencies.	\$85,200.00
DCHS	Alive and Free Program	Alive and Free Program works with youth involved with street or gang violence and connects them to services, and provides outreach and violence prevention services.	\$ 82,500.00
KCSC	Warrant Prevention Program	Contacts and provides support to help youth attend court and avoid warrants and related detention. Prioritizes youth of color.	\$ 75,000.00
DCHS	Youth Housing Connection - Coordinated Engagement (YHC CE) Database Development	This IT system capacity development project enhances the Coordinated Engagement (CE) Database to manage client intake, client assessment and reporting related to Youth Housing Connection (YHC).	\$ 75,000.00
DAJD	YouthCare	Provide group care beds for those youth that are court ordered as part of the Alternatives to Secure Detention Program	\$ 67,800.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Overtime to create a part-time SRO presence in Unincorporated King County schools	\$ 60,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice 101	The Juvenile Justice 101 program helps close the information and support gap for families at the initial court phase of the juvenile justice process. Using a peer support model, the program informs families of court basics and community resources through onsite orientation and one-on-one support. The community outreach component of the JJ 101 program has worked with the Somali community through a series of workshops and community meetings. Additional grant funding will continue the outreach with the Somali community and expand into the Hispanic community in 2014 and 2015.	\$ 55,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at Youth Haven	Support the Youth Haven shelter in order to serve homeless individuals (youth). Capacity: 9 units.	\$ 45,554.00
KCSC	Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Taskforce & Multidisciplinary Teams	CSEC is providing training so individuals and agencies recognize exploited children and are helping to establish multidisciplinary teams to provide and coordinate services. The Taskforce is also working with the State and local partners to collect and evaluate data.	\$ 25,000.00
Safe			
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at YouthCare	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at YouthCare in University District. Capacity: 8 units.	\$ 15,000.00
KCSC	Family Court Services	MSW level social workers provide mediation, evaluation, domestic violence assessment and other services to families with children who are involved in the family law court process. FCS also provides adoption related services including assistance with paperwork, confirmations of consent, and non-identifying adoption searches.	\$ 1,977,900.00
KCSC	UFC Judges	King County Superior Court Judges assigned to handle family law cases with children.	\$ 1,229,800.00
KCSC	Family Law Commissioners	Commissioner assigned to family law handle pre-trial family law matters and child support related cases.	\$ 883,000.00
KCSC	Family Law Facilitators, Early Resolution Case Managers & Family Law Orientation	Facilitators assist family law pro-se parties (people not represented by an attorney) by explaining forms and processes. Inform parties of possible settlement options and review court documents prior to their submittal to court. Family Law Orientation is a one-hour orientation class for pro-se litigants in family law cases which provides them with information on court rules, court processes and resources to help them throughout their case. All of these programs work together to assist pro se families in family law matters.	\$ 556,600.00
KCSC	Family Law Support	Court support staff ensure the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$ 394,600.00
DPD	Public Defense - ROYAL Program	Project ROYAL (Raising Our Youth As Leaders) provides case management and mentoring to youth involved in the juvenile justice system	\$ 297,600.00
DCHS	Project ROYAL	Department of Public Defense (DPD) (in partnership with SCRAP) operates Project ROYAL (Raising Our Youth As Leaders) for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and provides case management and mentoring.	\$ 250,000.00
KCSC	Aggression Replacement Training (ART)	Three one hour classes per week for ten weeks to improve decision-making skills, anger control and moral reasoning. Transportation assistance available.	\$ 184,200.00
DCHS	YFSA / Friends of Youth	Provides case management and substance abuse services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Issaquah, Riverview and Snoqualmie School Districts.	\$ 160,403.00
DCHS	YFSA / Renton Area Youth and Family Services	The SPARK T.H.I.S. program is designed to prevent youth involvement in the juvenile justice system through the provision of an array of services that minimize risk factors and builds protective factors (case management).	\$ 160,062.00
Socially Engaged			

*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

Socially Engaged			Total Program Budget*
Dept.	Program/Project	Description	
KCSC	Parent Seminar	This is a three-hour seminar required for all parents that are party to a family law case. The seminar provides detailed information on how to write a parenting plan and what kinds of issues that they should expect.	\$141,100.00
KCSC	Parent Youth Connections Seminar (PYCS)	Thirteen hours of education, skill building and resource connection. Evidence-based program for low risk and diversion youth. Family member participation required.	\$129,500.00
DCHS	YFSA / Youth Eastside Services	Provides comprehensive services to families, children, and youth at risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Bellevue and Lake Washington School District.	\$117,005.00
KCSC	Mentor Program	One-on-one pro-social outreach and support by trained mentors provided to youth on probation. Gender specific and cultural matching available.	\$ 110,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Kent Youth and Family Services	Provides comprehensive services to families, children, and youth at risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Kent School District.	\$102,437.00
DCHS	YFSA / Northshore Youth and Family Services	Provides case management and youth development services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Northshore and Skykomish School Districts.	\$ 97,296.00
DCHS	Neighborhood House	BRIDGESTART provides case management and youth development services for youth involved, or at risk for involvement, in the King County juvenile justice system.	\$ 93,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Auburn Youth Resources	Provides case management and youth development services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Auburn and Enumclaw School Districts.	\$ 84,414.00
DCHS	Southwest Youth and Family Services	Provide youth violence prevention program which includes case management services to youth at-risk or involved with the juvenile justice system.	\$ 77,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Federal Way Youth and Family Services, a branch of Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation	Provides youth development services and family support services to youth and families at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Federal Way School District.	\$ 73,673.00
DCHS	YouthCare	Provides case management services for youth involved in prostitution/justice system at the Orion Center.	\$ 71,700.00
DCHS	YFSA / Central Youth and Family Services, a branch of Therapeutic Health Services	Provides case management services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system in the Seattle School District.	\$ 46,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Maple Valley Community Center	Provides classroom presentations using the DateWise curriculum to youth in the Tahoma School District.	\$ 42,410.00
DCHS	YFSA / Center for Human Services	Provides youth development services to children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Shoreline School District.	\$ 36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Mercer Island Youth and Family Services	Provides classroom presentation services on current youth concerns to youth in the Mercer Island School District.	\$ 36,821.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for 9-15

		Socially Engaged		
Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*	
DCHS	YFSA / Pioneer Human Services	Provides case management and crisis counseling services as part of the Bridge Program to youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system.	\$ 36,821.00	
DCHS	YFSA / Southeast Youth and Family Services	Provides case management or counseling services to families, children, & youth at risk for involvement in juvenile justice in Seattle School District.	\$ 36,821.00	
DCHS	YFSA / Vashon Youth and Family Services	Provide counseling and youth development services to youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system in the Vashon School District.	\$ 36,821.00	
DCHS	YFSA / Youth Eastside Services	Provides Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, Adolescent Drop-in group (BGLAD) to youth who may identify as being LGBTQ.	\$ 15,000.00	
DCHS	LGBTQ Youth Activities	Provides Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning YYA with community building events (capacity: 50+) and paid youth internships (capacity: 5)	\$ 15,000.00	
DCHS	Youth Development Services	Provides case management and youth development services	\$10,000.00	
DCHS	Youth Activity	Provides scholarships for youth to attend Kirkland Boys and Girls Club	\$10,000.00	
DCHS	DDD / School To Work District Model	School Districts contract for our District Model (currently 6 Districts) to identify young adults with developmental disabilities who are in their last year of school and get them connected with an employment provider to develop an employment opportunity before they exit the K-12 system. We have MOAs for all districts, then we have deeper contractual collaboration with Districts utilizing this model.	\$463,126.00	
DCHS	DDD / School To Work General Model	STW (School to Work) Program works with school districts throughout King County to identify young adults with developmental disabilities who are in their last year of school and get them connected with an employment provider to develop an employment opportunity before they exit the K-12 system. Link to provider network: http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/DDD/services/employment/providers.aspx	\$372,561.00	
KCSC	Education Employment Training (EET) Program	Comprehensive youth offender employment training program. Includes employment skills training and paid internships.	\$370,000.00	
KCSC	South County EET	Gang Intervention. Builds on EET promising program providing education support and work training opportunities for probation youth.	\$ 80,000.00	
KCSC	City of Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative Youth Employment Program	Employment, paid internships, work skills development and school support.	\$79,600.00	
DCHS	DDD / School To Work High Support Needs Pilot	School Districts contract for our High Support Needs Pilot (currently 4 Districts) to identify young adults with more significant developmental disabilities who are in their 2nd to last year of school. The Pilot provides individualized technical assistance prior to connecting them with an employment provider. Employment Providers in each District collaborate to develop employment opportunities for all students before they exit the K-12 system. We have MOAs for all districts, then we have deeper contractual collaboration with Districts utilizing this model.	\$ 72,000.00	
DPH	Kids Plus	Medical Case Management and Outreach to homeless families with children	\$ 456,000.00	
DPH	Green Schools	Work with schools and school districts to adopt practices that support environmental stewardship and reduce student exposure to toxic materials.	\$ 12,000.00	
Unknown				

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for Families

	Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
	DCHS	DDD / Early Intervention Birth to Three Program	BT3 (Birth to Three) Program works with organizations throughout King County to provide services to children birth to three who have disabilities and/ or developmental delays. Eligible infants and toddlers and their families are entitled to individualized, quality early intervention services in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C. Link to provider network: http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/DDD/services/babiesAndToddlers/navigate.aspx	\$ 6,355,330.00
	DPH	Cultural Navigator	(VHSL) Strengthen families by supporting the healthy interactions between parent and child by providing cultural navigators and access to services for minority and immigrant populations with limited and non-English speaking individuals and families. Provides referral and information; family support and Play and Learn groups to model to caregivers how children learn through play	\$ 70,000.00
	DPH	Family, Friend, and Neighbor & Kaleidoscope Play and Learn Project	(VHSL) FFN is a comprehensive, community-based network of supports and resources for family, friend, and neighbor caregivers and the children in their care. FFN provide care	\$ 53,000.00
	DNRP	Waste Reduction and Recycling School Education Program	Provides an assembly program to elementary schools on resource conservation. Provides classroom workshops to K-12 classrooms. Provides project ideas for student Green Teams.	\$251,400.00
	DNRP	King County Green Schools Program	Assists K-12 schools to improve conservation practices, engage their school communities in environmental stewardship, and operate environmentally efficient facilities	\$201,000.00
	DNRP	Brightwater Center Family Programs	Monthly family programs are offered at Brightwater Center that teach about the natural world and how to protect our environment.	\$20,000
	DCHS	Wraparound Services	An evidence based practice providing facilitated child/youth and family teams for multi-system-involved youth. Five agencies provide Wraparound Delivery Teams: Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation, Community Psychiatric Clinic, Sound Mental Health, Therapeutic Health Services and Center for Human Services.	\$4,500,000.00
Healthy	DPH	PH/Access & Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health insurance enrollment for the Apple Health for Kids program (birth-18); Youth over 18 who are eligible for Apple Health-Adults. Child care application assistance for parenting teens. • Dental and vision resources for teens 19 and older. Help finding a medical home/ health care providers. • Basic Food assistance for all clients with a focus on homeless teens. • Energy assistance for clients renting/leasing an apartment and access to medical/dental providers, referrals to maternity support services. 	\$1,316,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program	Home visiting by Public Health Nurse to children with medically fragile/complex health or developmental conditions to assist families with transition from hospital to home, assure coordination of care and establish a Healthcare home. For birth to three children with developmental delays, assure connection to Early Intervention Services. PHNs provide assessment on children with special needs and the impact of that health condition on the parent ability to participate in WorkFirst activities. Phone services to assist establishing specialty and community based services. Consultation available to community providers that are working with high risk, high needs children.	\$ 864,000.00
DPH	King County Dirt Alert	Raise awareness about lead and arsenic exposure in soil from the former Asarco smelter. Long term exposure can lead to severe immediate and lifelong health consequences, especially for children. KCDA has awarded three community grants to Latino Community Fund, Korean Women's Association and Child Care Resources. They will work together to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach to Spanish, Korean and Somali residents and child care providers in South King County.	\$ 500,000.00
DCHS	Parent Partner Youth Peer	Funds a family support organization, called Guided Pathways-Support for Youth and Families (GPS), to provide information, resources and supports to parents/caregivers of youth with serious emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse including access to Parent Partners and Youth Peer mentors.	\$375,000.00
KCSC	Family Integrated Transition (FIT)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 5-6 months with Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Families may also receive psychiatric services and medication management.	\$ 284,900.00
DCHS	DDD / Children's BeST Program	Children's Behavior Support Team (BeST) Program. Empower families with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the causes of problem behavior and to effectively implement positive behavior supports in natural family contexts. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at risk and most in need to prevent or reduce more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration, and other emergency medical or crisis responses.	\$ 259,596.00
DPH	Healthy Outcomes Prevention and Education (HOPE)	Preventing infant mortality and improving infant health outcomes by linking women and their families in minority communities to health care and needed services. Research shows that linking women of color and their families to health care and other services and providing culturally appropriate support will reduce stress and lead to improved birth outcomes.	\$175,000.00
DCHS	Institute For Family Development	Provides Functional Family Therapy (FFT), an evidence-based program, to youth and their families. FFT includes assessment, development of family goals, specific intervention techniques, and teaches skills necessary for success.	\$149,600.00
KCSC	Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 4-6 months. Family structure required, but can serve foster and extended families and families in crisis.	\$127,400.00
DPH	Volunteer Training Network	A train-the-trainer program that equips community members (speaking a language other than English) to educate their peers (friends, family and neighbors). The trainers teach workshops and build capacity to reduce toxins in the home setting. Trainers receive training and teaching resources (in their first language) from subject matter experts from the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program.	\$ 65,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
Healthy			
KCSC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Weekly in-home family counseling sessions for 3-4 months. Family structure/committed caregiver is required; foster families eligible.	\$50,500.00
DPH	Healthier and Toxic Free Homes	A community-directed partnership with SOAR Coalition to raise awareness and build capacity to reduce toxics in the home setting. Communities involved in this project include Bhutanese/Nepalese, Chinese, Filipino, Latino, and Purepecha. Community members play a leadership role in identifying issues and solutions for household toxics.	\$ 50,000.00
DPH	Eco-Healthy Childcare	Offers county-wide training and chemical-related technical assistance visits to the child care industry. On-site services emphasize reducing children's exposure to toxics.	\$ 31,000.00
DPH	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	Environmental case management services to families of children identified as having above average blood lead levels (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). Includes a wide range of services: mailings, phone consultations, in-home consultations, environmental sampling and analysis, and case coordination and technical assistance with health care providers. Provide on-going analytical capacity to Public Health Centers and other low-income health centers to test for blood lead levels in children.	\$ 12,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Courtroom Support	Court support staff ensures the efficient running of the court & assist youth & families to navigate court process.	\$ 1,132,000.00
DPH	Early Intervention Program (EIP)	Public Health Nursing services for high risk families involved with or referred by DSHS Children's Administration to reduce the risk of abuse or neglect of children in the home, enhance parenting skills and family functioning and reduce stress on the family.	\$1,035,000.00
KCSC	Family Treatment Court	Family Treatment Court is an alternative to regular dependency court and is designed to improve the safety and well being of children in the dependency system by providing parents access to drug and alcohol treatment, judicial monitoring of their sobriety and individualized services to support the entire family.	\$ 534,400.00
DJA	Step Up Program	Group intervention program for youth domestic violence toward family members. The program is court based and designed to serve youth in the juvenile justice system who are on diversion, probation or At-Risk-Youth petitions referred for DV toward parents/family members, as well as self or community referred families. The program uses a 21 session cognitive behavioral, skills and strengths based curriculum including teen groups, parent groups and family groups. A Restorative Practice model is used to engage change process.	\$ 206,715.00
Safe			
KCSC	Interpreters	Interpreters assist litigants during attorney-client consultations and arraignments, hearings, trials, and other court events. They also interpret for deaf jurors, classes for parents and truant youth, and appointments with court personnel. Interpreter services have been provided in 143 languages.	\$ 158,700.00
DCSH	Family Reunification Program Pilot	Family and Youth Focused in-home family reunification and diversion support. To provide prevention services and family reunification services to youth and young adults at risk of homelessness or homeless.	\$ 150,000.00
DCSH	Project SAFE	Project SAFE: phone-based clinical consultation for parents/caregivers responsible for a youth ages 12-17 in crisis or youth who have run away from home or who are at risk of running away. Referrals are made directly from parents, via sister agencies or through National Safe Place. The family therapist assists parents and caregivers in developing an action plan that confronts issues that may be underlying their teen's behaviors, often making referrals for ongoing outside individual or family counseling.	\$ 150,000.00

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*total funding across all ages

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Coming Up	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 143,000.00
KCSC	Parent for Parent Program	Parent to Parent Program assists families by providing peer parents who are approachable and a culturally relevant connection to the dependency process. The program promotes early engagement in the dependency process which is critical for improving the chance of reunification.	\$ 95,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Mediation	This program provides mediation for families in the dependency system at the YSC courthouse to help resolve issues related to child abuse and neglect prior to adjudication by the court.	\$ 94,500.00
KCSC	FJCIIP	This program ensures the efficient running of the dependency related services and court processes and makes recommendations for improved programs and efficiencies.	\$ 85,200.00
DCHS	Open Doors	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 85,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice 101	The Juvenile Justice 101 program helps close the information and support gap for families at the initial court phase of the juvenile justice process. Using a peer support model, the program informs families of court basics and community resources through onsite orientation and one-on-one support. The community outreach component of the JJ 101 program has worked with the Somali community through a series of workshops and community meetings. Additional grant funding will continue the outreach with the Somali community and expand into the Hispanic community in 2014 and 2015.	\$ 55,000.00
KCSC	Family Court Services	MSW level social workers provide mediation, evaluation, domestic violence assessment and other services to families with children who are involved in the family law court process. FCS also provides adoption related services including assistance with paperwork, confirmations of consent, and non-identifying adoption searches.	\$ 1,977,900.00
KCSC	UFC Judges	King County Superior Court Judges assigned to handle family law cases with children.	\$1,229,800.00
KCSC	Family Law Commissioners	Commissioner assigned to family law handle pre-trial family law matters and child support related cases.	\$ 883,000.00
KCSC	Family Law Facilitators, Early Resolution Case Managers & Family Law Orientation	Facilitators assist family law pro-se parties (people not represented by an attorney) by explaining forms and processes. Inform parties of possible settlement options and review court documents prior to their submittal to court. Family Law Orientation is a one-hour orientation class for pro-se litigants in family law cases which provides them with information on court rules, court processes and resources to help them throughout their case. All of these programs work together to assist pro se families in family law matters.	\$ 556,600.00
KCSC	Family Law Support	Court support staff ensures the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$ 394,600.00
KCSC	Parent Seminar	This is a three-hour seminar required for all parents that are party to a family law case. The seminar provides detailed information on how to write a parenting plan and what kinds of issues that they should expect.	\$ 141,100.00
KCSC	Parent Youth Connections Seminar (PYCS)	Thirteen hours of education, skill building and resource connection. Evidence-based program for low risk and diversion youth. Family member participation required.	\$ 129,500.00
DCHS	Youth Development Services	Provides case management and youth development services	\$ 10,000.00

Socially Engaged

Safe

The Forum for Youth Investment conducted a limited scan of key planning documents developed by various entities across King County. Each of these plans outlines priorities for improving services and supports to children, youth and families living in King County. In this review, we summarized the following questions: How are core elements of these plans currently funded? How do they define outcomes? What ages are they focused on (and broken down by our age categories)? What level of intervention do these plans address (youth development, prevention, intervention, treatment, etc)? Is it King County government led? Which agencies? Do these plans emphasize any of the common causes generated in community forums?

Key Document	Current Funding	Defined Outcomes	Ages of Focus	Level of Intervention	King County Government Leadership	Common Cause Connections
Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020	Funded by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KC Department of Community & Human Services Raikes Foundation United Way Plan to utilize \$1,470,000 over 18 months for implementation	<u>Thriving</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer young adults experience homelessness Shorter periods of homelessness Fewer young adults return to homelessness Decrease over-representation of homeless LGBTQ & youth of color 	14 - 24	Prevention, Intervention	KC Department of Community & Human Services	Safety, Barriers to Access Institutional Structures Poverty
King County Health & Human Services Transformation Plan (2014 – 2018)	KC Department of Community & Human Services	<u>Thriving</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of healthy years that residents live. Protect the health of communities Increase supports for optimal growth & development of children & youth Network of integrated & effective health and human services is available to people in need 	All ages.	Prevention, Intervention, Treatment with greater emphasis on prevention than in previous years	King County Department of Community and Human Services and Public Health-Seattle & King County City governments (Seattle, Bellevue, Sea Tac)	Health Barriers to Access Institutional Structures
King County Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan	King County Council	<u>Connecting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced detention Decrease disproportionality Reduced JJ costs 	12 - 18	Prevention, Intervention	King County Council, County Children & Family Commission, Department of Social & Health Services, Department of Human & Community Services, King County Prosecutor	Institutional structures Racism & sexism
King County Mental Illness & Drug Dependency Action Plan	King County Council	<u>Thriving</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased access to mental health & substance abuse services 	0 – 18	Intervention, Treatment	KC Department of Community & Human Services	Family/Parent Challenges Safety Mental Health Barriers to Access Lack of Resources

Young Adult (16-24 year olds) Packet

In this packet you have the data and information collected from the Indicators Strategy Team work plus the Community Conversations “Common Causes” and Solutions. Also included are a summary of the relevant Programs and Services for early childhood from the inventory and a listing of relevant Partnerships (from mapping moving trains) and Strategic Plans.

1

Indicators – *see attached*

- High School Dropout Rate
- Homeless Students
- Teen Pregnancy Rate
- Disconnected Youth

2

Common Causes – clusters of underlying local conditions – *see handout & attached*

- a. Heat Map Overview – see provided handout
- b. By theme (for 16-24)

3

Solutions – generated from Community Conversations & Youth Survey – *see attached & handout*

- a. Youth Survey – see provided handout
- b. Community Conversation Summary Chart answers 4 questions on current & potential programming, as well as supports for community members making a difference.

4

King County Programs – *see attached*

- c. For 16-24
- d. For Families

5

Partnerships & Strategic Plans – *see below & attached*

Partnerships

- Youth Development Executives of King County
- King County United Way
- Youth and Family Services Association
- The Roadmap Project
- Homeless Youth and Young Adult Initiative and Committee to End Homelessness
- Community and Human Services & Public Health Agencies; City Govts.
- Dept of Community and Human Services
- Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative
- Department of Community and Human Services and King County Prosecutor; Uniting for Youth
- United Way of King County
- SOAR Youth Development Network and Promotores Network
- Suburban King County Coordinating Council on Gangs

Plans

Skills & Dispositions that Support Youth Success in School

Building a Regional System to Reconnect Opportunity Youth – Action Plan
Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020

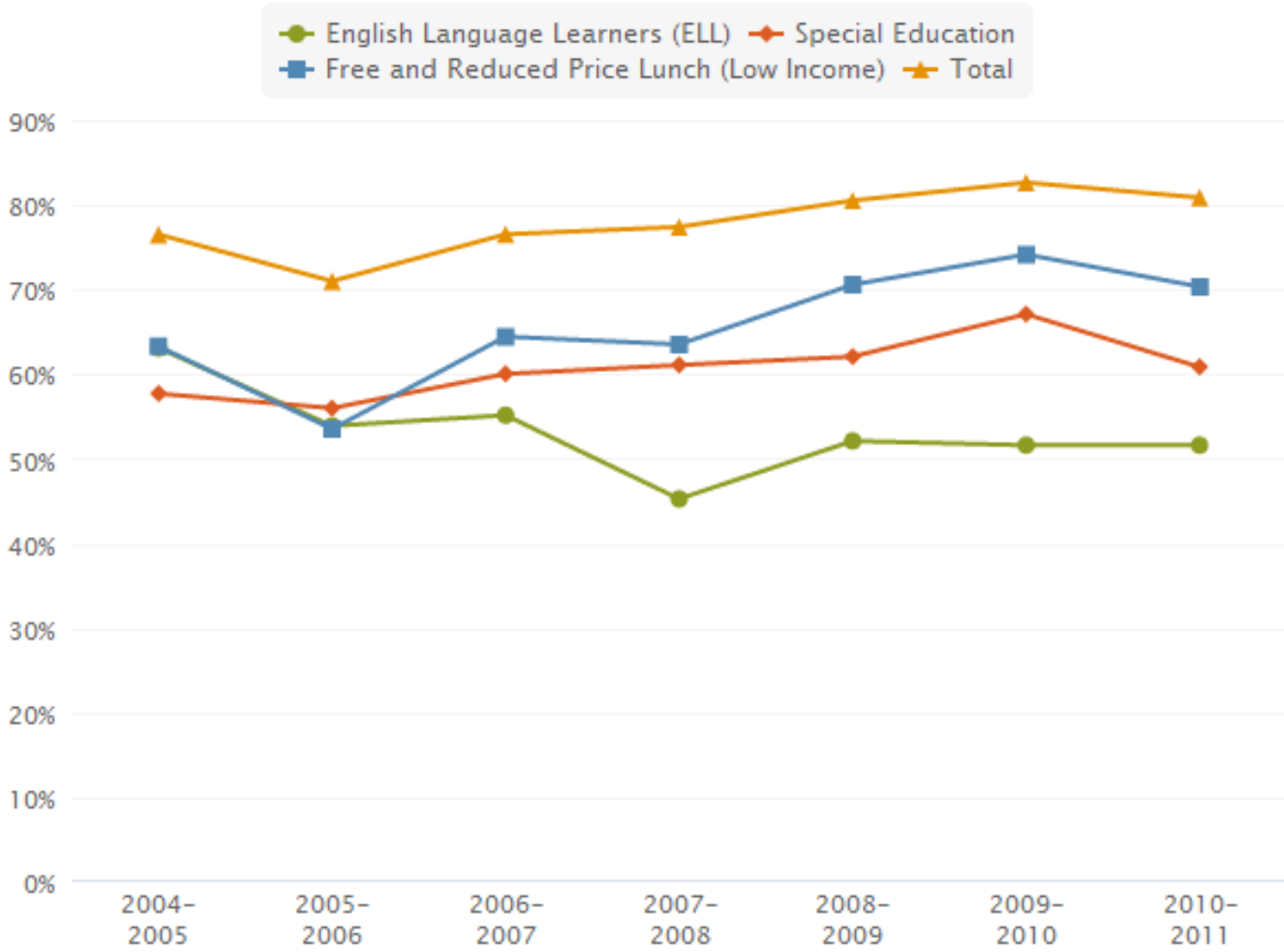
Health and Human Services Transformation Plan
K.C. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Action Plan

King County Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan

Young Adult Indicators High School Dropout Rate

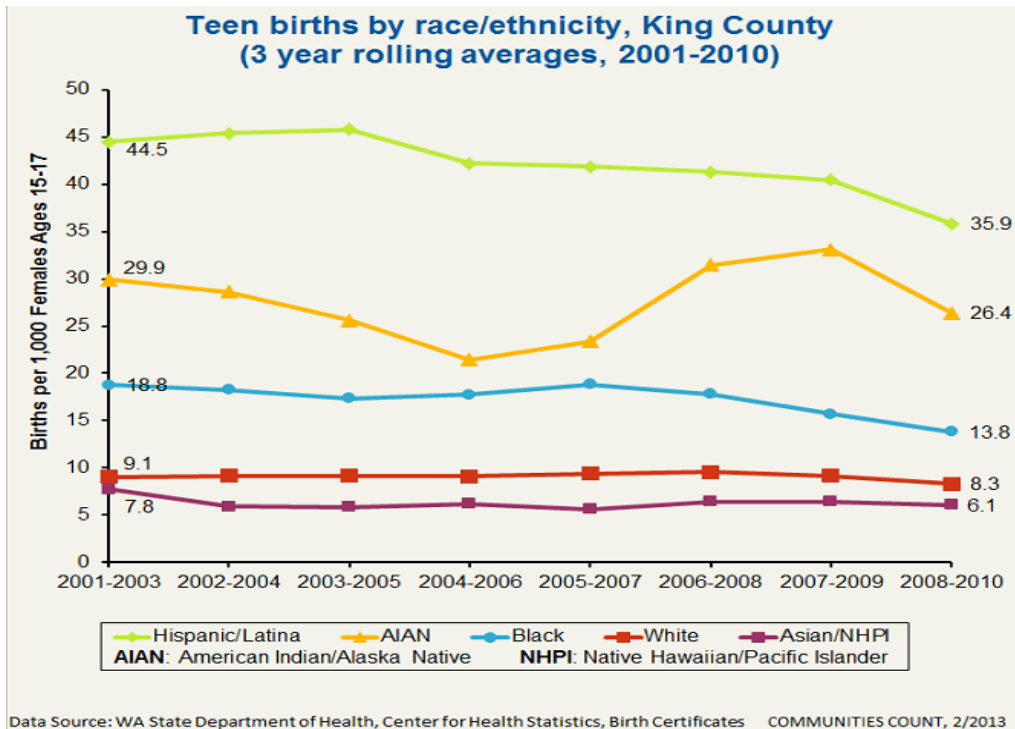
On-Time Graduation Rate by Program, Public Schools

King

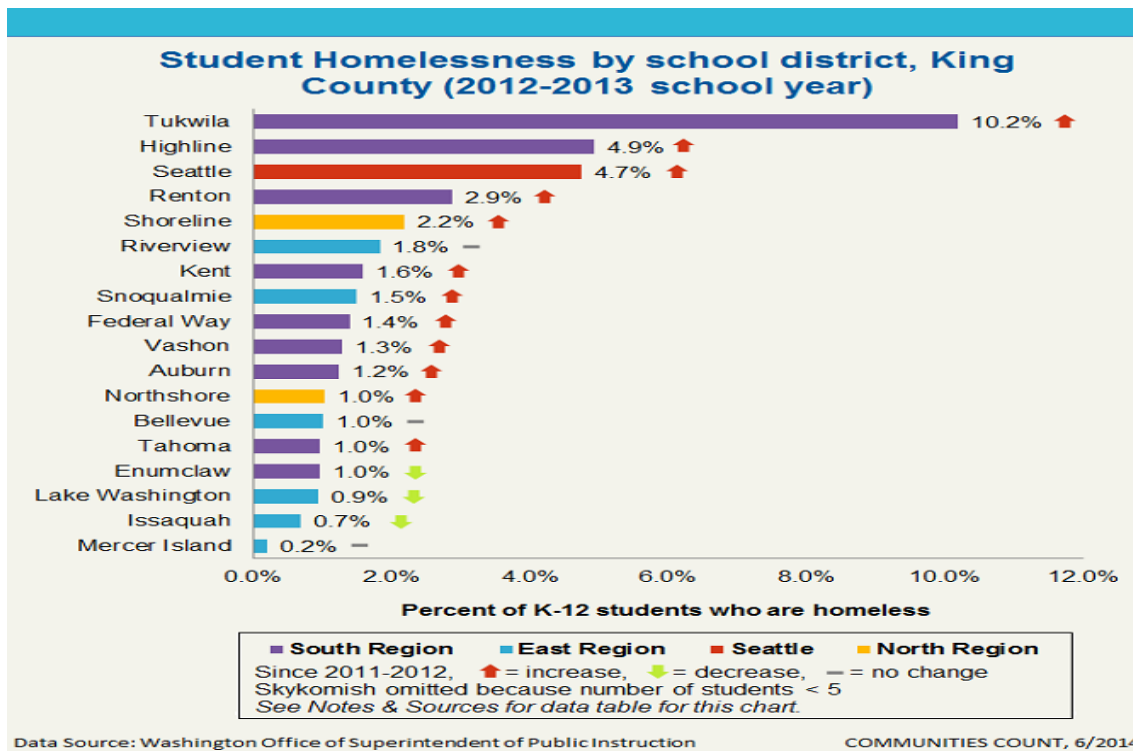


Teen Pregnancy Rate

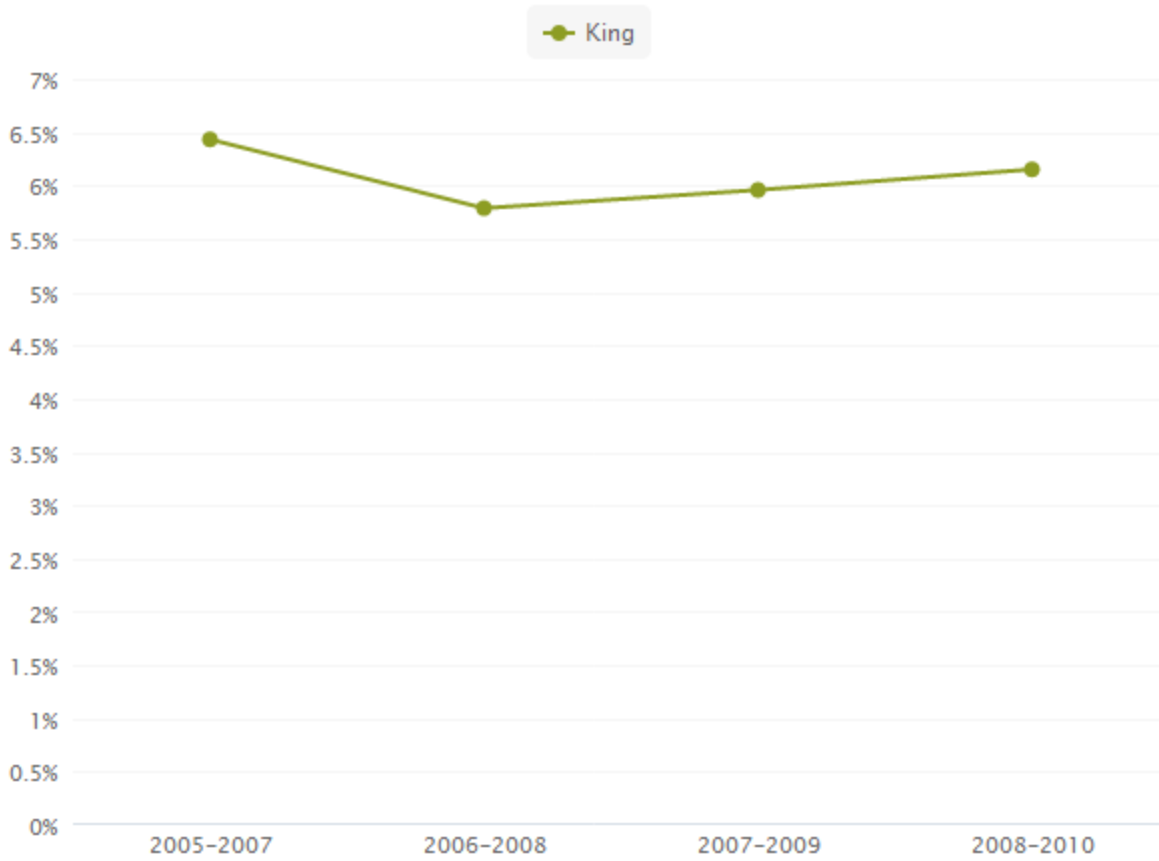
Teen Birth Rate Trends by Race and by Ethnicity



Homeless Students



Disconnected Youth, Not in School and Not Working



Source: [Kids Count Data Center](#)

Location	Data Type	2005 - 2007	2006 - 2008	2007 - 2009	2008 - 2010
King	Percent	6.40%	5.80%	6.00%	6.20%
King	Number	5,649	5,123	5,241	5,824

Common Causes by Theme (16-24) – Clusters of underlying local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation		
COMPETENT ADULTS Caring, Competent Families Professionals & Role Models	FAMILY/PARENT CHALLENGES				
	Lack of Parent Supports	Lack of family/parent support to navigate systems	High School Dropout Rate	South Seattle	
	Family Issues	Involving Parents	Disconnected Youth	South Seattle	
		Family instability	Disconnected Youth	Kent	
		Major family issues at home	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline	
		Family issues, personal issues, lack of resources to go to	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline	
	Parent Skills/Experience	Disconnect between parents' experience in "home" country vs kids new school expectations	High School Dropout Rate	South Seattle	
	Both Parents Work	Both parents work	Obesity Rate	Kirkland	
	Family Expectations	Lack of parents telling their children what they could do with their life	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline	
		Rebelling against parents' expectations	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline	
	CARING COMPETENT ADULTS	Lack of Teachers / School Connection	Few teachers/role models who really CONNECT w/kids regardless of same/not race/background	High School Dropout Rate	Kent
			School is useless/lack of understanding of importance of schools	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline
			Lack of understanding & awareness among teachers	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline
			Lack of role models in the schools who "look like" their students	High School Graduation	Shoreline
			Many students do not ask for one on one help when they need it and just fall further and further behind, often to the point where they no longer care	High School Graduation	Shoreline
Student and teacher relationship (need for restorative justice approach during conflict)			High School Graduation	Shoreline	
Lack of Role Models / Caring Adults		Connection to school; opportunities for learning beyond "traditional instruction"	High School Graduation	Shoreline	
		Few teachers/role models who really CONNECT w/kids regardless of same/not race/background	High School Dropout Rate	Kent	
Lack of Professional Supports		Lack of role models in the schools who "look like" their students	High School Graduation	Shoreline	
		More professional support in schools is needed	High School Graduation	0	
Lack of Inspiration	Lack of support and resources, inspiration, unsure of what they want to do/ don't know how to get there, no direction	Disconnected Youth	0		
BASIC NEEDS & SERVICES Safety, Housing & Transportation	HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION				
	Lack of Affordable/Safe Housing	Lack of affordable/safe housing	Homeless Students	Kent	
	Many Faces of Homelessness	Many faces of homelessness	Homeless Students	South Seattle	
Gangs	Gang involvement	Disconnected Youth	Kent		
WELLNESS SUPPORTS Stress, Mental Health, Physical Health	STRESS // HOPELESSNESS				
	Lost / Not Motivated	Feel alone-no support in school & home	High School Graduation	Kent	
		Fear of failure	Disconnected Youth	Kirkland	
	MENTAL HEALTH & PEER PRESSURE	Drugs & Mental Health	Disability, mental health, ELL, drug/alcohol use, poverty	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline
			Drugs, mental health, learned mental health under supervision...	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
			Access to mental health counseling within school to help support struggling students	High School Dropout Rate	Shoreline
		Mental Health	Mental Health	Homeless Students	Kent
			Where does mental health fit into this data?	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
			Mental health issues, lack of family support systems, drug/alcohol abuse	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
	HEALTH (including substance abuse)	Drugs & Alcohol	Mental health caused by bullying/family struggles, lack of motivation stemming from above, lack of support system at home or in community	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
			After problem happened, substance abuse, violence/so on, how schools help teens out, any program they can come back to studying?	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
			This can lead to things that go on at home, child abuse and neglect, drug use, parents that do drugs at home, this subject can lead to many things	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline
			Out of school and not working because of drug use, connection between addiction and drop-out	Disconnected Youth	Shoreline

Common Causes by Theme (16-24) – Clusters of underlying local conditions

Theme	Local Condition	Related Indicator	Community Conversation		
EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT Systems, Teachers, Pathways	EDUCATION Y& EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES				
	Limited Ed / Structures	Classes too big Lack of school choice Lack of flexible school schedules Overcrowded schools and classes Lack of education	High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation High School Graduation Homeless Students	South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle Kent	
	Lack of Ed Supports	Focus on traditional education models Need more academic support for tests Tests w/o support can make some kids not feel smart Test material not taught in class Lack of tutors and after-school help Need targeted support for higher risk population	Disconnected Youth High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation	South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle	
	Lack of Trained, Diverse Teachers	Needing individualized attention If student feels teacher isn't trained, they stop listening Teachers need to reflect on the diversity of the student body & ideally come from the same community to connect with students & families If teachers not skilled to work w/multiple needs, needs aren't met The teachers not teaching culturally relevant material Need for more teachers Lack of teacher training	High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation High School Graduation	South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle	
	Lack of access to jobs/training	Access to good local jobs & training Paid internships Low-paying jobs	School Safety High School Graduation Homeless Students	Kent South Seattle Kent	
	LACK OF ACCESS, AWARENESS, & ENGAGEMENT	LACK OF AWARENESS OF SERVICES & SUPPORTS			
		Lack of Access	Schools Infrastructure for homeless	Homeless Students	Kent
		Lack of Awareness/Knowledge	Lack of access or knowledge of resources for homeless Those who are homeless might be ashamed of the fact they are homeless and don't seek help	Homeless Students Homeless Students	South Seattle Shoreline
		LACK OF ENGAGEMENT			
		Hopelessness/Fear	Unattainable Expectations (hopelessness) Fear of reprisal	High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation	Snoqualmie Kent
		Low Expectations	Low expectations of kids No margin for error in kids	High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate	Kent Snoqualmie
		Lack of Leadership Ops	Lack of youth leadership opportunities	Disconnected Youth	South Seattle
	ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL FACTOR:RESOURCES Poverty, Cost, Funding, Limited Resources	RESOURCES			
		Lack of resources for rural & small towns	Small cities have few resources and can't prioritize youth and young adults	Homeless Students	South Seattle
		Funding/Resources	Uneven resources, eligibility	School Safety Homeless Students	South Seattle South Seattle
		Lack of funding for programs	Restricted funding and eligibility Uneven/unequal distribution of funding Lack of support for community programs Lack of after-school/summer programs	Homeless Students Homeless Students High School Graduation Disconnected Youth	South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle Kent
		INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES			
			Inadequate funding/political will for policy enforcement Limited coordination of after-school/community resources	High School Graduation Disconnected Youth	EXTRAS Kent
		POVERTY & ECONOMIC STRUGGLE			
		CULTURAL & SOCIETAL FACTORS Language, Culture, "Isms"	CULTURAL DIFFERENCES		
Lack of cultural awareness			Lack of increased cultural awareness, competency-need to build skills Lack of cultural comp.? Lack of culturally relevant curriculum and training	High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation	South Seattle South Seattle South Seattle
Cultural Differences			Expectations from peers based on race/identity (or from family) Vastly different social & cultural backgrounds Cultural differences, western education not as important, educational system not as understanding of said cultural differences, lack of emphasis on the benefits of holistic education	High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate High School Graduation	Shoreline Snoqualmie Shoreline
Language Differences	Cultural differences Class/Cultural Differences Language barriers-need multilingual information Language barriers & economic to be involved w/school		Disconnected Youth Disconnected Youth High School Dropout Rate High School Dropout Rate	South Seattle Kirkland South Seattle Kent	
Cultural-respect for authority	Cultural-respect for authority		High School Graduation	Kent	
Lack of resources/support for immagr	Lack of resources/support for immigrant/refugee families		Disconnected Youth	Kent	
RACISM/SEXISM					
Racism	Institutional racism in student body could lead to bullying people of different ethnicities, less support system for POC?		High School Graduation	Shoreline	
Sexism	Sexism		Bullying	South Seattle	
Adultism	Adultism		Disconnected Youth	South Seattle	

	OVERALL SUMMARY THEMES
<p>Are there King County programs and services that are currently doing a good job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples.</p>	<p>Many community based programs mentioned – these names came up repeatedly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YMCA - Boys and Girls Club - Big Brothers Big Sisters - Youthbuild / youthcare - YYA Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness - Friends of Youth - Mentoring programs
<p>Are there King County programs and services that could be doing a better job in addressing the common root causes? Be specific. Give examples. What could be improved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More resources for mental health – especially school counselors; expensive to get “real” school therapists • Transportation to metro area • More minorities on staff, cultural competence training • Provide treatment not jail • Translation Services; stop cutting bus service • More mentorship programs (caring adults) • Teen programs • Community conversations
<p>What could we, as community members in this room – with the power, ability and connections we represent – do to make a difference in those underlying issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering • Mentoring • Keep showing up and advocating • Register to vote • Lobby elected officials
<p>How can the King County support us as community leaders in this work?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get law makers and youth in the same room • Involve King County Youth Advisory Council • Opportunities for horizontal leadership • Increased transportation for community programs outside of school • Increased after school activities (need more than just sports) • Reach out to communities of color • Go to the people; more opportunities like this

King County Programs, 16-24

	Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
Academically Successful	DCHS	EER / Out of School Youth Consortium	Program provides education (GED, basic skills), training, & employment services to youth who have dropped out of school. Services provided by EER & partner staff at the following locations/agencies: YouthSource, Learning Center NorthNeighborhood House, Bellevue College, Renton Technical College, Shoreline Community College, Multi-Service Center & YMCA of Greater Seattle. Also has services for young parents enrolled in the Nurse Family Partnership.	\$2,985,000.00
	DCHS	EER / Stay in School Program	Program provides dropout prevention services to youth in partner school districts. Program provides summer Earn and Learn projects for youth to earn credits needed to graduate and also wages. Earn and Learn partners include St. Francis Hospital, City of Kent, Renton Technical College and Federal Way School District.	\$ 650,000.00
	KCSC	At-Risk Youth Program & ARY Case Managers (Becca)	At-Risk Youth Programs handles Truancy, At-Risk Youth (ARY) and Child in Need of Services (CHINS) cases referred to the court and works with school districts throughout the county in developing truancy prevention programs. ARY Case Managers assist families in meeting their court obligations by identifying and referring them to local community resources as appropriate to their individual situations.	\$ 477,000.00
	DCHS	EER / South King County Education and Employment, Training (EET) for youth involved in gangs/juvenile justice system	In partnership with King County Superior Court Community Programs, this program provides education, training and employment services to youth involved in the justice system/gangs. Youth are referred by their Juvenile Probation Counselor (JPC) for services. The goal of the program is to increase school engagement/retention, increase job readiness, and decrease recidivism.	\$ 265,000.00
	DAJD	King County Library	Provide Library services to detained youth	\$ 201,945.00
	KCSC	PathNet: Drop Out Retrieval	School re-engagement support, re-entry and drop-out intervention. Provides assessment and referral to appropriate education and work training resources.	\$ 75,000.00
	KCSO	Truancy Prevention	Highline Public Schools will provide a truancy counselor/mentor to work with students and their families or guardians to accomplish the following to keep students in school; redirect students when they are habitually skipping classes or absent, and struggling with social issues in the school. Additionally, Contractor and the truancy counselor/mentor will pursue an initiative to eliminate out of school suspensions.	\$ 54,000.00
	KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	The purpose is an after school program designed to provide a safe place for students; assist students in their academics; provide healthy activities and build teamwork. Provide services after school for at-risk high school students, to include a focus on ninth graders who are entering high school and have been identified as students in need of services. Computers were purchased to be used for the following purposes: class assignments and projects; allow certified teachers to work with students; allow students to do online credit retrieval through school district programs.	\$ 11,500.00
	DCHS	Be Great Graduate	Provide support for youth to graduate their current education level and progress to the next.	\$ 10,000.00

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King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DNRP	Waste Reduction and Recycling School Education Program	Provides an assembly program to elementary schools on resource conservation. Provides classroom workshops to K-12 classrooms. Provides project ideas for student Green Teams.	\$ 251,400.00
DNRP	King County Green Schools Program	Assists K-12 schools to improve conservation practices, engage their school communities in environmental stewardship, and operate environmentally efficient facilities	\$201,000.00
DNRP	King County Parks White Center Teen Program	Free recreational, educational and social enrichment programming for over 900 culturally diverse participants ages 12-19 each year. The program operates five days a week, forty-eight weeks a year and provides structured recreational classes and programs, homework assistance, educational and computer resources, leadership training, volunteer opportunities, special events, field trips, and drop-in activities. The program also provides youth with proactive conflict resolution strategies, health and wellness resources and referrals, and life skills and employment training.	\$115,000
DNRP	Wastewater Treatment Division Wheels to Water Program	Free bus transportation is available for schools to attend Wastewater Treatment Division led or sponsored field trip opportunities. Available for schools in need who qualify based on the school's free and reduced lunch rate (25% or higher qualifies).	\$50,000
DNRP	Brightwater Center Family Programs	Monthly family programs are offered at Brightwater Center that teach about the natural world and how to protect our environment.	\$20,000
DPH	First Steps: Maternity Support Services	Maternity support services target low income pregnant women and offer office and home visits from an interdisciplinary team of public health nurses, nutritionists, social workers and community health workers. Services include education and support around having a healthy pregnancy including referral and linkages to community resources.	\$27,333,000.00
DCHS	Mental Health Outpatient Services	Provided at over 30 agencies throughout the county - A wide range of mental health services provided in an outpatient format that address symptoms of emotional disturbance and trauma with a goal of developing pro-social skills and resiliency.	\$26,000,000.00
DPH	Pediatric dental services	The Dental Program provides preventative and restorative dental services to low income children. Services include comprehensive and periodic (6-month) exams, X-rays, cleaning, and restorations.	\$11,385,000.00
DPH	Seattle School Based Health Centers (SBHC)	A full range of primary care, reproductive care, health education services, mental health counseling, and dental care are offered in support of academic success at all of Seattle's comprehensive high schools and selected elementary and middle schools, within the context of well child and adolescent primary care. 26 centers are run by 6 sponsor agencies: PHSKC, Neighborcare Health, Group Health Cooperative, International Community Health Centers, Odessa Brown, & Swedish Medical Center. During the 2012-2013 School Year there were over 33,000 medical and mental health visits.	\$ 6,012,000.00
DPH	Primary Medical Care for children and youth	Services include primary medical care for children: illness care, well child check-ups, immunizations, child's health, growth and development, and referrals to specialists.	\$ 4,903,000.00
DPH	Nurse Family Partnership	Intensive home visiting for young, first time, low income mothers and their children. Visits commence during pregnancy and last until the child's second birthday.	\$ 4,885,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	6a. Wraparound Services	An evidence based practice providing facilitated child/youth and family teams for multi-system-involved youth. Five agencies provide Wraparound Delivery Teams: Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation, Community Psychiatric Clinic, Sound Mental Health, Therapeutic Health Services and Center for Human Services.	\$ 4,500,000.00
DCHS	Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - YMCA Crisis Services	Provides emergent and urgent crisis response for children/youth and their families experiencing behavioral health crises. These are children/youth who are not enrolled in outpatient services. This program includes a partnership with Region Two South Division of Children and Family Services (Child Welfare).	\$ 2,877,313.00
DPH	Public Health - Seattle & King County Teen Clinics and family planning services for teens	All services at Public Health Teen Clinics are free or low cost. Teen Clinics are safe, friendly, confidential places offering: Free condoms; Birth Control methods; STD and HIV tests; Emergency Contraception (Plan B); Pregnancy tests; HPV Vaccines	\$ 1,505,000.00
DPH	PH/Access & Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Health Insurance enrollment for the Apple Health for Kids program (birth-18); Youth over 18 who are eligible for Apple Health-Adults. Child care application assistance for parenting teens. •Dental and vision resources for teens 19 and older. Help finding a medical home and health care providers. •Basic Food assistance for all clients with a focus on homeless teens. •Energy assistance for clients renting/leasing an apartment and access to medical/dental providers, referrals to maternity support services. 	\$ 1,316,000.00
DCHS	4c. School MH and SA Services	Collaborative school-based mental health and substance abuse services. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies, screenings, referrals, individual/group/family work, after school activities, assemblies, classroom presentations and school support in middle schools for those most at risk. Partner agencies/ organizations include: Auburn Youth ResourcesCenter for Human ServicesFriends of YouthKent Youth & Family ServicesNeighborhood HealthNorthshore Youth & Family ServicesPuget Sound Educational Services DistrictNavosSeattle Children's HospitalTherapeutic Health Services.	\$ 1,248,556.00
DPH	Access to Family Planning: <i>Increasing timely access to quality, population-appropriate reproductive health services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Creating materials and training gatekeepers to reduce barriers to the most effective methods of reversible contraception (IUD & implant). •Developing and maintaining social marketing tools to inform teens about how to access reproductive health services (e.g., new TeenClinic.com web and Facebook pages). •Creating and distributing state-of-the-art outreach and referral materials. •Providing direct outreach in classrooms and agencies. •Training school employees and partner agencies regarding teens' (especially Medicaid-eligible teens') access to clinical services. 	\$ 918,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Drug Court/CDDA	Intensive substance abuse treatment and supervision with weekly hearings for 9 – 12 months. (Evidence Based Practice); CDDA is a chemical dependency disposition alternative, all drug court youth are also on a CDDA.	\$ 881,200.00

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King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program	Home visiting by Public Health Nurse to children with medically fragile/complex health or developmental conditions to assist families with transition from hospital to home, assure coordination of care and establish a Healthcare home. For birth to three children with developmental delays, assure connection to Early Intervention Services. PHNs provide assessment on children with special needs and the impact of that health condition on the parent ability to participate in WorkFirst activities. Phone services to assist establishing specialty and community based services. Consultation available to community providers that are working with high risk, high needs children.	\$ 864,000.00
DPH	Seattle Nutrition Action Consortium	Improves the health and nutritional well-being of limited income families with children in Seattle and King County.	\$ 806,000.00
DCHS	Youth Outpatient Treatment	Provides chemical dependency treatment to youth in an outpatient setting.	\$ 806,000.00
DCHS	Group Care Enhancement	Provides substance abuse intervention and treatment services within selected host agencies that are not certified/licensed to provide such services.	\$600,718.00
DCHS	7b. Crisis Outreach for Youth Refer to above "Children's Crisis Outreach Response System (CCORS) - YMCA Crisis Services"	Description under CCORS.	\$500,000.00
KCSC	SSODA Counseling/Treatment Services	Specialized assessment, treatment and polygraph services for juvenile sex offenders.	\$ 487,100.00
DPH	School Based Oral Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provides dental sealants, fluoride varnish applications, and preventive dental treatments in targeted schools primarily in the Seattle School District but also in Highline, Kent, and Renton School Districts. •Provides dental screenings for children at high risk for dental decay in targeted day cares (Child Havens) and immigrant/refugee populations in schools. •Provides dental information to other health care professionals such as school nurses, Head Start/ECEAP staff and other groups working with high-risk populations. 	\$416,000.00
DCHS	5a. Assessments Juvenile Justice Youth	Assessment and referral of all youth involved in juvenile court services. Operated at Juvenile Court. .80FTE Psychologist, 1.0FTE Social Worker, 2.0FTE MHP and CDP & psychiatric consultation	\$ 403,736.00
DPH	Vaccines for Children Program	This program assures access to quality immunization services for King County children by allocating vaccine and managing the childhood vaccine distribution system, by conducting quality assurance activities, and by providing technical support to over 330 health care providers.	\$390,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Family Integrated Transitions program - U of W	An evidence-based practice for high risk juvenile justice involved youth.	\$387,000.00
DCHS	Parent Partner Youth Peer	Funds a family support organization, called Guided Pathways-Support for Youth and Families (GPS), to provide information, resources and supports to parents/caregivers of youth with serious emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse including access to Parent Partners and Youth Peer mentors.	\$375,000.00
DAJD	Medical	Provide health services to detained youth including acute and chronic care, medication management, reproductive health services, and 24/7 on-call MD	\$ 333,163.00
DCHS	Multisystemic Therapy--Therapeutic Health Services	An evidence-based practice for high risk juvenile justice involved youth.	\$315,000.00
KCSC	Family Integrated Transition (FIT)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 5-6 months with Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Families may also receive psychiatric services and medication management.	\$284,900.00
DAJD	Mental Health	Provide mental health and psychiatric services to detained youth, behavioral management, 24/7 on call services	\$ 273,722.00
DCHS	DDD / Children's BeST Program	Children's Behavior Support Team (BeST) Program. Empower families with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the causes of problem behavior and to effectively implement positive behavior supports in natural family contexts. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at risk and most in need to prevent or reduce more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration, and other emergency medical or crisis responses.	\$ 259,596.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice Assessment Team	Mental health assessment, psychological evaluations and consultations, psychiatric consultations, substance abuse screening, substance abuse/chemical dependency assessments, trauma screening and trauma focused CBT engagement.	\$ 226,800.00
DCHS	4d. School Suicide Prevention	A school and community based suicide prevention, early intervention and support strategy. Youth Suicide Prevention staff and Crisis Clinic Teen Link staff provide suicide awareness and prevention training to youth, school administrators, teachers and parents which includes presentations and consultations. Review and develop/modify school policies and procedures regarding suicide prevention, intervention and prevention throughout King County.	\$ 200,000.00
DPH	Healthy Outcomes Prevention and Education (HOPE)	Preventing infant mortality and improving infant health outcomes by linking women and their families in minority communities to health care and needed services. Research shows that linking women of color and their families to health care and other services and providing culturally appropriate support will reduce stress and lead to improved birth outcomes.	\$175,000.00
DCHS	Youth Engagement Program	Provides outreach and/or engagement services for minority youth, including sexual minorities, age 13 through 24 and link underserved City of Seattle and/or homeless youth to treatment or other recovery support services.	\$ 160,074.00

Healthy

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Institute For Family Development	Provides Functional Family Therapy (FFT), an evidence-based program, to youth and their families. FFT includes assessment, development of family goals, specific intervention techniques, and teaches skills necessary for success.	\$149,600.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$142,496.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$141,841.00
DCHS	Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program	Local coalition to work cooperatively with community members, providers, agencies and school district personnel to provide AOD Prevention Services.	\$139,241.00
DPH	Tobacco Youth Access Program	Tobacco retailer inspections that include both education and enforcement of the state's youth access to tobacco laws and regulations.	\$135,000.00
KCSC	Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 4-6 months. Family structure required, but can serve foster and extended families and families in crisis.	\$127,400.00
DCHS	Juvenile Justice Liaisons Navos	Mental Health Assessment and Referral to treatment services for youth who are on probation.	\$ 120,200.00
DPH	Neighborhood Health - 45th Street Homeless Youth Clinic	A walk-in clinic which provides medical services for homeless youth and young adults 2 evenings per week. Services include primary care, reproductive health services, mental health and chemical dependency counselling, STD testing, alternative health care.	\$73,000.00
DPH	Volunteer Training Network	A train-the-trainer program that equips community members (speaking a language other than English) to educate their peers (friends, family and neighbors). The trainers teach workshops and build capacity to reduce toxins in the home setting. Trainers receive training and teaching resources (in their first language) from subject matter experts from the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program.	\$ 65,000.00
DCHS	Youth Diversion (partnership with Superior Court)	Provides chemical abuse and dependency screening, brief counselling, and referral for ongoing treatment services to juvenile offenders.	\$ 59,772.00
DCHS	YFSA / NAVOS/Ruth Dykeman Children's Center	Provides substance abuse prevention and intervention services to youth in the Highline School District.	\$ 58,666.00
DPH	Country Doctor Teen Clinic	A walk-in clinic which provides medical services for homeless youth and young adults 2 evenings per week. Services include primary care, reproductive health services, STD testing, alternative health care.	\$ 58,000.00
KCSC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Weekly in-home family counseling sessions for 3-4 months. Family structure/committed caregiver is required; foster families eligible.	\$ 50,500.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Healthier and Toxic Free Homes	A community-directed partnership with SOAR Coalition to raise awareness and build capacity to reduce toxics in the home setting. Communities involved in this project include Bhutanese/Nepalese, Chinese, Filipino, Latino, and Purepecha. Community members play a leadership role in identifying issues and solutions for household toxics.	\$ 50,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Southwest Youth and Family Services	Provides academic development and employment readiness services to youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system that reside in the Seattle School District.	\$ 38,821.00
KCSC	Intensive Counseling Services	Individual, family, and group counseling as well as psychological testing and evaluation.	\$27,700.00
DPH	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	Environmental case management services to families of children identified as having above average blood lead levels (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). Includes a wide range of services: mailings, phone consultations, in-home consultations, environmental sampling and analysis, and case coordination and technical assistance with health care providers. Provide on-going analytical capacity to Public Health Centers and other low-income health centers to test for blood lead levels in children.	\$12,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Probation	Probation performs several functions: The Consolidated Intake Unit initially handles most filed on juvenile offender cases. Intake JPCs conduct risk assessments and prepare disposition reports for the court. The Supervision Units provide probation supervision including CMAP (case management assessment process), motivational interviewing and risk assessment for all adjudicated juvenile offenders. One JPC in each unit supervise juveniles adjudicated for sex offenses. Screening Unit reviews all cases where law enforcement is requesting that a youth be booked into secure detention. Screening JPCs determine if a juvenile meets the criteria for being held in detention pending court review and administer the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) which generates a placement recommendation for the first court hearing. The Records Unit manages electronic social files on all juveniles referred to Juvenile Court Services and is responsible for maintaining/updating information in the local information system (JIMS) and the state information system (JCS).	\$6,913,150.00
Safe			
DPD	Public Defense - Juvenile Offender Legal Services	Public defense legal services for youth accused of committing an offense. Offenses may be misdemeanors (least serious), gross misdemeanors, or felonies (most serious).	\$2,333,622.12
DPD	Public Defense - Child Dependency Actions	Public defense legal services for youth over the age of 12 involved in a dependency action in Juvenile Court. With passage of 2014 legislation, youth under the age of 12 who are legally free are also entitled to an attorney.	\$1,430,305.96
KCSC	Juvenile Courtroom Support	Court support staff ensures the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$1,132,000.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Full Time SROs in the following contract cities: Burien (1), Sammamish (2), Seatac (1), Shoreline (1), Woodinville (1)	\$ 852,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Court Administrative Costs	General management costs that support all juvenile-only related programs.	\$ 840,500.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
KCSC	Partnership for Youth Justice (Diversion Program)	The Partnership for Youth Justice Program is a diversion program for first time offending juveniles allegedly involved in minor offenses and infractions. Over 250 local community volunteers serve on 22 community accountability boards to which most of these juveniles' cases are referred.	\$548,000.00
	Family Treatment Court	Family Treatment Court is an alternative to regular dependency court and is designed to improve the safety and well-being of children in the dependency system by providing parents access to drug and alcohol treatment, judicial monitoring of their sobriety and individualized services to support the entire family.	\$534,400.00
DPD	Public Defense - Becca Matters	Public defense legal services for youth involved in At-Risk-Youth (ARY), Child-in-Need of Services (CHINS) or truancy matters and, as a result, face potential Public sanctions including detention.	\$ 431,381.00
DAJD	Electronic Home Monitoring	Provide Electronic Monitoring for those youth that are court ordered and approved by Alternatives to Secure Detention Placement Specialists to be on the program	\$350,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Commissioners & Judge	Judicial officers assigned to the dependency calendar handle all pre and post-trial dependency matters.	\$ 331,800.00
DCHS	TeamChild	Provides civil legal services and community education to help youth involved in the juvenile justice system.	\$270,000.00
DCHS	Youth Housing Connection - Coordinated Engagement (YHC CE) for Homeless Youth and Young Adult	Coordinated Engagement (CE) will direct young people's access to housing by coordinating their applications, applying a common strengths-based assessment, and placing them in programs that have worked for other youth and young adults (YYA's).	\$ 243,240.00
KCSC	Juvenile Offender Judges	King County Superior Court Judges and Commissioners assigned to Juvenile Court handle offender and at-risk youth matters.	\$ 227,700.00
DJA	Step Up Program	Group intervention program for youth domestic violence toward family members. The program is court based and designed to serve youth in the juvenile justice system who are on diversion, probation or At-Risk-Youth petitions referred for DV toward parents/family members, as well as self or community referred families. The program uses a 21 session cognitive behavioral, skills and strengths based curriculum including teen groups, parent groups and family groups. A Restorative Practice model is used to engage change process.	\$ 206,715.00
DCHS	Home At Last	Provide rental assistance and intensive case management for chronically homeless young adults with disabilities.	\$ 196,256.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Overtime to create a part-time SRO presence in Unincorporated King County schools	\$188,000.00
KCSC	Interpreters	Interpreters assist litigants during attorney-client consultations and arraignments, hearings, trials, and other court events. They also interpret for deaf jurors, classes for parents and truant youth, and appointments with court personnel. Interpreter services have been provided in 143 languages.	\$158,700.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Family Reunification Program Pilot	Family and Youth Focused in-home family reunification and diversion support. To provide prevention services and family reunification services to youth and young adults at risk of homelessness or homeless.	\$150,000.00
DCHS	Project SAFE	Project SAFE: phone-based clinical consultation for parents/caregivers responsible for a youth ages 12-17 in crisis or youth who have run away from home or who are at risk of running away. Referrals are made directly from parents, via sister agencies or through National Safe Place. The family therapist assists parents and caregivers in developing an action plan that confronts issues that may be underlying their teen's behaviors, often making referrals for ongoing outside individual or family counseling.	\$150,000.00
PAO	180 Program (pre-filing juvenile diversion)	The 180 Program is a pre-filing juvenile diversion program designed to divert youth facing their first or second misdemeanor out of the court system. In 2012, the 180 Program diverted 353 youth out of the court system. In 2013, the program diverted 310 youth out of the court system. Instead of filing charges against eligible youth, the PAO instead invites youth to participate in a Saturday half-day workshop where the curriculum and workshop are developed and lead by community leaders.	\$150,000.00
DCHS	Coming Up	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$143,000.00
DCHS	Housing Stability Services	Case management paired with flexible funding to help youth and young adults with items such as utility payments, assistance with significant debt, legal fees, fee for applications, etc.	\$130,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at Orion Center	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at Orion Center in Downtown Seattle. Capacity: 20 units.	\$ 120,000.00
DPD	Public Defense - Juvenile Drug Court Program	Public defense legal services for youth involved in Juvenile Drug Court	\$102,570.00
DCHS	Supportive Housing Program	Provides case management	\$ 96,569.00
KCSC	Parent for Parent Program	Parent to Parent Program assists families by providing peer parents who are approachable and a culturally relevant connection to the dependency process. The program promotes early engagement in the dependency process which is critical for improving the chance of reunification.	\$95,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Mediation	This program provides mediation for families in the dependency system at the YSC courthouse to help resolve issues related to child abuse and neglect prior to adjudication by the court.	\$94,500.00
KCSC	FJICIP	This program ensure the efficient running of the dependency related services and court processes and makes recommendations for improved programs and efficiencies.	\$ 85,200.00
DCHS	Open Doors	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 85,000.00

Prepared by The Forum for Youth Investment for the King County Youth Action Plan Task Force—December 2014

*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Alive and Free Program	Alive and Free Program works with youth involved with street or gang violence and connects them to services, and provides outreach and violence prevention services.	\$ 82,500.00
DCHS	Friends of Youth Rent Assistance Program	Transition-in-place housing rental assistance	\$ 80,000.00
KCSC	Warrant Prevention Program	Contacts and provides support to help youth attend court and avoid warrants and related detention. Prioritizes youth of color.	\$ 75,000.00
DCHS	Youth Housing Connection - Coordinated Engagement (YHC CE) Database Development	This IT system capacity development project enhances the Coordinated Engagement (CE) Database to manage client intake, client assessment and reporting related to Youth Housing Connection (YHC).	\$75,000.00
DAJD	YouthCare	Provide group care beds for those youth that are court ordered as part of the Alternatives to Secure Detention Program	\$ 67,800.00
DCHS	Severson Program Rent Assistance	Transition-in-place housing rental assistance	\$ 62,000.00
KCSO	School Resource Officer Program	Overtime to create a part-time SRO presence in Unincorporated King County schools	\$ 60,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at AYR	AYR Emergency Young Adult Shelter. Capacity: 6 units.	\$ 60,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice 101	The Juvenile Justice 101 program helps close the information and support gap for families at the initial court phase of the Juvenile Justice process. Using a peer support model, the program informs families of court basics and community resources through onsite orientation and one-on-one support. The community outreach component of the JJ 101 program has worked with the Somali community through a series of workshops and community meetings. Additional grant funding will continue the outreach with the Somali community & expand into the Hispanic community in 2014 & 2015.	\$55,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at Youth Haven	Support the Youth Haven shelter in order to serve homeless individuals (youth). Capacity: 9 units.	\$45,554.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at The Landing	Youth Shelter at the Landing, serving young adults. Capacity: 15 units.	\$ 40,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at ROOTS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at ROOTS in University District. Capacity: 45 units.	\$ 40,000.00
DCHS	Transitional Housing for Young Adults ISIS At Ravenna	LGBTQ focused Transitional Housing for Young Adults ISIS At Ravenna in north Seattle. Capacity: 10 units.	\$ 35,000.00
DCHS	Step-Up Time Limited Housing Program	Transition-in-place housing rental assistance	\$ 35,000.00

Safe

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Friends of Youth New Ground Bothell	Transitional housing facilities for young adult single-parent families. Capacity: 14 units.	\$ 30,000.00
DCHS	KYFS Young Adult program at Watson Manor	Transitional housing facilities for youth and young adult single-parent families. Capacity: 8 units.	\$ 28,000.00
KCSC	Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Taskforce & Multidisciplinary Teams	CSEC is providing training so individuals and agencies recognize exploited children and is helping to establish multidisciplinary teams to provide and coordinate services. The Taskforce is also working with the State and local partners to collect and evaluate data.	\$25,000.00
DCHS	Transitional Housing for Young Adults Passages	Transitional Housing for Young Adults Passages in the University District	\$24,881.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at The Landing	Services funding to support Youth Shelter at the Landing (serving young adults).	\$ 15,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at ROOTS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at ROOTS in University District. Capacity: 45 units.	\$15,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at Orion Center	Emergency Shelter for Young Adults at Orion Center in Downtown Seattle. Capacity: 20 units.	\$15,000.00
DCHS	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at YouthCare	Emergency Shelter for Adolescent Youth at YouthCare in University District. Capacity: 8 units.	\$ 15,000.00
DCHS	Transitional Housing for Young Adults at Catalyst At Straley	Transitional Housing for Young Adults at Catalyst At Straley in University District. Capacity: 12 units.	\$15,000.00
DCHS	Transitional Housing for Young Adults ISIS At Ravenna	LGBTQ focused Transitional Housing for Young Adults ISIS At Ravenna in north Seattle. Capacity: 10 units.	\$15,000.00
KCSC	Family Court Services	MSW level social workers provide mediation, evaluation, domestic violence assessment and other services to families with children who are involved in the family law court process. FCS also provides adoption related services including assistance with paperwork, confirmations of consent, and non-identifying adoption searches.	\$1,977,900.00
KCSC	UFC Judges	King County Superior Court Judges assigned to handle family law cases with children.	\$1,229,800.00
KCSC	Family Law Commissioners	Commissioner assigned to family law handle pre-trial family law matters and child support related cases.	\$ 883,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Socially Engaged			Total Program Budget*
Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
KCSC	Family Law Facilitators, Early Resolution Case Managers & Family Law Orientation	Facilitators assist family law pro se parties (people not represented by an attorney) by explaining forms and processes. Inform parties of possible settlement options and review court documents prior to their submittal to court. Family Law Orientation is a one-hour orientation class for pro-se litigants in family law cases which provides them with information on court rules, court processes and resources to help them throughout their case. All of these programs work together to assist pro se families in family law matters.	\$ 556,600.00
KCSC	Family Law Support	Court support staff ensure the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$394,600.00
DPD	Public Defense - ROYAL Program	Project ROYAL (Raising Our Youth As Leaders) provides case management and mentoring to youth involved in the juvenile justice system	\$ 297,600.00
DCHS	Project ROYAL	Department of Public Defense (DPD) (in partnership with SCRAP) operates Project ROYAL (Raising Our Youth As Leaders) for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and provides case management and mentoring.	\$ 250,000.00
KCSC	Aggression Replacement Training (ART)	Three one hour classes per week for ten weeks to improve decision-making skills, anger control and moral reasoning. Transportation assistance available.	\$ 184,200.00
DCHS	YFSA / Friends of Youth	Provides case management and substance abuse services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Issaquah, Riverview and Snoqualmie School Districts.	\$ 160,403.00
DCHS	YFSA / Renton Area Youth and Family Services	The SPARK T.H.I.S. program is designed to prevent youth involvement in the juvenile justice system through the provision of an array of services that minimize risk factors and builds protective factors (case management).	\$160,062.00
KCSC	Parent Seminar	This is a three-hour seminar required for all parents that are party to a family law case. The seminar provides detailed information on how to write a parenting plan and what kinds of issues that they should expect.	\$141,100.00
KCSC	Parent Youth Connections Seminar (PYCS)	Thirteen hours of education, skill building and resource connection. Evidence-based program for low risk and diversion youth. Family member participation required.	\$129,500.00
DCHS	YFSA / Youth Eastside Services	Provides comprehensive services to families, children, and youth at risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Bellevue and Lake Washington School District.	\$117,005.00
KCSC	Mentor Program	One-on-one pro-social outreach and support by trained mentors provided to youth on probation. Gender specific and cultural matching available.	\$110,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Kent Youth and Family Services	Provides comprehensive services to families, children, and youth at risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Kent School District.	\$ 102,437.00

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*Total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	YFSA / Northshore Youth and Family Services	Provides case management and youth development services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Northshore and Skykomish School Districts.	\$ 97,296.00
DCHS	Neighborhood House	BRIDGESTART provides case management and youth development services for youth involved, or at risk for involvement, in the King County juvenile justice system.	\$ 93,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Auburn Youth Resources	Provides case management and youth development services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Auburn and Enumclaw School Districts.	\$ 84,414.00
DCHS	Southwest Youth and Family Services	Provide youth violence prevention program which includes case management services to youth at-risk or involved with the juvenile justice system.	\$ 77,000.00
DCHS	YFSA / Federal Way Youth and Family Services, a branch of Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation	Provides youth development services and family support services to youth and families at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Federal Way School District.	\$ 73,673.00
DCHS	YouthCare	Provides case management services for youth involved in prostitution/justice system at the Orion Center.	\$ 71,700.00
DCHS	YFSA / Central Youth and Family Services, a branch of Therapeutic Health Services	Provides case management services to families, children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system in the Seattle School District.	\$46,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Maple Valley Community Center	Provides classroom presentations using the DateWise curriculum to youth in the Tahoma School District.	\$ 42,410.00
DCHS	YFSA / Center for Human Services	Provides youth development services to children, and youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system in the Shoreline School District.	\$ 36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Mercer Island Youth and Family Services	Provides classroom presentation services on current youth concerns to youth in the Mercer Island School District.	\$ 36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Pioneer Human Services	Provides case management and crisis counseling services as part of the Bridge Program to youth at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system.	\$36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Southeast Youth and Family Services	Provides case management or counseling services to families, children, & youth at risk for involvement in juvenile justice in Seattle School District.	\$36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Vashon Youth and Family Services	Provide counseling and youth development services to youth at-risk for involvement in the criminal justice system in the Vashon School District.	\$36,821.00
DCHS	YFSA / Youth Eastside Services	Provides Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, Adolescent Drop-in group (BGLAD) to youth who may identify as being LGBTQ.	\$ 15,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	LGBTQ Youth Activities	Provides Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning YYA with community building events (capacity: 50+) and paid youth internships (capacity: 5)	\$15,000.00
	Youth Development Services	Provides case management and youth development services	\$ 10,000.00
DCHS	Youth Activity	Provides scholarships for youth to attend Kirkland Boys and Girls Club	\$ 10,000.00
DCHS	DDD / School To Work District Model	School Districts contract for our District Model (currently 6 Districts) to identify young adults with developmental disabilities who are in their last year of school and get them connected with an employment provider to develop an employment opportunity before they exit the K-12 system. We have MOAs for all districts, then we have deeper contractual collaboration with Districts utilizing this model.	\$463,126.00
DCHS	DDD / School To Work General Model	STW (School to Work) Program works with school districts throughout King County to identify young adults with developmental disabilities who are in their last year of school and get them connected with an employment provider to develop an employment opportunity before they exit the K-12 system. Link to provider network: http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/DDD/services/employment/providers.aspx	\$ 372,561.00
KCSC	Education Employment Training (EET) Program	Comprehensive youth offender employment training program. Includes employment skills training and paid internships.	\$ 370,000.00
DCHS	Clear Path to Employment	YMCA Clear Path to Employment: Employment/Education Services for homeless youth and young adults. To connect homeless YYA youth to education and employment services that decrease their likelihood that they will return to homelessness.	\$ 209,500.00
DCHS	Clear Path to Employment	Friends of Youth Clear Path to Employment. Employment/Education Services for homeless youth and young adults. To connect homeless YYA youth to education and employment services that decrease their likelihood that they will return to homelessness.	\$ 142,500.00
KCSC	South County EET	Gang Intervention. Builds on EET promising program providing education support and work training opportunities for probation youth.	\$ 80,000.00
KCSC	City of Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative Youth Employment Program	Employment, paid internships, work skills development and school support.	\$ 79,600.00
DCHS	DDD / School To Work High Support Needs Pilot	School Districts contract for our High Support Needs Pilot (currently 4 Districts) to identify young adults with more significant developmental disabilities who are in their 2nd to last year of school. The Pilot provides individualized technical assistance prior to connecting them with an employment provider. Employment Providers in each District collaborate to develop employment opportunities for all students before they exit the K-12 system. We have MOAs for all districts, then we have deeper contractual collaboration with Districts utilizing this model.	\$72,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs, 16-24

	Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
Vocationally Successful	DNRP	WLRD Science and Technical Support Section Internship program	This internship is designed to provide students with a meaningful educational, learning, and work experience related to environmental sciences and associated careers.	\$45,000.00
	DNRP	WLRD Science and Technical Support Section Internship program	This internship is designed to: Increase student interest in taking math, science and in exploring environmental career options; Increase student understanding of the behaviors and competencies required for success in this (and any) job. Provide students who are pursuing science or environmental education programs with relevant work experience; Provide students with an opportunity to develop, perform and be evaluated on these behaviors and competencies.	\$10,000.00
unknown	DPH	Kids Plus	Medical Case Management and Outreach to homeless families with children	\$ 456,000.00
	DPH	Green Schools	Work with schools and school districts to adopt practices that support environmental stewardship and reduce student exposure to toxic materials.	\$ 12,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DPH	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program	Home visiting by Public Health Nurse to children with medically fragile/complex health or developmental conditions to assist families with transition from hospital to home, assure coordination of care and establish a Healthcare home. For birth to three children with developmental delays, assure connection to Early Intervention Services. PHNs provide assessment on children with special needs and the impact of that health condition on the parent ability to participate in WorkFirst activities. Phone services to assist establishing specialty and community based services. Consultation available to community providers that are working with high risk, high needs children.	\$ 864,000.00
DPH	King County Dirt Alert	Raise awareness about lead and arsenic exposure in soil from the former Asarco smelter. Long term exposure can lead to severe immediate and lifelong health consequences, especially for children. KCDA has awarded three community grants to Latino Community Fund, Korean Women's Association and Child Care Resources. They will work together to deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach to Spanish, Korean and Somali residents and child care providers in South King County.	\$ 500,000.00
DCHS	1f. Parent Partner Youth Peer	Funds a family support organization, called Guided Pathways-Support for Youth and Families (GPS), to provide information, resources and supports to parents/caregivers of youth with serious emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse including access to Parent Partners and Youth Peer mentors.	\$375,000.00
KCSC	Family Integrated Transition (FIT)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 5-6 months with Dialectic Behavioral Therapy. Families may also receive psychiatric services and medication management.	\$ 284,900.00
DCHS	DDD / Children's Best Program	Children's Behavior Support Team (BeST) Program. Empower families with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand the causes of problem behavior and to effectively implement positive behavior supports in natural family contexts. Provide effective prevention and intervention strategies for those most at risk and most in need to prevent or reduce more acute illness, high-risk behaviors, incarceration, and other emergency medical or crisis responses.	\$ 259,596.00
DPH	Healthy Outcomes Prevention and Education (HOPE)	Preventing infant mortality and improving infant health outcomes by linking women and their families in minority communities to health care and needed services. Research shows that linking women of color and their families to health care and other services and providing culturally appropriate support will reduce stress and lead to improved birth outcomes.	\$175,000.00
DCHS	Institute For Family Development	Provides Functional Family Therapy (FFT), an evidence-based program, to youth and their families. FFT includes assessment, development of family goals, specific intervention techniques, and teaches skills necessary for success.	\$149,600.00
KCSC	Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)	Intensive 24/7, home-based intervention and support for 4-6 months. Family structure required, but can serve foster and extended families and families in crisis.	\$127,400.00
DPH	Volunteer Training Network	A train-the-trainer program that equips community members (speaking a language other than English) to educate their peers (friends, family and neighbors). The trainers teach workshops and build capacity to reduce toxins in the home setting. Trainers receive training and teaching resources (in their first language) from subject matter experts from the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program.	\$ 65,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*	
Healthy	KCSC	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Weekly in-home family counseling sessions for 3-4 months. Family structure/committed caregiver is required; foster families eligible.	\$50,500.00
	DPH	Healthier and Toxic Free Homes	A community-directed partnership with SOAR Coalition to raise awareness and build capacity to reduce toxics in the home setting. Communities involved in this project include Bhutanese/Nepalese, Chinese, Filipino, Latino, and Purepecha. Community members play a leadership role in identifying issues and solutions for household toxics.	\$ 50,000.00
	DPH	Eco-Healthy Childcare	Offers county-wide training and chemical-related technical assistance visits to the child care industry. On-site services emphasize reducing children's exposure to toxics.	\$ 31,000.00
	DPH	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	Environmental case management services to families of children identified as having above average blood lead levels (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). Includes a wide range of services: mailings, phone consultations, in-home consultations, environmental sampling and analysis, and case coordination and technical assistance with health care providers. Provide on-going analytical capacity to Public Health Centers and other low-income health centers to test for blood lead levels in children.	\$ 12,000.00
Safe	KCSC	Juvenile Courtroom Support	Court support staff ensure the efficient running of the court & assist youth & families navigate court process.	\$ 1,132,000.00
	DPH	Early Intervention Program (EIP)	Public Health Nursing services for high risk families involved with or referred by DSHS Children's Administration to reduce the risk of abuse or neglect of children in the home, enhance parenting skills and family functioning and reduce stress on the family.	\$1,035,000.00
	KCSC	Family Treatment Court	Family Treatment Court is an alternative to regular dependency court and is designed to improve the safety and well being of children in the dependency system by providing parents access to drug and alcohol treatment, judicial monitoring of their sobriety and individualized services to support the entire family.	\$ 534,400.00
	DJA	Step Up Program	Group intervention program for youth domestic violence toward family members. The program is court based and designed to serve youth in the juvenile justice system who are on diversion, probation or At-Risk-Youth petitions referred for DV toward parents/family members, as well as self or community referred families. The program uses a 21 session cognitive behavioral, skills and strengths based curriculum including teen groups, parent groups and family groups. A Restorative Practice model is used to engage change process.	\$ 206,715.00
	KCSC	Interpreters	Interpreters assist litigants during attorney-client consultations and arraignments, hearings, trials, and other court events. They also interpret for deaf jurors, classes for parents and truant youth, and appointments with court personnel. Interpreter services have been provided in 143 languages.	\$ 158,700.00
	DCHS	Family Reunification Program Pilot	Family and Youth Focused in-home family reunification and diversion support. To provide prevention services and family reunification services to youth and young adults at risk of homelessness or homeless.	\$ 150,000.00
DCHS	Project SAFE	Project SAFE: phone-based clinical consultation for parents/caregivers responsible for a youth ages 12-17 in crisis or youth who have run away from home or who are at risk of running away. Referrals are made directly from parents, via sister agencies or through National Safe Place. The family therapist assists parents & caregivers in an action plan that confronts issues that may be underlying their teen's behaviors, often making referrals for ongoing outside individual or family counseling.	\$ 150,000.00	

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*total funding across all age groups

King County Programs for Families

Dept.	Program/Project	Description	Total Program Budget*
DCHS	Coming Up	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 143,000.00
KCSC	Parent for Parent Program	Parent to Parent Program assists families by providing peer parents who are approachable and a culturally relevant connection to the dependency process. The program promotes early engagement in the dependency process which is critical for improving the chance of reunification.	\$ 95,000.00
KCSC	Dependency Mediation	This program provides mediation for families in the dependency system at the YSC courthouse to help resolve issues related to child abuse and neglect prior to adjudication by the court.	\$ 94,500.00
KCSC	FJCIP	This program ensures the efficient running of the dependency related services and court processes and makes recommendations for improved programs and efficiencies.	\$ 85,200.00
DCHS	Open Doors	Focus upon parenting youth. Provides rental assistance and case management to maintain non-time limited housing.	\$ 85,000.00
KCSC	Juvenile Justice 101	The Juvenile Justice 101 program helps close the information and support gap for families at the initial court phase of the juvenile justice process. Using a peer support model, the program informs families of court basics and community resources through onsite orientation and one-on-one support. The community outreach component of the JJ 101 program has worked with the Somali community through a series of workshops and community meetings. Additional grant funding will continue the outreach with the Somali community and expand into the Hispanic community in 2014 and 2015.	\$ 55,000.00
KCSC	Family Court Services	MSW level social workers provide mediation, evaluation, domestic violence assessment and other services to families with children who are involved in the family law court process. FCS also provides adoption related services including assistance with paperwork, confirmations of consent, and non-identifying adoption searches.	\$ 1,977,900.00
KCSC	UFC Judges	King County Superior Court Judges assigned to handle family law cases with children.	\$1,229,800.00
KCSC	Family Law Commissioners	Commissioner assigned to family law handle pre-trial family law matters and child support related cases.	\$ 883,000.00
KCSC	Family Law Facilitators, Early Resolution Case Managers & Family Law Orientation	Facilitators assist family law pro-se parties (people not represented by an attorney) by explaining forms and processes. Inform parties of possible settlement options and review court documents prior to their submittal to court. Family Law Orientation is a one-hour orientation class for pro-se litigants in family law cases which provides them with information on court rules, court processes and resources to help them throughout their case. All of these programs work together to assist pro se families in family law matters.	\$ 556,600.00
KCSC	Family Law Support	Court support staff ensure the efficient running of the court and assist youth and families navigate the court process.	\$ 394,600.00
KCSC	Parent Seminar	This is a three-hour seminar required for all parents that are party to a family law case. The seminar provides detailed information on how to write a parenting plan and what kinds of issues that they should expect.	\$ 141,100.00
KCSC	Parent Youth Connections Seminar (PYCS)	Thirteen hours of education, skill building and resource connection. Evidence-based program for low risk and diversion youth. Family member participation required.	\$ 129,500.00
DCHS	Youth Development Services	Provides case management and youth development services	\$ 10,000.00

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*total funding across all age groups

The Forum for Youth Investment conducted a limited scan of key planning documents developed by various entities across King County. Each of these plans outlines priorities for improving services and supports to children, youth and families living in King County. In this review, we summarized the following questions: How are core elements of these plans currently funded? How do they define outcomes? What ages are they focused on (and broken down by our age categories)? What level of intervention do these plans address (youth development, prevention, intervention, treatment, etc)? Is it King County government led? Which agencies? Do these plans emphasize any of the common causes generated in community forums?

Key Document	Current Funding	Defined Outcomes	Ages of Focus	Level of Intervention	King County Government Leadership	Common Cause Connections
Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020	Funded by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KC Department of Community & Human Services • Raikes Foundation • United Way Plan to utilize \$1,470,000 over 18 months for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Thriving</u> • Fewer young adults experience homelessness • Shorter periods of homelessness • Fewer young adults return to homelessness • Decrease over-representation of homeless LGBTQ & youth of color 	14 - 24	Prevention, Intervention	KC Department of Community & Human Services	Safety, Barriers to Access Institutional Structures Poverty
King County Health & Human Services Transformation Plan (2014 – 2018)	KC Department of Community & Human Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Thriving</u> • Increase the number of healthy years that residents live. • Protect the health of communities • Increase supports for optimal growth & development of children & youth • Network of integrated & effective health and human services is available to people in need 	All ages.	Prevention, Intervention, Treatment with greater emphasis on prevention than in previous years	King County Department of Community and Human Services and Public Health-Seattle & King County City governments (Seattle, Bellevue, Sea Tac)	Health Barriers to Access Institutional Structures
King County Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan	King County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Connecting</u> • Reduced detention • Decrease disproportionality • Reduced JJ costs 	12 - 18	Prevention, Intervention	King County Council, County Children & Family Commission, Department of Social & Health Services, Department of Human & Community Services, King County Prosecutor	Institutional structures Racism & sexism
King County Mental Illness & Drug Dependency Action Plan	King County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Thriving</u> • Increased access to mental health & substance abuse services 	0 – 18	Intervention, Treatment	KC Department of Community & Human Services	Family/Parent Challenges Safety Mental Health Barriers to Access Lack of Resources

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King County

King County Youth Survey Results

Purpose

- Understand the pressing issues facing young people ages 12-24 in King County
- Identify strategies for King County to increase meaningful youth engagement



Survey Design & Dissemination

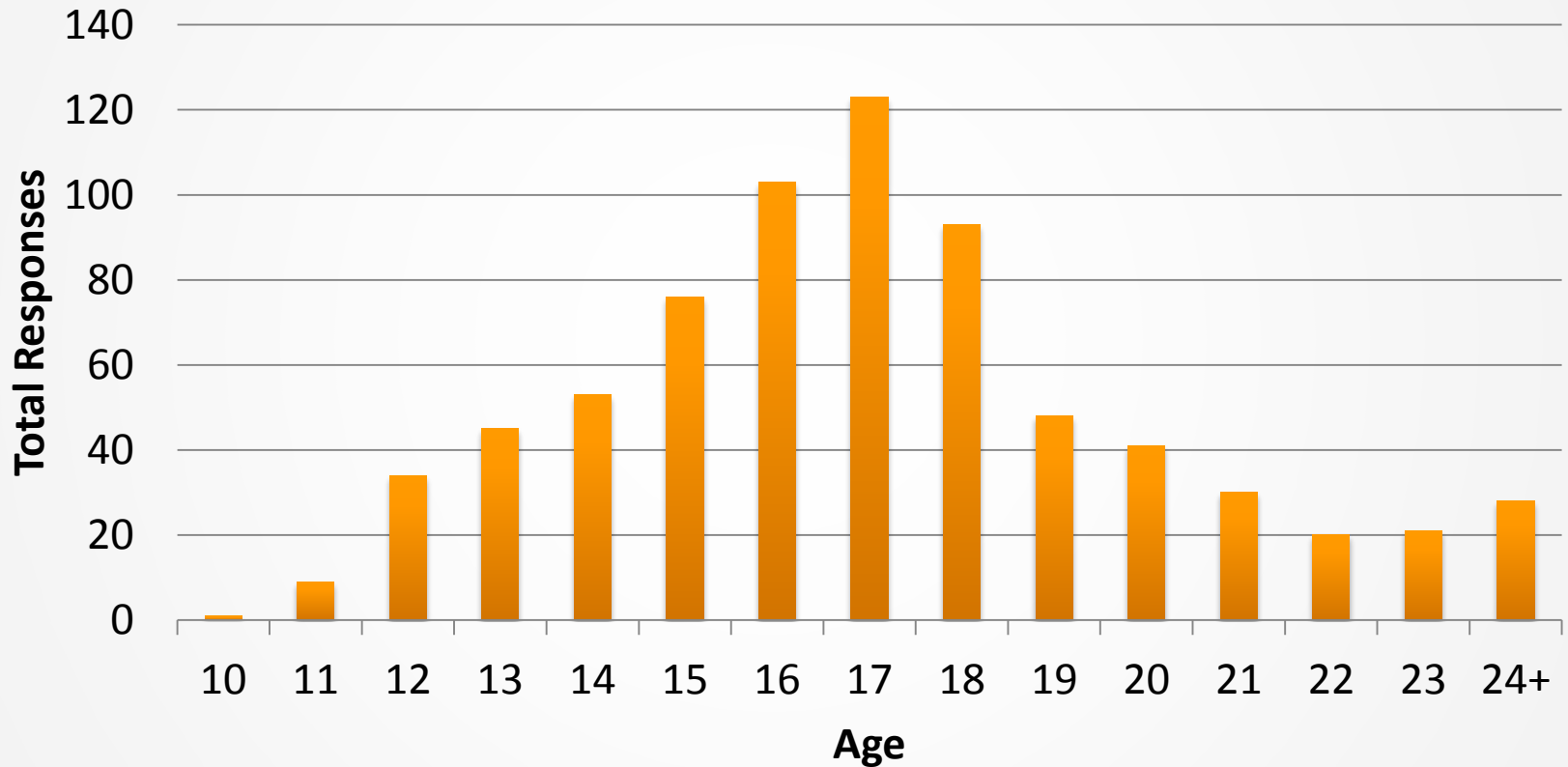
- 10 Questions
 - 6 Core Questions
 - 4 General Questions
- Survey Open Sept. 17-Nov. 3, 2014
- Accessible via web link and hard copy
- 1000+ responses from youth across King County



King County

Demographics

Age of Respondents



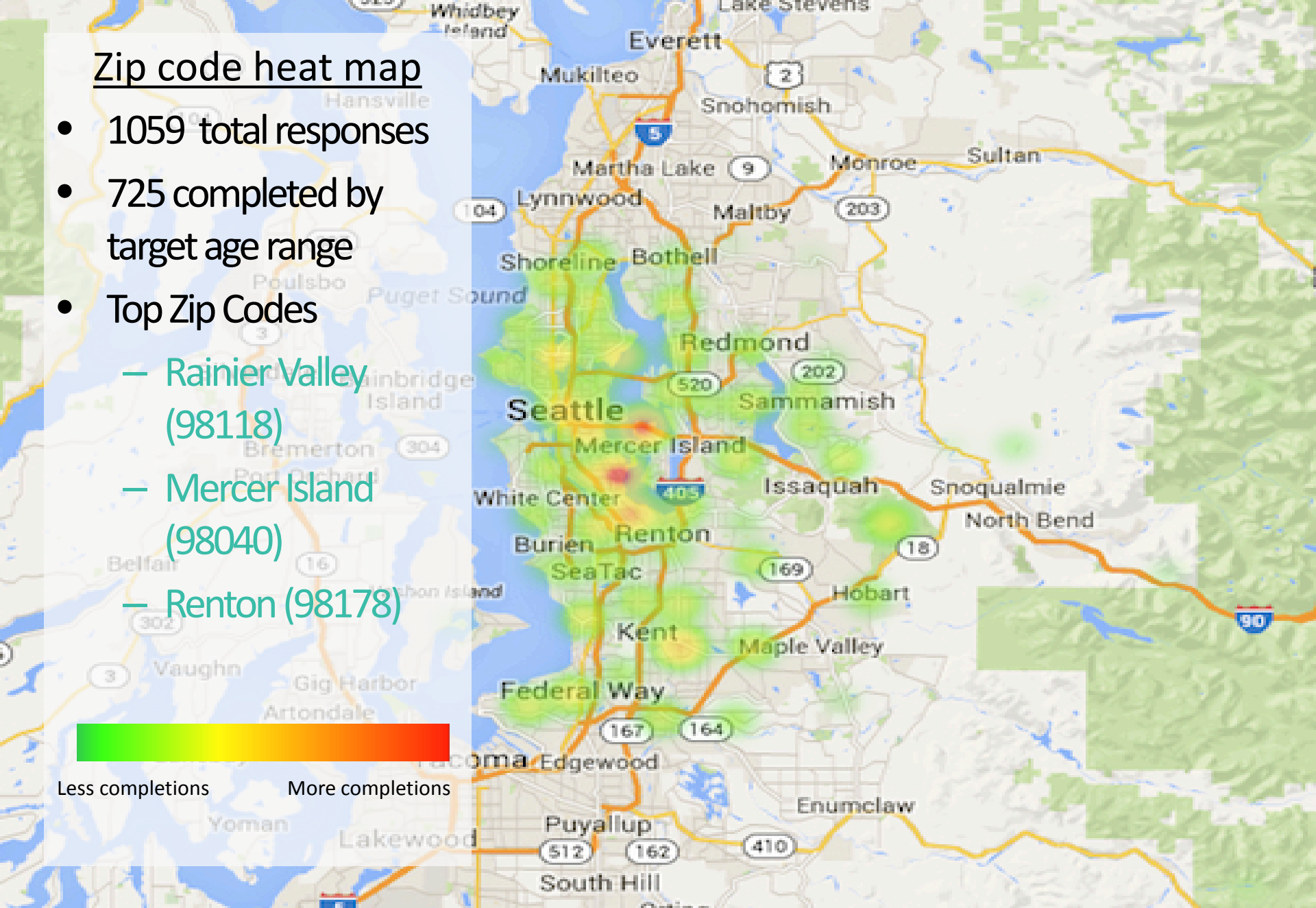
Zip code heat map

- 1059 total responses
- 725 completed by target age range
- Top Zip Codes
 - Rainier Valley (98118)
 - Mercer Island (98040)
 - Renton (98178)

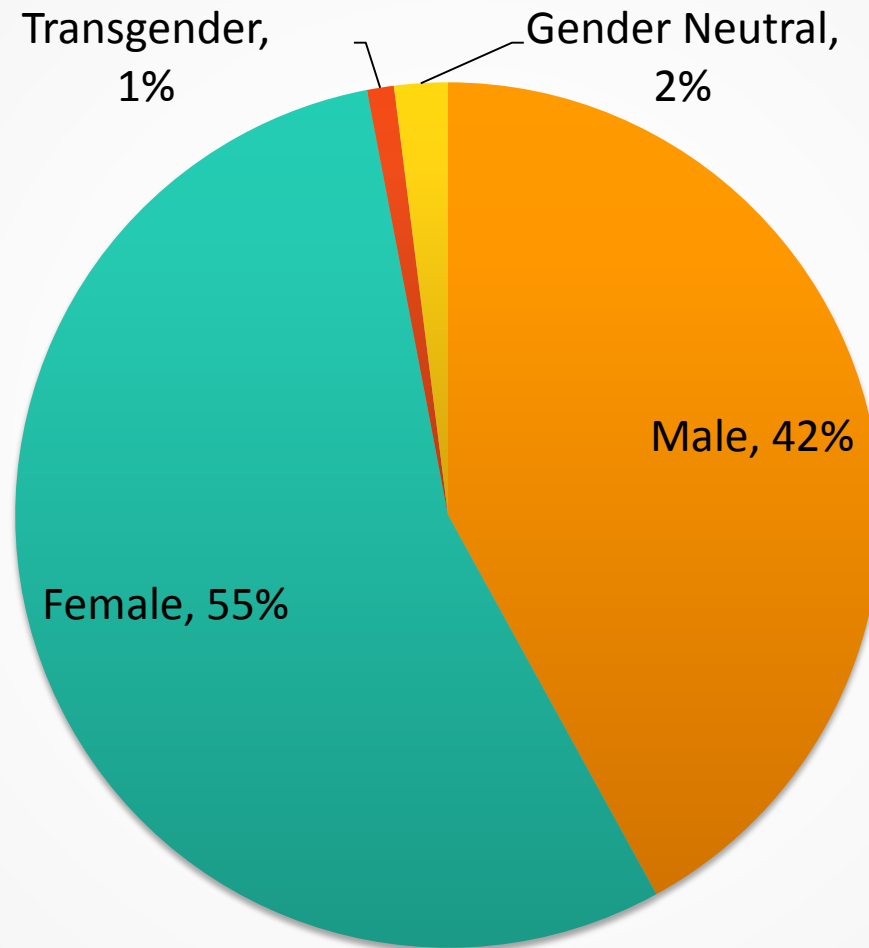


Less completions

More completions

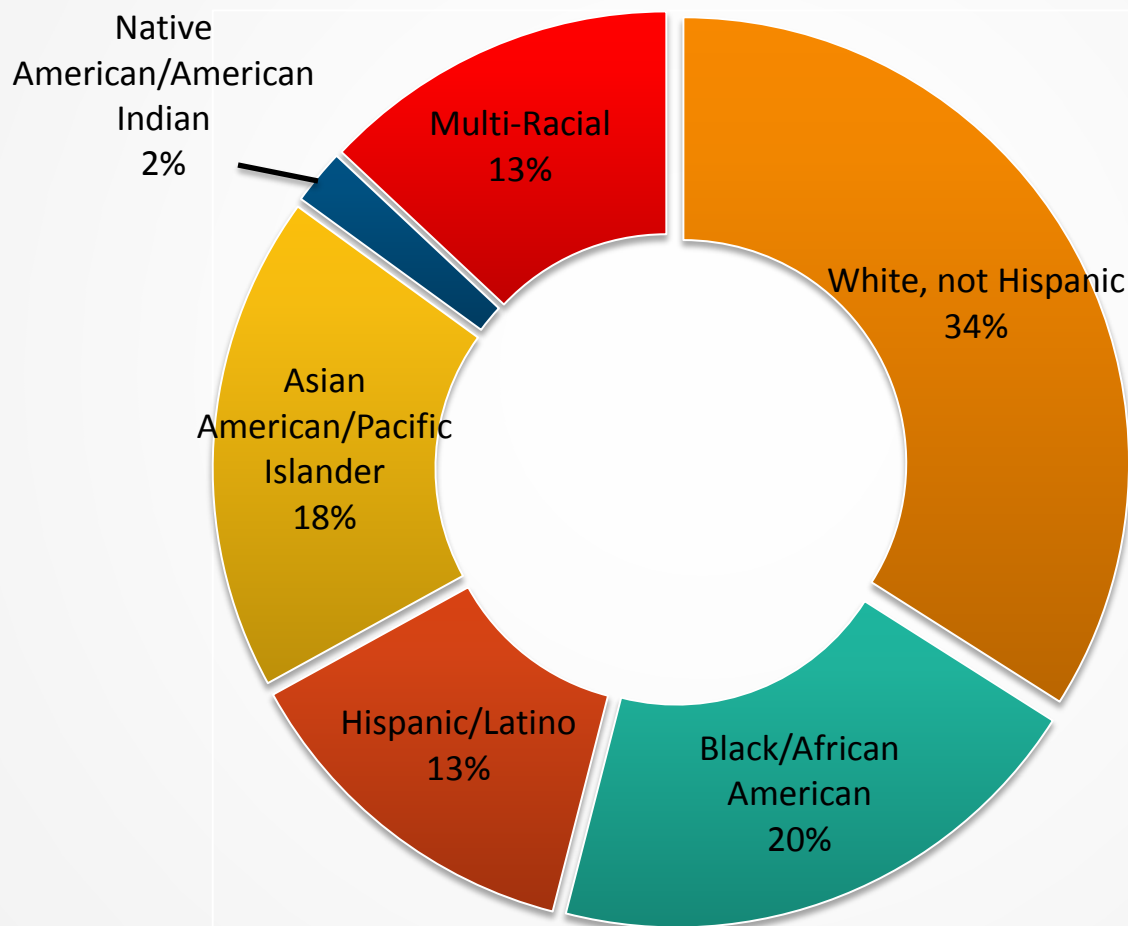


Gender





Race/Ethnicity





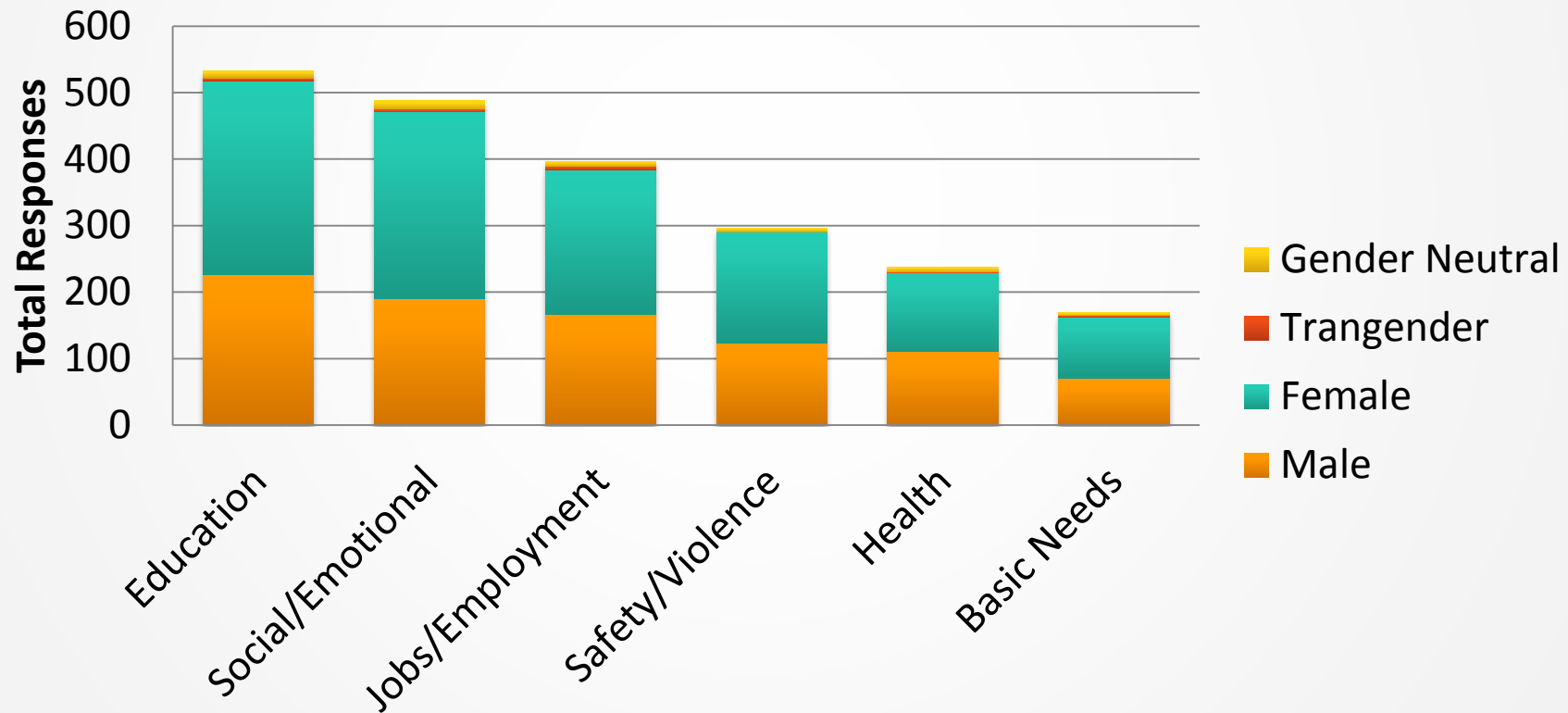
King County

Core Questions



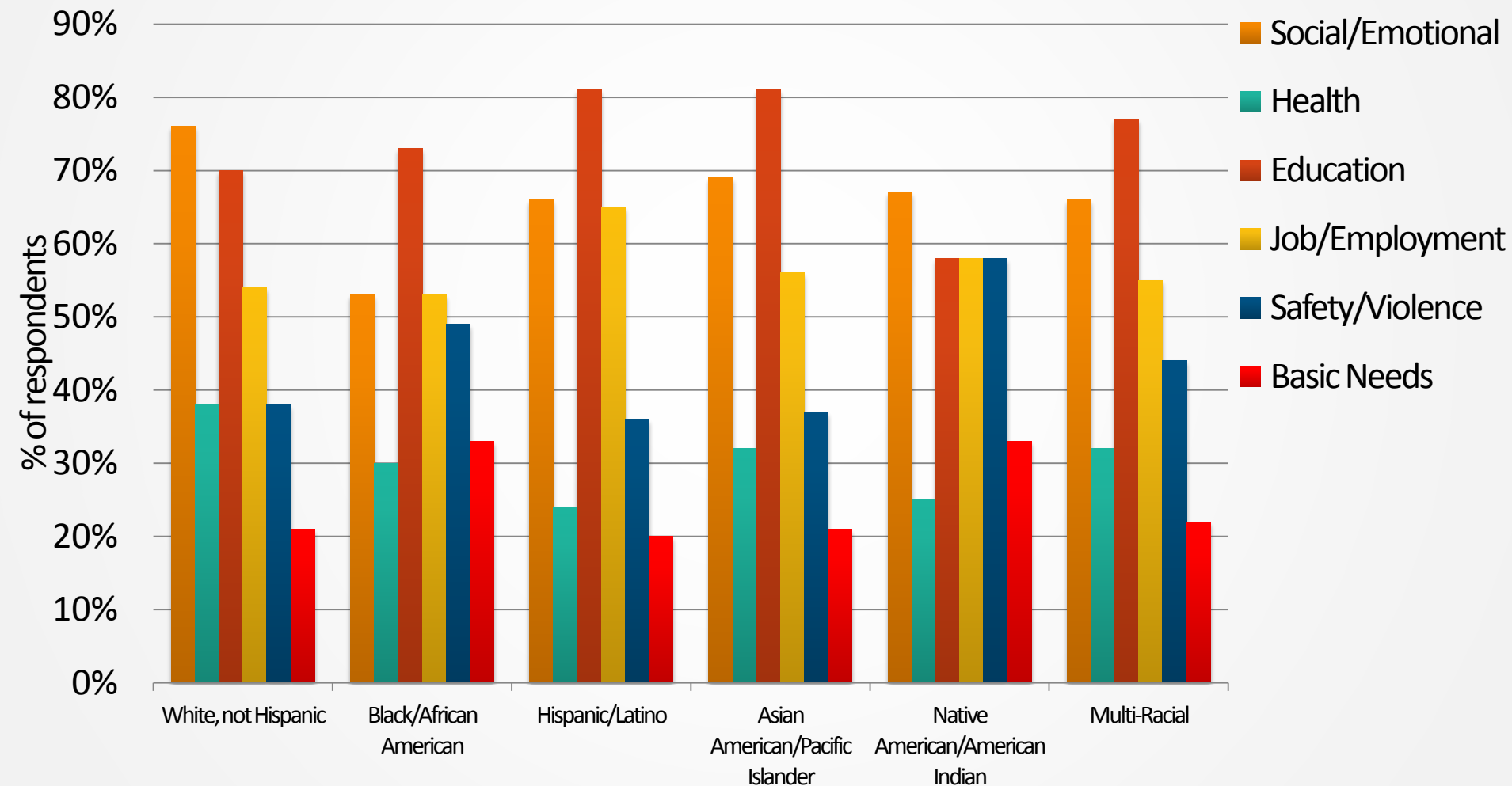
Overall top areas of concern

What are the top 3 areas of concern facing young people your age?



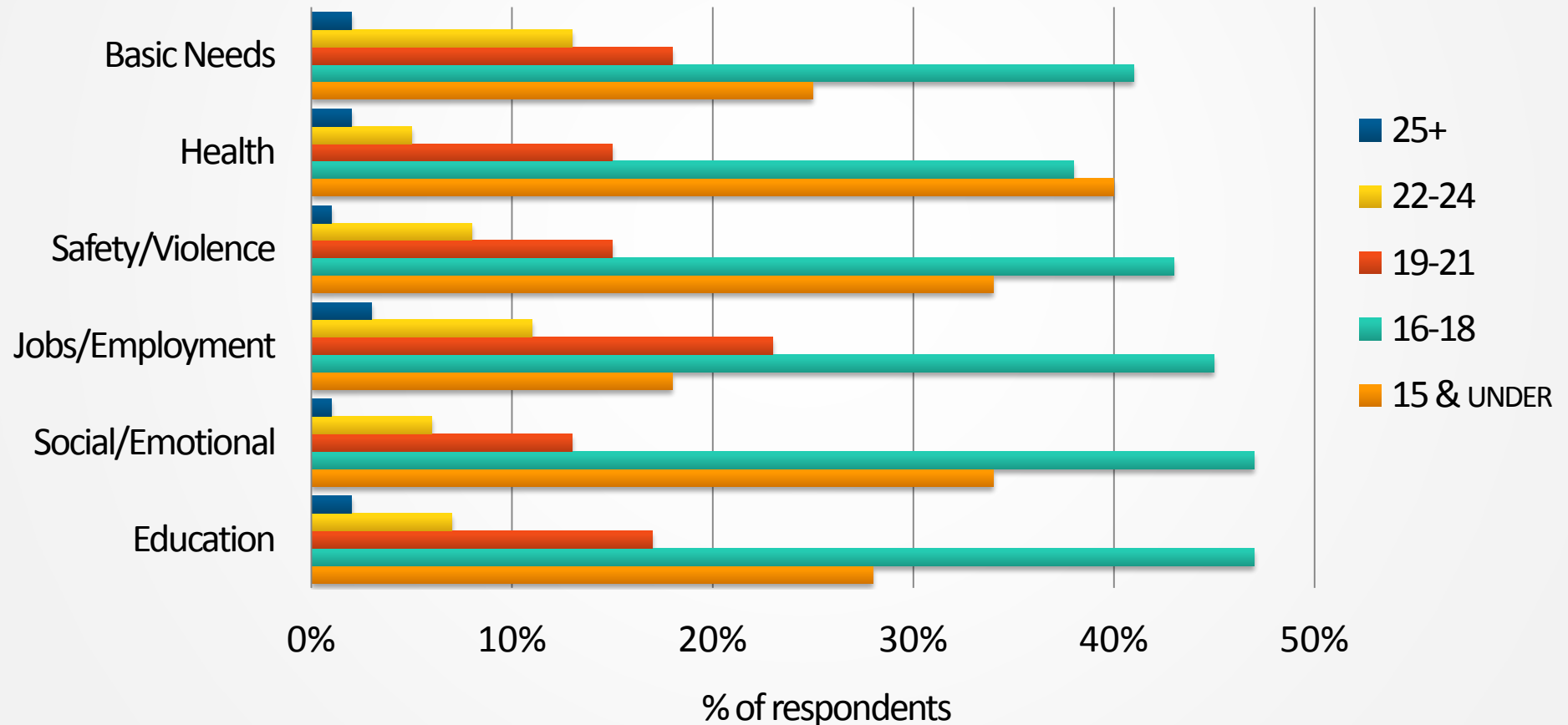


Top areas of concern by race



Top areas of concern by age

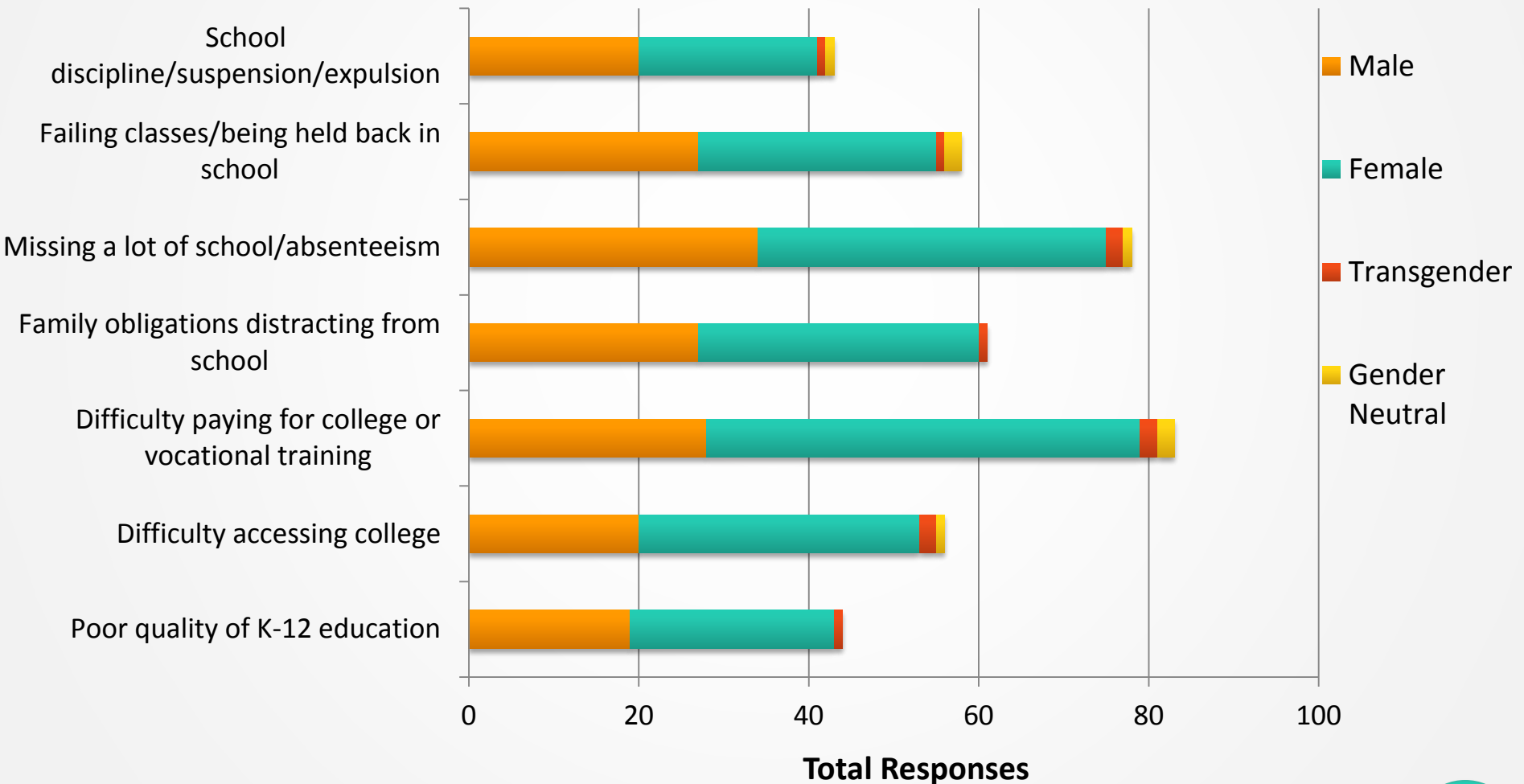
What are the top 3 areas of concern facing young people your age?





Educational Issues

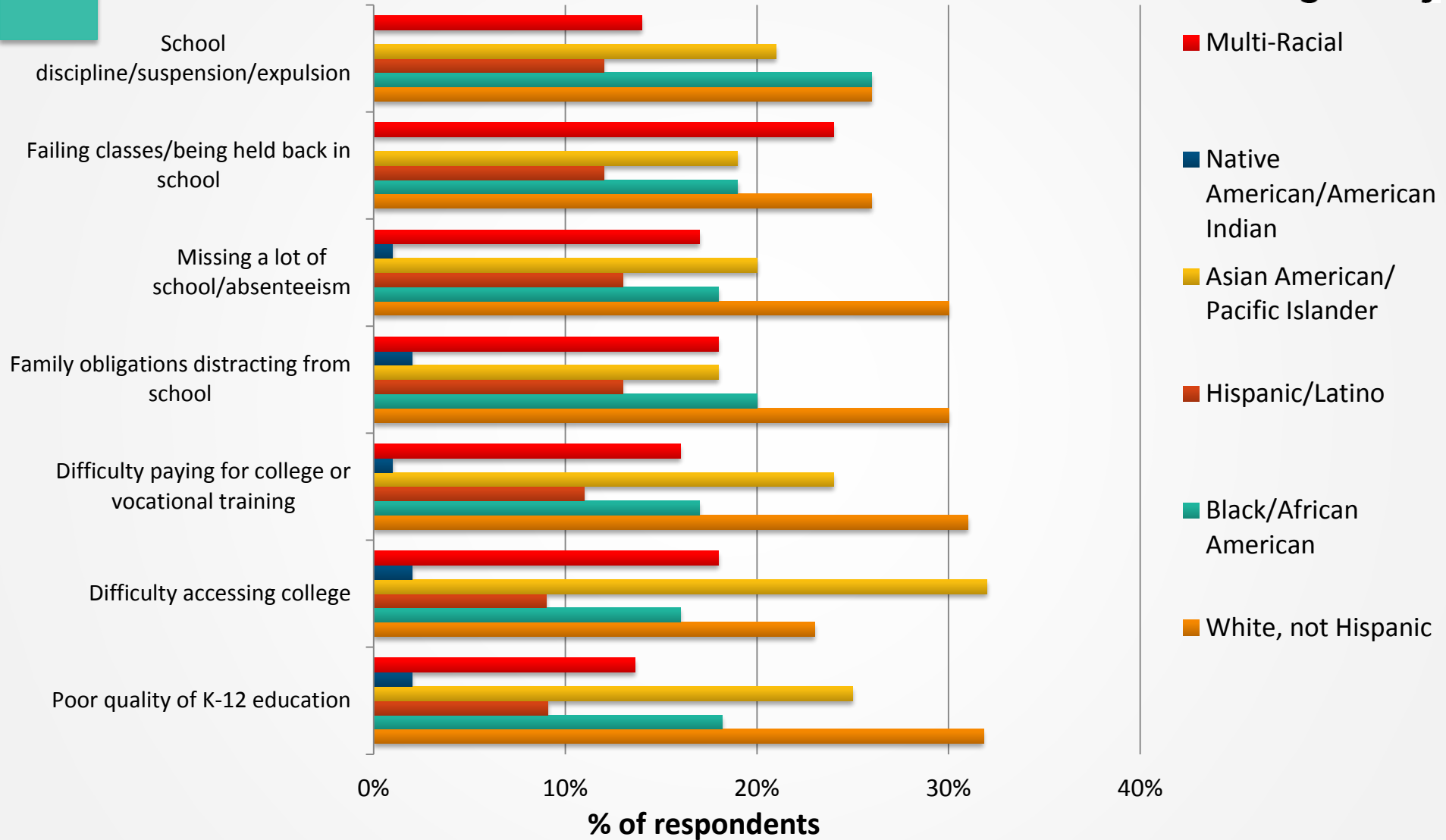
In the past 12 months have you, or someone close to you, experienced any of the following Education issues?





King County

Educational Issues by Race

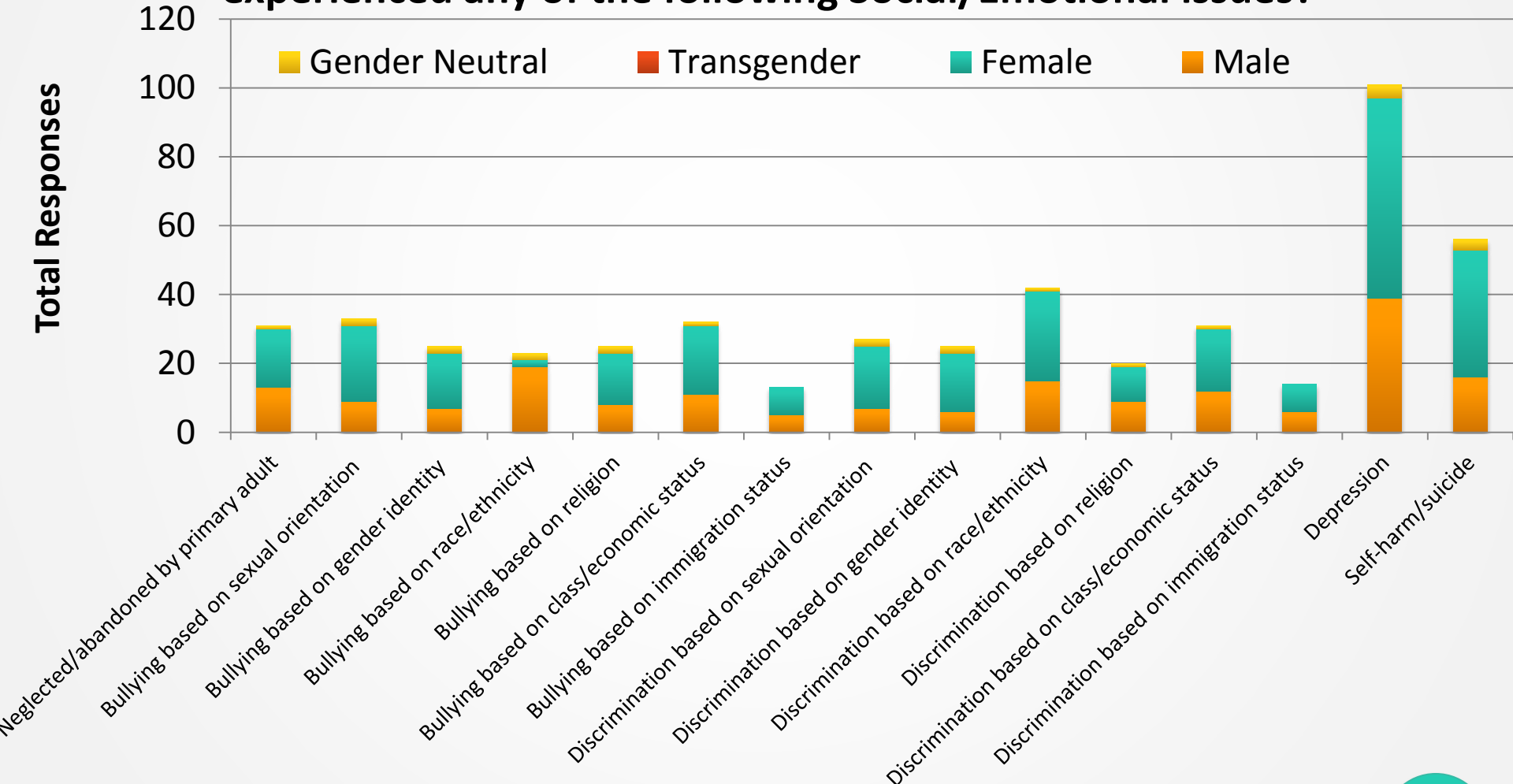




Social/Emotional Issues

In the past 12 months have you, or someone close to you, experienced any of the following Social/Emotional issues?

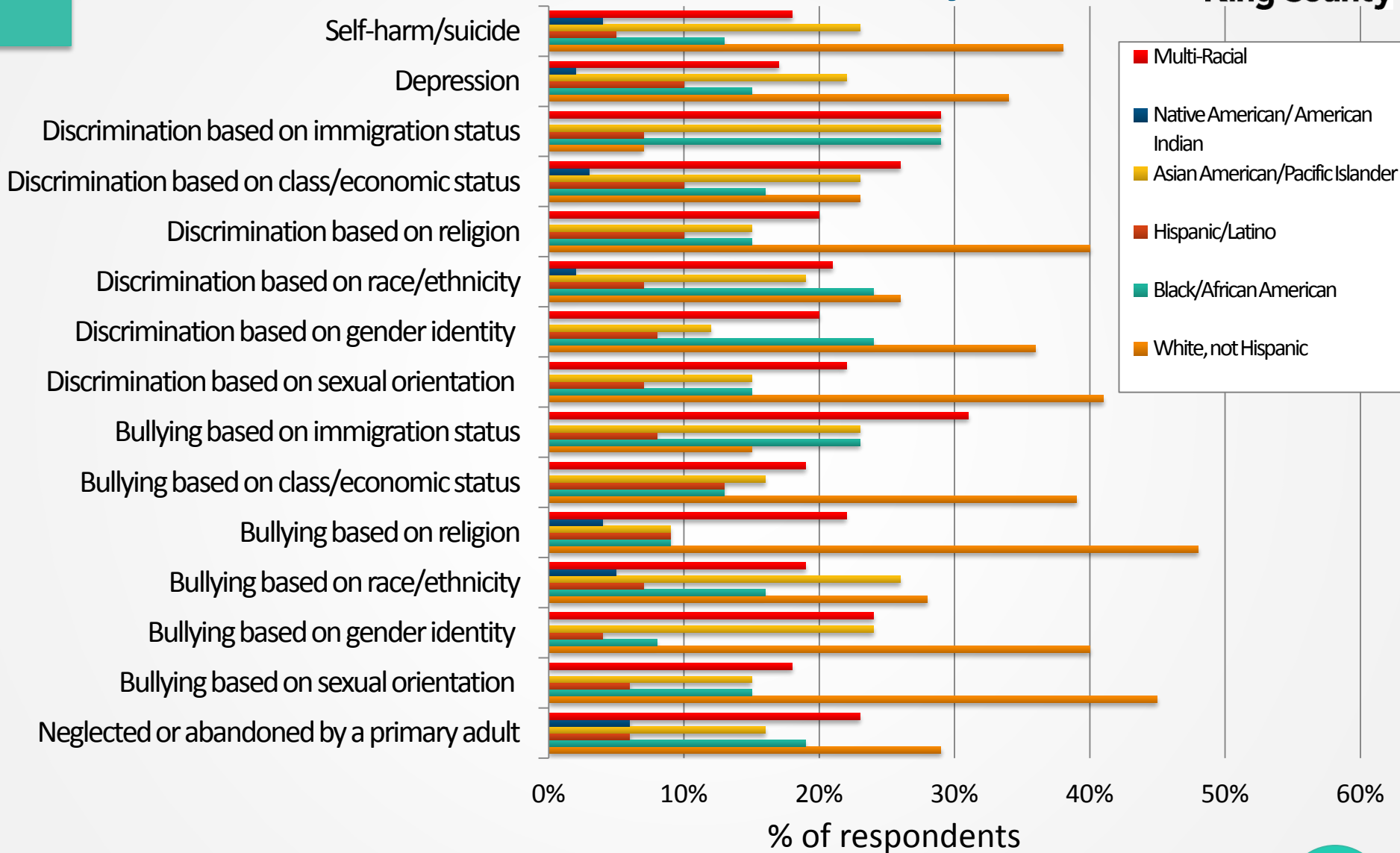
Total Responses





King County

Social/Emotional Issues by Race

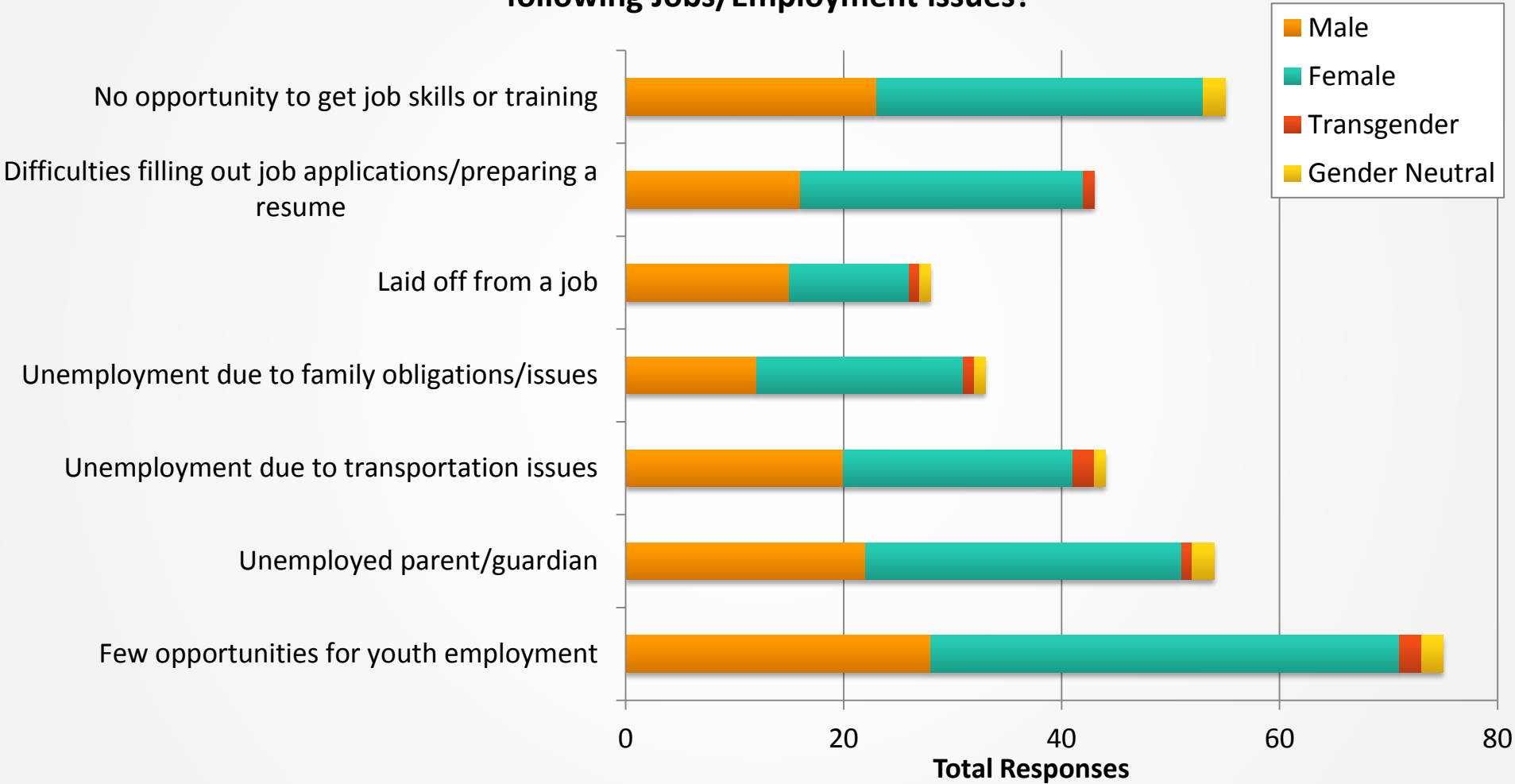




King County

Job/Employment Issues

In the past 12 months have you, or someone close to you, experienced any of the following Jobs/Employment issues?



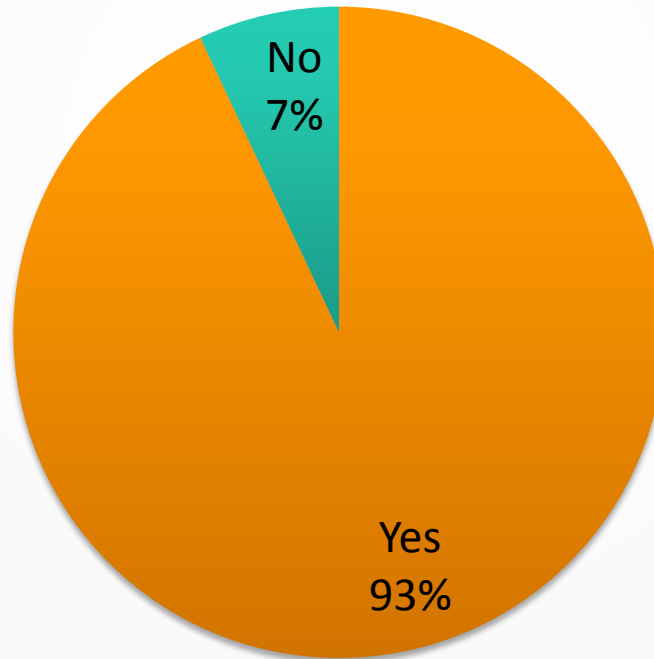


King County

Youth Engagement Questions

Youth Bill of Rights

Do you think a Youth Bill of Rights in King County could improve the lives of young people like yourself?





County Youth Engagement

What are the 3 best ways King County can most effectively partner with youth to make decisions?





49% want to learn more about youth leadership groups working to shape policies affecting King County youth.

Other Suggestions

“Advertise events” -Anonymous

“Create jobs. Not just tech jobs but all types.” -Anonymous

“Support the work that youth are currently doing in the community with funding and access to congressional leaders. -Anonymous

“Have representatives come to schools”-Anonymous

“Make sure youth are directly involved, not just 'adults' representing youth interests.” -Anonymous

“There needs to be representatives from different neighborhoods.” -Anonymous

“IF THERE ARE MEETINGS WITH ADULT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT OUR IDEAS ARE ACTUALLY LISTENED TO AND TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION” -ANONYMOUS

“Give them a purpose in life by showing them that they can make a significant difference in the lives of others at summer camps or retreats.”-Anonymous

Thank You

- King County Youth
- King County Youth Advisory Council
- King County Youth Action Plan Task Force
- Youth development practitioners and social workers

I. The Role of Youth Engagement

While youth are disproportionately involved in and affected by the problems in communities, they are also the source of many solutions.¹ King County youth want to be engaged as change makers, but genuine engagement of young people in King County’s evolution requires a fundamental shift in how decisions are made. In order to effectuate this change, adult community leaders “focused on shaping policy, improving services and building demand need to do more than engage young people in focus groups or invite a select few to offer advice. They need to find effective ways to involve large numbers of youth in their core work.”²

The work that youth engage in must be of high priority to the county and Youth Action Plan. If young people are merely invited to engage in minor issues, their involvement will neither benefit the youth, the county or the Youth Action Plan. The County must decide in which functions it wants youth participate.³ Research indicates that there are 6 main functions in which youth engagement effectuates positive organizational change and positive youth development.

Governance & Policymaking	Youth serve on boards or key committees, allowing input on important matters
Training & Outreach	Youth train adult staff and community members about youth perspective, questions and issues that others may not have considered
Organizing & Activism	Youth work with staff to organize around issues and effective strategies to recruit youth involvement
Communication & Media	Youth help get the story out via press releases, meeting reporters, facilitating public forums, creating newsletters, using social media and communicating directly with their own networks
Service & Philanthropy	Youth can serve as mentors for younger youth, supervise program activities, and do one-to-one work
Research & Evaluation	Youth can assist in helping to demonstrate accountability and accomplishments, research, interview other youth, provide own judgments about issues, work with others to analyze data and present to stakeholders

II. Voices of King County Youth

YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS

The Youth Action Plan Task Force conducted a survey of over 1,000 youth across King County to discern the answers to two overarching questions: (1) what are the most pressing issues facing youth in King County and (2) how do youth want to be meaningfully engaged with the County.

1) *What matters to King County youth?*

Youth reported that the top three areas of concern facing young people were:

¹ Core Principles for Engaging Young People in Community Change p. 8.

² *Id.* at 8-9.

³ *Id.* at 29.

Youth Engagement Best Practices and Youth Bill of Rights

- **Education (73%)**
- **Social/Emotional (67%)**
- **Jobs/Employment (55%)**

Within education issues, **absenteeism (56 %)** and **difficulty paying for college (61%)** were the most commonly reported issues overall. However, respondents of different races and ethnicities noticeably reported higher incidences of other issues as well, including difficulty accessing college(32%) among Asian American/Pacific-Islander respondents, failing classes or being held back (24 %) among multiracial respondents, and school disciplinary issues (26 %) among black/African American respondents.

Depression was by far the most common social emotional issue reported (83%), followed by self-harm/suicide (50%). Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino and Asian American/Pacific Islander respondents all reported higher incidences of discrimination based on immigration status (29%), and bullying based on immigration status (23%, 41% and 23%, respectively). White, non-Hispanic respondents reported high incidences of bullying based on religion (48%) and sexual orientation (45%).

Lack of opportunities for youth employment was the primary concern in the job/employment domain (70%), followed by unemployed parents/guardians (53 %) and lack of opportunities to get job skills or training (50%).

2) **How do youth want to be engaged?**

While developing a Youth Bill of Rights is of interest to King County youth, the County's youth have expressed other priorities they would like to pursue at this time. Before undertaking a Youth Bill of Rights King County should find effective ways to involve large numbers of youth in its work. Local youth would most like the County to partner with youth to make decisions by: (a) asking youth to identify problems and solutions, (b) partnering with youth leadership groups to make decisions, and (c) communicating directly with youth through social media. A staggering 49% of survey respondents wanted to learn more about youth leadership groups working to shape policies affecting King County.

III. **Steps for Engaging Youth in King County government**

DESIGN AN OUTREACH STRATEGY

- Effective youth engagement strategies must have strong and continuous outreach strategies
- Create an outreach strategy that connects with existing organizations and be intentional about asking young people to be involved
- Plan a strategy that ensures diversity among youth involved
- Be intentional about creating a “revolving door” of youth leaders to ensure continuity
- Balance the need for continuity in terms of issues with the integration of new youth contributing new ideas

CREATE A “HOME BASE” FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ORDER TO:

- Provide a support system that connects youth to organization resources and designated reliable adults, preferably staff.
- Establish a designated, accessible work space, access to basic office resources and facilitate opportunities to engage in community change efforts
- Anchor the youth engagement work in the community and help create ownership

MOTIVATION

Convey an Intentional Philosophy

- Be clear about why youth are being engaged
- Have a clear roadmap of short term and long-term goals and strategies
- Articulate clear roles for youth and adults at multiple levels

Identify Core Issues that relate to Youths' Experiences

- Give young people authentic decision-making power
- Connect immediate issues to broader systemic challenges
- Link systemic challenges to root causes

CAPACITY

Create Youth/Adult Teams of individuals sharing common purpose, goals & strategies

- Compensating young people is key
- Young people should be engaged as leaders in the structure of social change effort itself, not just as community members

Build Youth & Adult Capacity

- Provide young people and adults with a range of opportunities to build personal, leadership, teamwork and basic skills
- Help youth and adult teams develop a shared awareness of the issues, systems and root causes, and how they relate to the community's local history

Provide Individual Supports

- Youth must feel safe and supported
- Provide personal supports and skills as well as professional skills

Sustain Access & Influence

- Cultivate an audience and create demand for young people's work
- Create clear channels for youth to present their findings and recommendations
- Expand the range of concrete opportunities for meaningful youth participation and leadership

IV. The "case" for Youth Engagement

A. Promotes Positive Youth Development

Youth engagement in social change efforts like the Youth Action Plan promotes positive youth development. Research suggests that young people who are actively engaged in meaningful service, and work in close collaboration with adults, exhibit a range of positive assets. They are likely to show better school performance, more positive self-concept, better relationships with peers, increased social contacts, a greater sense of responsibility, and higher rates of college graduation.⁴ In terms of prevention, engaged youth are less likely to use controlled substances, and more likely to delay sexual activity, reduced levels of depression and lower levels of delinquency.⁵

Safety & Belonging	Efficacy & Empowerment	Sociopolitical Awareness & Civic Competence	Community Connections
Sense of acceptance, support and respect Strong sense of collective identity and pride in membership	Increased confidence in ability to effect change Own their expertise and accomplishments as leaders	Learn how to critically analyze relationship between own experience and larger structures	Gain a deep understanding of their community and closer connection with peers Adults connect youth

⁴ *Id.* at 20

⁵ *Id.* at 20

King County Youth Action Plan Appendix C

Youth Engagement Best Practices and Youth Bill of Rights

Gain knowledge, skills & attitudes to participate as civic actors with professional networks and opportunities

B. Influences Adult Leaders

But youth engagement benefits adults, too by enhancing the capacity and commitment of adult leaders to tackle local issues, especially those most salient to youth. Engaging with youth as peers in leadership challenges negative stereotypes adult leaders and community members may have about young people and encourage them to facilitate greater opportunities for youth voice.⁶ “Local government officials come to see participating you t many youth are motivated and prepared to contribute to their communities.”⁷

Confidence & Competence	Generativity	Reflect on Negative Stereotypes	Advocate for Youth Participation
Adults develop skills and attitudes to share power and responsibility with youth on ongoing basis	Adults experience satisfaction in passing own their experience to a new generation	Adults recognize and address their assumptions about youth & develop a new respect for youth competence	Adults commit to making adult-youth partnership part of their own practice Use positional power to promote youth engagement in new settings

C. Fosters Community

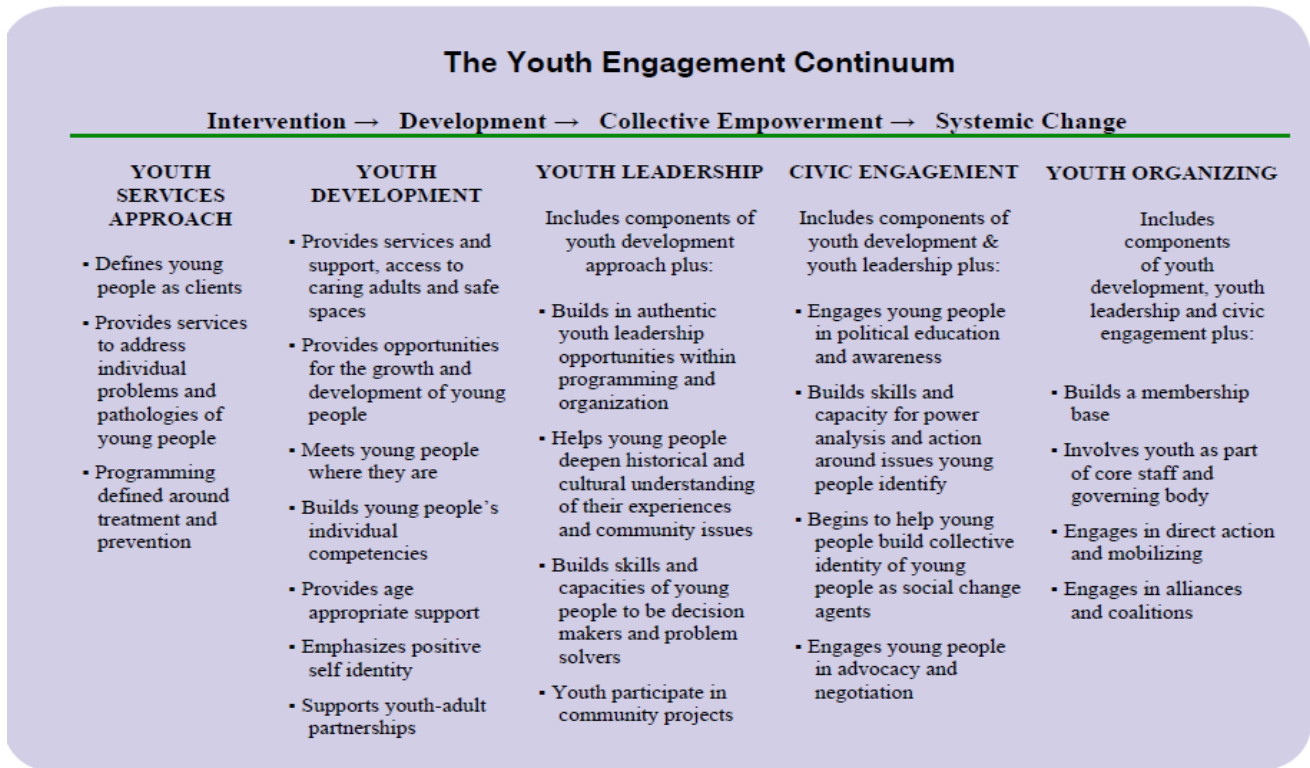
Youth-adult partnerships built stronger communities by expanding capacity and improving opportunities and supports to youth. Genuine incorporation of youth voice in next phase of King County’s Youth Action plan will shift the county executive and council’s focus to more accurately reflect the concerns of priorities that care critical to its youth.⁸

Institutionalized Expectations of Youth Participation	Civic Agendas Reflect Youth Voice	New Community Coalitions Emerge	Responsive Public Institutions
Norms/traditions change as youth become standard part of community decision-making	Types of issues addressed by decision-making bodies reflect critical interests, concerns, priorities of youth	Youth organizers reach out beyond the youth development field to engage wide range of community partners to address complex issues	Public institutions respond with resources, policies and programs that better serve youth and communities

⁶ *Id.* at 21

⁷ *Id.* at 21

⁸ *Id.* at 22



Youth Bill of Rights

What is a Youth Bill of Rights?

In August 2006, the City of Portland became the first city in the nation to adopt a Bill of Rights, written by and supporting, children and youth.⁹ Former Mayor Tom Potter said: "If the well-being of children is an indicator of the health of our community, then Our Bill of Rights: Children and Youth should be the thermometer by which we measure our health."¹⁰ See the following examples of Youth Bill of Rights around the country:

- Santa Clara County, CA
- City of Fall River, MA¹¹
- City of San Jose - San Jose Youth Commission
- San Mateo¹² - San Mateo County Youth Commission

A youth bill of rights is a document that lays the foundational framework for policymakers, youth and the community, defining a shared vision for the future and making a place for youth voice in countywide policy decisions, specifically the issues that youth face.

The document not only holds public officials accountable for considering the impact of their decisions on the well-being of children and youth, it also provides youth a concrete tool with which to draw attention to their needs and interests. At all times, but especially during times of political change and financial

⁹ <https://multco.us/multnomah-youth-commission/our-bill-rights-children-youth>

¹⁰ <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/news/3044.htm>

¹¹ <http://www.gfrpartners.com/09YouthBillOfRightsInvitation.html>

¹² <http://www.sfgate.com/opinion/article/San-Mateo-County-adopts-children-s-Bill-of-Rights-3251570.php>

upheaval, a Bill of Rights helps the community stay focused on children and youth as a priority. Importantly, it keeps the spotlight on all children, from all racial and cultural backgrounds, income levels, family structures, and developmental abilities.¹³

As a public agreement, adoption of the Youth Bill of Rights is a first step in ensuring that leaders are keeping the needs of children and youth in the forefront when decisions are made regarding policies, budgets and government practices.¹⁴ A Youth Bill of Rights is a “living document” with room for interpretation and negotiation over time. While engaging in common purpose, new issues and opportunities emerge. Priorities shift and strategies are reassessed.¹⁵

Best practices for meaningful youth engagement in the development of a youth bill of rights

I. Engage youth in issue identification.

Youth can provide insight about their generation and the problems that persist in their communities. Finding and recruiting youth for issue identification starts by going where they naturally gather. Communicating with youth in familiar locations allows for more open, honest dialogue. Disseminate information to youth about the goal you are trying to accomplish and how it affects their life. This way, youth learn the basics of how their neighborhoods operate and gain personal, social, and academic benefits such as increased self-esteem and an appreciation for civic life and its responsibilities.

Youth around the country have developed proposals, conducted surveys, mapped sites, prepared models, and created budgets in the context of broad community revitalization efforts. These prove invaluable contributions to the work of, neighborhood organizations, and local government. For example, Y-Plan, a program directed by the Center for Cities and Schools at University of California–Berkeley, provides meaningful opportunities for young people to serve as key stakeholders in their community.¹⁶

In Issues to Action¹⁷, over 1,500 students from 40 high schools engage in civic action projects that address local issues and advocate for policy change. Students identify issues in their communities and learn about local government and the political process through research, analysis and the creation of action plans that tackle these issues.

II. Support a youth advisory council or commission.

Using existing youth advisory councils avoids duplication of work, and wasted spending on resources needed for finding, recruiting, and preparing youth to participate.

Multnomah Youth Commission (MYC)¹⁸—the official youth policy body for the city and county, made up of 27 young people ages 13 to 21—helped drive the work from idea to enactment. This formal policymaking body is responsible for identifying countywide policies that they want to advocate for. The MYC is guided by two documents: By-Laws address the structure and function of the group, and a Youth Bill of Rights outlines policy priorities. Created by youth-adult teams and adopted by the MYC, the city, and the county, these documents articulate the group’s core

¹³ <http://storage.ugal.com/3283/billofrightsoverviewsigningdoc.pdf>

¹⁴ <http://storage.ugal.com/3283/billofrightsoverviewsigningdoc.pdf>

¹⁵ Strategies for Sustaining Quality Youth-Adult partnerships in organizational decision-making: Multiple Perspectives

¹⁶ <https://www.planning.org/ncpm/education/pdf/romonaspring08.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://www.mikvachallenge.org/problemsolving/>

¹⁸ <https://multco.us/multnomah-youth-commission>

responsibilities, policy priorities, and role. MYC uses these documents to organize subcommittees and group processes, and as a “filter” for taking on new projects.¹⁹

III. Involve youth in mapping and planning.

Youth input can redirect city investments away from programs and facilities that would be underutilized into areas that reflect the needs of youth and their families. Involving youth in city decisions leads to a greater connection between planning and the realities of that segment of the city’s population. For instance, youth-led analyses of their peers’ spending patterns have provided municipal leaders with valuable feedback for local economic development initiatives.²⁰

The Washtenaw County Community Youth Mapping Project is a partnership between Washtenaw County Children’s Well Being, Ypsilanti Youth Empowered to Act (YYEA), Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw County MSU Extension 4H-Development and the Judson Center. Youth Mappers aged 14–18 serve two days a week and get a stipend for their time. Youth Mappers gain marketable skills such as interviewing, data collection and entry, problem solving, and so much more—plus knowledge of local geography.²¹

IV. Partner with local CBOs, corporations, and government agencies for funding and resources.

Seek in-kind donations to offset cost of involving youth. Human resources to manage youth organizations can be time intensive, requiring professional personnel. Partner with public agency to provide youth with public transportation and carpooling. Business owners can provide added value and incentives to increase youth participation in tactics.

Youth engagement initiatives may be able to partner with local high schools, vocational schools or post-secondary institutions to engage student volunteers or student interns in any number of in-kind supports.²² Consider developing partnerships with individuals and organizations that can help effectively package and communicate information. For example, university faculty and interns from public policy, social work, or urban studies programs may be willing to help develop policy analysis documents through a collaborative process with youth.²³

V. Host a youth summit.

Host a youth summit to draft the bill of rights. Invite a diverse group of youth to participate in drafting the bill of rights to ensure all youth concerns are represented the drafting process. The summit will allow youth to collaborate and create a strong vision statement for the document, and mobilize support for the bill of rights. During the summit, issues should be discussed to make sure all youth accept the statement.

¹⁹ Strategies for Sustaining Quality Youth-Adult partnerships in organizational decision-making: Multiple Perspectives

²⁰ Authentic Youth civic engagement National League of Cities

²¹ http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/group/7FBA0800-C5EE-4859-9C1E-1205ED9F6116/financesustainability/sustainingyouthengag_54fc77.pdf

²² http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/group/7FBA0800-C5EE-4859-9C1E-1205ED9F6116/financesustainability/sustainingyouthengag_54fc77.pdf

²³ http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/group/7FBA0800-C5EE-4859-9C1E-1205ED9F6116/financesustainability/sustainingyouthengag_54fc77.pdf

In Portland and Multnomah County, It began with a youth-led “constitutional convention” in the summer of 2006 that brought over 500 local youth together to write and ratify the concise document that would ultimately be adopted by local government.²⁴

VI. Sustain youth engagement with frequent communication and skill building.

Social networking sites are great tools used to recruit and organize youth. In order to keep momentum growing, frequent outreach to youth is needed. The ability to track, contribute, and adapt to changing policy environments, as well as to position an organization to influence and respond to national, state, and local decision-makers’ priorities, is key to sustainability.²⁵ This includes bringing a youth voice to public hearings and decision-making on issues, and forming relationships with legislators and officials who are willing to propose or amend legislation or regulations in response to youth input.²⁶

Existing King County Youth Leadership Organizations and Networks

- The King County Youth Advisory Council is a newly formed group of young people from Seattle and South King County who are advising and informing county-wide strategies, funding and practices.²⁷ Beginning in January 2013, the Council was created to inform the United Way of King County’s decision-making process around investing in older youth. The group is comprised of about 30 young people, aged 16-24 who have direct or close experiences with leaving school and/or being unemployed as a young adult.²⁸
- The Seattle Youth Commission is a group of 25 Seattleites aged 13-19 from all over the city who are appointed by the Mayor and City Council to connect youth to their elected officials.²⁹ In 2010 the Mayor's Youth Council became the Seattle Youth Commission (SYC). The new Commission structure allows the Youth Commission to interact more directly with all of the elected officials in the city - the Mayor, the City Council, and the City Attorney - to ensure that the voices of young people are heard. Commissioners are jointly appointed by the Mayor and City Council in June of each year following an extensive interview process.
- The Bellevue Youth Council is the largest organizational body of Bellevue Youth Link, and all Bellevue Youth Link members are required to attend at least one of the two monthly meetings of the council, held at City of Bellevue. The council also often hears presentations from guest speakers about events in the community and local government, and is responsible for originating and planning monthly service projects.³⁰
- There are additional youth leadership councils in King County: Des Moines Youth Council, Issaquah Youth Advisory Board, Kirkland Youth Council, Skyway Youth Council, Teens for Tukwila and Vashon Youth Council.
- SOAR’s King County Youth Development Network (YDN) facilitates both online and in-person

²⁴ <http://sparkaction.org/content/oregon-youth-help-shape-county-living>

²⁵ http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/group/7FBA0800-C5EE-4859-9C1E-1205ED9F6116/financesustainability/sustainingyouthengag_54fc77.pdf

²⁶ http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/group/7FBA0800-C5EE-4859-9C1E-1205ED9F6116/financesustainability/sustainingyouthengag_54fc77.pdf

²⁷ <http://www.childrenandyouth.org/what/sacy/youth-engagement/youth-advisory-council/>

²⁸ <http://www.childrenandyouth.org/what/sacy/youth-engagement/youth-advisory-council/>

²⁹ <http://www.seattle.gov/seattle-youth-commission>

³⁰ http://students.washington.edu/emilygre/youth_council.html

King County Youth Action Plan Appendix C

Youth Engagement Best Practices and Youth Bill of Rights

networking, striving to build a supportive, cohesive and cooperative youth development community to ensure that all young people in King County have access to high quality programs and caring, supportive adults. YDN supports more than 1,500 youth development workers in King County by sharing resources, collaborating, and connecting individuals and organizations, both online and in-person.³¹

- Mockingbird Society engages young people directly in improving foster care and ending youth homelessness through the Mockingbird Youth Network, the Youth advocates Ending Homelessness Program and by offering an array of youth trainings and providing youth speakers on various topics.³²

Where do we start?

Use the Youth Action Plan taskforce format to serve as a framework for drafting the bill of rights.

Ready for School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academically succeeding
Ready for Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocational success
Ready for Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healthy• Safe• Socially Engaged• Civically Engaged

Information in this appendix was prepared by the Forum for Youth Investment.

³¹ <http://www.childrenandyouth.org/what/sacy/kcydn/ydn-website-events/>

³² <http://mockingbirdsociety.org/index.php/youth-programs>

Appendix D

Youth Action Plan Public Comments

Zach Bellay:

Hello Councilmember Demboski!

My name is Zach Bellay, I'm a senior at Interlake High School and am also an ASB Officer here.

After having read the recommendations put together in the Youth Action Plan, I feel very comforted as well as proud of our local government. However, I do have a few points that I would like to bring to your attention and have you consider.

Here at Interlake High School, we've had a really tough year. We've had a teacher-student sex scandal, a student suicide, and a lock down in response to a shooting threat. However, this has been quite the anomalous year in terms of student leadership at Interlake. Participation and student buy-in has reached never before seen levels (seriously, ask any teacher). The reason this happened was because a group of highly motivated people were elected into office and spent their time and energy toiling away to make the school a more fun, inclusive, and open-minded place. As a result, despite many of these tragedies and scandals here this year, Interlake has been able to push through and journey onto further achievement. Although I realize this proposal is specifically designed to smooth out the inequities within King County that plague people that have much more basic problems, I would like you to consider investing further into student leadership in schools as a way to build, as we call it, a second home for students. This way all students in public schools will have a level playing field at school regardless of the hardships that they must endure at home.

Thank you for your time and if you have any questions or would like to discuss further, I would love to hear back from you!

Thank you for your hard work Councilmember Dembowski!

Michael Lafreniere:

I only heard about this today, and it appears this was only posted to the web on March 25th? And I see no news release about it, and the comment period ends on April 1? Seems like more could be done to solicit public comment on this and the comment period should be extended.

Nancy Ashley:

Thank you for your vision and commitment to develop a comprehensive and strategic Youth Action Plan that considers scientific evidence as well as community wisdom in identifying strategies that have the greatest likelihood of providing vulnerable children with the greatest chance to maximize their potential.

I want to specifically endorse the statement on p. 19 of the Plan (and Recommendation #6 to invest early) that contains what I believe is the most important piece of information that policymakers and community members should have in deciding where to invest scarce resources:

... the latest advances in the science of brain development prove that the crucial years of pregnancy through early childhood are where investment can yield the greatest return. Healthier moms deliver healthier babies, while toddlers raised in an environment that fosters strong brain development enjoy a stronger pathway toward success.

Sharon K. Curley:

You are missing partnering with Tribes and for American Indian youth, in providing for services.

Our Drug Affected youth, and services that are needed for them due to their own parents addictions, as they grow older, there are no mental health services, work training, and structured activities for these youth that end up in the Foster care system, then as they become teens, foster parents have a hard time with them and then they end

Appendix D

up on the streets homeless and without and supportive services, help the Foster parents early and the youth, to stabilize their placements.

Mental Health, a lot of youth have been traumatized, sexually abused, drug trafficked, what is being done in your plan for these children.

Our State and County systems have little or no Mental Health.

Mike Stewart:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I applaud the effort of the Task Force. I would like to add that King County has seen a significant decrease in the amount of funding for early intervention services for children with special needs and their families. These services are critical in order to help children with special needs meet their developmental milestones. Simply stated, funding for early intervention services is insufficient.

Leslie Walker, MD:

I was most concerned about 2 things. One the age breakdowns don't make biological or social sense nor do they correspond to national data so they won't be comparable to see how the county is doing. 9-15 is concerning and 16-24 is concerning. 10-17 and 18-25 is more appropriate and standard. It doesn't make much sense to break up high school students as though they are different and with the new data we have on young adults it is very important to break them separate from under 18 years. I attached a link to our new report on young adults that I participated in at the National Academy of Sciences that show they have worse health status and functionality than adolescents and it is masked if you include all adults or adolescents. Our national recommendations can be of use in developing recommendations for young adults. Currently there are not any in the report specific to this age group even though there is an age break down that includes them. This is a common occurrence right now nationally that people include them in the age range but have no data or recommendations about them in their reports.

Our report helps to fill that gap. The only thing that might apply in the action plan is the reference to parenting and pregnancy, however mental health and substance abuse account for 2/3 of all sickness and death in this age group. Pregnancy makes up only a small part of unhealthy outcomes.

Infant mortality is not higher in this age group and in fact it's probably the best time biologically, socially it may be a different story depending on environment. Unwanted pregnancy is highest in this age group, prevention can help this of course.

<http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2014/Investing-in-the-Health-and-Well-Being-of-Young-Adults.aspx>

The partners that were listed were also concerning because there was no real balance of representation of health and it comes across in the report. The youth surveyed mostly adolescents rated health as one of the top concerns however it is not reflected in a separate section of recommendations and not in detail. Health needs for children, adolescent and young adults actually differ and they differ in how they need to be delivered.

What was great about the IOM report is that it did include 2 health professionals on the committee along with young adults that could help drive that part along with many other stakeholders. A few years ago I was involved in a National Academy of Sciences IOM report on adolescent called Missing Opportunities. I do not think those reports were reviewed nor their recommendations for this report. It would be good if you know who to forward this to so are reviewed.

I think it's great to come up with a youth action plan, but it should build on the best evidence to have the best success and not fall into disuse like other state and city plans have across the country that I have reviewed.

I would like a State plan that really looks at what our goal is and what it means to be a healthy productive adolescent or young adult in this State.

Currently it is defined by what is not happening like preventing STDs, preventing unwanted pregnancy, prevention high school drop outs prevention of incarceration and racism rather than rather than what should be happening and what a productive teen or young adult is in Washington looks like and how we get there. The absence of problems is not health and well being.

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I am happy to talk to anyone who is interested or present on the young adult report, I just gave a talk in Los Angeles on our findings and recommendations they are specific and comprehensive including racism, employment, incarceration etc. I think its important to really understand what it means to include young adults. It is different than adolescents, and the action plan survey did not really have many young adults 18-24 participating, and the questions may not have been tailored to their needs. I also did not see the parent survey if there was one but they are critical for adolescents and young adults as well in an action plan

Thanks for passing on if people would like a presentation on young adult health and well being and the IOM findings.

Jim Theofelis:

I write to commend the members of the Youth Action Plan Task Force for their dedication and concern for the needs of children, youth, and families throughout King County.

As an advocacy organization dedicated to improving foster care and ending youth homelessness, The Mockingbird Society is committed to working closely with our partners throughout this region to seek the best outcomes for our most vulnerable young people. We sincerely appreciate the Task Force's recognition of our involvement in shaping the county-wide standards for including and elevating the voices of youth and young adults.

Overall, we support the intent of the Youth Action Plan (YAP) and we are pleased to see the results of this inclusive, collaborative process. We also wanted to offer some specific points of feedback.

Recommendation Area 1 - Equity and Social Justice

We propose that recommendation (f) be revised and expanded to read: "Reduce the disproportionate number of young people that identify as LGBTQ and youth of color who experience homelessness." This language reflects and addresses concerns about racial disproportionality that have also been identified consistently through the Count Us In point-in-time count.

Recommendation Area 2 - Strengthen and Stabilize Families and Children, Youth and Young Adults

We want to express our full support for recommendation (c). The young people we work with consistently acknowledge the limited availability of shelter and housing resources for youth and young adults. They also advocate for case management and related services to receive additional support that would help improve and expand these programs' capacity.

In addition, our youth advocates have consistently called for better employment training and access, so we applaud recommendation (e), which would prioritize those opportunities.

Recommendation Area 3 - Stop the School to Prison Pipeline

Mockingbird has supported our statewide effort to address youth and young adult homelessness through the Washington Coalition for Homeless Youth Advocacy (WACHYA). This group, comprised of over 40 service providers, policymakers, funders, and stakeholders, helped to develop and promote the Homeless Youth Act, now being considered in the state legislative session. The bill would establish an important goal: ".That every homeless youth discharged from a public system of care in our state will not be discharged into homelessness." Therefore, we enthusiastically support recommendation (b)(6) that would convene cross-system partners to ensure successful education and housing outcomes for youth and young adults leaving jail.

Recommendation Areas 4 and 5 - Bust Silos/We're Better Together and Get Smart about Data

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We appreciate the discussion in these sections about the need for better data gathering methods, analysis, and data-driven decisions. At the same time, we want to ensure that the confidentiality and safety of children and youth is protected. We urge King County leaders to invest in solutions that will guarantee the security of data collection and storage systems; implement rigorous standards that consider the unintended and potentially harmful consequences of gathering confidential information; and collect the minimum amount of data required for specific purposes.

Recommendation Area 6 - Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Outcomes

We commend the YAP's focus on proactive, innovative funding. We ask you to add specific recommendations to support new resources to prevent and divert youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness; and to fund innovative programs and services that will help make youth and young adult homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time occurrence in King County.

Recommendation Area 8 - Youth Bill of Rights

Again, we want to express our appreciation to the Task Force for recognizing the importance of including youth voice when making decisions about programs and policies that will directly affect them.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in this effort. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Margaret Soukup:

Please include the work of Reclaiming Futures in the document of "things we are doing well". In 2014, the Reclaiming Futures Fellowship Team convened over 200 community members to create a Vision for Youth in King County to span 10 years (Available on the KC web page). In 2002, Seattle-King County was one of the 10 original sites nationally selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to participate in the Reclaiming Futures initiative; we are currently in the 13th year of sustaining the model. This initiative successfully enhanced current juvenile justice reforms and developed comprehensive model of care targeting youthful offenders experiencing mental health and substance use challenges.

In 2014, Reclaiming Futures expanded the model to provide Screening Brief Intervention and Treatment (SBIRT) to five middle schools in Seattle. This opportunity will expand our scope of Reclaiming Futures beyond juvenile offenders and offer prevention and intervention services to those youth who may be facing truancy interventions from a specific school or a formal truancy filing with King County Superior Court (KCSC), Juvenile Services.

Jessica Werner:

Youth Development Executives of King County - a coalition of 90 direct service non-profit organizations in King County - is enthused by the work of the Youth Action Plan task force and the opportunity for dramatically improving outcomes and eliminating disparities for the young people we collectively serve.

The action plan recommendations are bold and we look forward to being involved with the alignment and coordination of services towards common outcomes in the coming years. We want to highlight a few areas where we have comments or questions:

Outcomes and Data:

- We are very much in support of the notion of "contribution" towards outcomes (rec 5.i.4.) In a shift towards funding outcomes, we must support the notion that together we will reach the outcomes we want to achieve versus holding organizations accountable fully for a young person's success or failure. An aligned theory of change across the continuum and endorsed countywide could support this alignment and recognition of our collective contributions.

- The task force put forward recommendations of age group outcomes (Table 2, page 30). Will the

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recommendations around alignment towards outcomes (Rec 4a1, 5a) be based on the task force recommendations?

- Data use continues to be challenging for many. We support streamlining data collection efforts towards the most useful and actionable data, and eliminating ineffective or duplication of data collection requirements. Technical assistance and support of organizations to effectively use data is also critical in helping us to reverse our "data rich, information poor" environment.

Coordination:

- We want to highlight the importance of the coordinating and alignment function - at the county, with other system players, and on the ground in our communities. Relationships are key to coordination across systems and will require multiple individuals, not just one (Rec 3A) to support this function. Many of the recommendations will require programmatic changes at the point of service as well. Coordination of services and programs for youth is necessary at the school or community level. Investing in an adaptable model that includes coordination of services to ensure the kids that need them most are able to access programs is essential.

More Opportunities for Engagement:

- We know that there are too few programs and opportunities for young people around the county to engage in high quality, culturally relevant out-of-school time programs that help them avoid the school-prison pipeline and reach adulthood healthy and safe. Focusing on this opportunity gap through increased investment in youth development programs we feel is critical to the success of this plan (Rec 2d, 3d, 6). We must have enough programs and opportunities for young people delivered through direct service organizations and agencies.

Finally, we are excited by the recommendation for the potential of a table that can support the alignment of the multiple funders, governmental entities, school districts, and regional collective impact efforts that are often working in silos to improve outcomes for young people. Together, we believe we'll be better able to deliver on the promise that our region has, and eliminate the huge disparities we currently see.

Thank you for the dedication to our children, youth, young adults and families. We urge the support of the full County Council and County Executive to endorse the work of the King County Youth Action Plan task force.

Laurie Sylla:

Overall, this looks excellent. Very evident a lot of work and thought went into this.

Your vision statement:

King County is a place where everyone has equitable opportunities to progress through childhood safe and healthy, building academic and life skills to be thriving members of their community. I think this is grammatically incorrect. Progress is a verb, therefore you should be using adverbs like "safely" and "healthily" or reconstruct it so you are modifying "childhood," e.g., experience safe and healthy childhoods. Since this will likely be the County soundbite for our efforts, I think we should be grammatically on point.

Bottom of p9 I think you want to change highlight to highlighting
P. 29, under Healthy, I would specifically add smoking prevention

p.48 Under Solutions prenatal to 8 for academically/vocationally competent: I don't see anything in this solution area around affordability/subsidized pre-school or non-traditional hours of childcare. Many low income working parents/single parents cannot afford to pay several hundred dollars a week for child care or pre-school and make too much to qualify for DSHS subsidies.

Also finding quality, affordable childcare or pre-school resources for parents who work second shift is near impossible. I think this issue disproportionately affect immigrants who often need to accept jobs that are not first shift.

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One thing that I feel isn't spelled out strongly enough anywhere in this plan is the need to create *affordable* quality childcare/preschool programs for low income families (those earning more than 130% of poverty, but whose wages are less than/barely more than the typical costs of child care and pre-school programs currently available) and for childcare/preschool available during non-traditional hours (parents who work second shift). As the parent of young immigrant parents, I can tell you there are a dearth of resources in the county that can meet these needs. Quality childcare and preschool are essential for school-preparedness and socio-emotional growth. It is also important for developing English skills for children raised in homes where English is not their parents' primary language. It is not just the poorest in the county or those with special needs children, but those who don't typically qualify for DSHS assistance and who can't pay their rent, buy food, and enroll their children in programs that are good for their brain development, their social development, and their acquisition of knowledge. This is one of the most important gaps I see unaddressed in this report.

(p. 52) Under Equity and Social Justice a: We might also need to look at technical requirements for becoming providers/bidders and either modify them or provide TA and resources so smaller ethnic agencies can meet ADMINISTRATIVE requirements for working with county. I think the bigger challenges for these smaller agency are more around administrative capacity than quality of service.

(p. 52) Under Equity and Social Justice b: I would add some additional youth populations: homeless youth; youth in recover; drug-involved youth (not in CJ system)

(p54) Strengthen and Stabilize Families and Children, Youth and Young Adults

a2: add smoking cessation;

a5 them is confusing in this sentence structure. Who is getting the skills, education, and support, they need to thrive- the children or the parents? who is thriving- the children or the parents? Not clear what kind of support is being talked about here. Parenting classes? Childcare and pre-school?

a7: to who? In what settings?

B2. I would add affordable to the type of childcare

(p55)c. Ensure King County residents have stable housing; improve availability and access to shelter and housing for youth and young adults.

Seems there should be something about actually providing housing, not just case management and referrals to address this recommendation. You can't case manage yourself out of a 10%homeless rate of school children, as is the case in Tukwila.

(p56) Under School to Prison pipeline a: what about employing wrap-around programs and immediate access to MH services for children who are exhibiting disruptive signs of mental illness- Providing behavioral health intervention early can avoid need for juvenile justice intervention later.

(p57) c. Reduce the use of, and move toward eliminating, detention for non-violent crimes of youth under age 18 by:

1,2, and 3: You changed verb tense in this section to "ing" for the first verb in each sentence. Inconsistent with other sections and with second verb in sentences.

Kerry Beymer:

Here are a few of my comments on the plan.

* Just look carefully at the language you are using around Parents, caregivers and FFN. To me saying caregiver is enough it is a general and it covers all aspects of caregiving. Foster, Kinship, FFN, In home childcare etc. I think calling out FFN is not a good idea unless you want to call out all types of caregivers.

* when you are talking about giving a voice to children to me the voice is that of the parents, not the child.

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*I also think it is important that all state Early learning plans are in line with King County.

Rebecca L. Miner:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Youth Action Plan. Though I understand why the comment period was short, I wish that it had been longer so that I could have taken more time to review the plan and also spend more time formulating my comments.

Having attended the Youth Action Plan Community Conversation in Shoreline, it was easy to see that residents of the north portion of King County, particularly youth, are interested in engaging with the County. There was a wonderful energy from our community members as they participated in that work and a sense that we were able to contextualize the needs and interests of youth in our area in order to contribute a local perspective to the Youth Action Plan. To that end, I want to highlight on page 7 in the Executive Summary where it states "Youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include diverse youth/youth voices in authentic and meaningful ways" and on page 75 where it is indicated that "This principle [inviting youth to the policy table] applies to all individuals who are impacted by the services, programs and policies of King County" and "It is time for King County to effectively engage communities across the region by removing barriers that have previously prevented residents from successfully working with county government. Effective engagement enables all communities to participate in a way that fosters trust, creates more effective services, programs and policies, and supports community-led solutions." I want to emphasize that I think that the north end of the county, though smaller in population, has a variety of needs for our youth as well as young people who would like to engage in this work but for whom transportation, if all the meetings are always held centrally in the county, could pose a challenge. I think removing barriers, such as when a meeting was held in Shoreline, to north end participation is critical to make sure that our youth are well served by this work and also have the opportunity to support this work. Perhaps the document addresses the need to engage the various communities and some ways to do that and I missed seeing it in my review, but if it does not, I believe that the document should explicitly indicate that representation from throughout the county, both from youth as well as other community leaders is desirable if we are striving to meet the needs of all youth.

Lori Guilfoyle:

Members page- Darryl Cook, Calvin Lyons - looks like these got combined.

Page 22 - "The ordinance directs the County to focus on the populations with the greatest needs, particularly low-income populations, communities of color, and limited-English speaking populations. These populations are also concentrated in geographic areas, such as parts of South King County, where the greatest inequities exist." This is really important, in many places throughout the document "all" is used a lot - opportunities and resources for all children youth and young adults - we have to continue to pay attention to "where the greatest inequities exist" and allocate resources to SKC and invest deeply for the long term.

Page 52 - It appears in the strategies that the responsibility for racial equity is on those most affected by disproportionality and the organizations that are serving those groups. Yes, technical assistance for organizational development is important - the need outstrips the ability of most orgs to effectively serve the need. While ensuring the County "builds and promotes cultural competence" is a good thing to do, it has to be more than that. Maybe there should be technical assistance for the County to ensure the application process for the allocations of resources - money and other resources is truly equitable. Equity is about resources and power - and who has it and who doesn't. The County has to ensure that the money/budget significantly shifts to those most affected, served by those that can best serve. The loudest voices, the "best proposals" can't continue to get the resources if anything is going to change. I know resources are limited, but too often the organizations with the ability to write the grants get the funds and then they go to smaller, ethnic based organizations that have the ability to reach populations and are asked to partner or provide services without any compensation. Maybe an activity is to offer more than one application process for available funds and not have large and small organizations compete for the same funds. Have processes that are more focused on ensuring the resources have a long term effect in communities where disproportionality is greater. Too often an organization gets the grant to work in a community, they do the work and leave. Organizations with long term history with the community will stay in the

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community long past the grant is gone.

Maybe an additional statement: ensure equitable funding processes that shift allocable dollars to address disparities.

Page 57 - b, c and d - reduce the use of.. YES!!!! these are good strategies! Think about application for up to 24 year old. With what we know about brain development, not sure all crimes need to the adult system when someone turns 18.

Page 64 - yes innovation, but balance innovation with the ability to have stability in the system. Larger and longer term grants are needed and with innovation comes risk. How much risk is the County willing to take? There are many stages of innovation - will the County fund research and development of pilots? Implementation during a trial phase or just once the innovation proves itself and ready to be implemented and scaled. Nontraditional service delivery models that have promise or have showed strong results could be as important at innovation.

65 - Invest early - there still needs to be funding along the continuum - early upstream is very effective and likely gives us the strongest results, but young people are developing and may need intervention or programs that address crisis as well.

I really like the youth bill of rights - would like to see it earlier in the document recommendations, maybe second after equity.

Thank you to every one for their hard work!

Paula Steinke:

This is good work - kudos to all.

Look into the Strengthening Families Protective Factors (applicable to early childhood and youth) as a possible framework for aligning program outcomes and indicators. Talk with Strengthening Families @ DEL and look at www.cssp.org/reform/strengtheningfamilies

In Core principles related to community supports, I hope a "full range of formal/informal learning opportunities" refers to learning by children, youth and adults.

Suggest changing language that refers to people as "target populations."

Continue to hold community conversations. A little concerned at the total number - 37 - of parents participating to date.

I'm sure it's implied throughout, but don't ignore infant mental health (which means don't ignore parental mental health).

Really glad to see barriers identified as systemic and societal challenges. These are "wicked" problems, all intertwined, which do lend themselves to Collective Action. Learn from Strive and the national network.

The funding dashboard is illuminating with \$0 targeted at "civic engagement." How we define these goal areas is likely to be really important so keep in mind the interconnections. In a couple of tables I see "parent education/support" in "academic success" goal areas rather than "social and/or civic". I know it's difficult to parse because all aspects intersect, but I prefer the social and civic when talking about very young children.

Recommendation Area 1

Suggest separating cultural responsiveness and linguistic needs. Systems and programs are not currently responsive to the African American community, members of which do speak English.

Recommendation Area 2

The concept of "meeting the needs of the whole person starting before birth" is powerful and, if kept in mind as a central tenet, could truly transform outcomes for children and families in KC. Please make this happen.

Bring programs to communities. Intentionally include partnership and leadership components throughout planning and implementation to increase self-efficacy of all participants.

In talking about parenting and family support, please make sure to include mental health supports for parents.

Recommendation Area 3

Include young children in prevention of expulsion - many children of color are expelled from child care and preschool settings, often because of unidentified special needs or stressors. Support from specialists for such settings, especially those caring for infants and toddlers, has been decimated by funding cuts (Public Health).

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Good to see incarcerated or formerly incarcerated parents included. Strengthening Families @ DEL has a great partnership with Dept. of Corrections that could be used as a model and/or scaled. Contact Erinn Havig @ DEL.

Recommendation Area 4

Collective Impact does seem like a good model for a county-wide initiative. As a partner in Road Map and Eastside Pathways I offer this warning: beware of reinventing wheels! Build on existing successes, promising programs, and community strengths. Also, if you are looking for different outcomes, employ different structures and methodologies. An example is to select change agents to serve on an executive committee, not the usual leaders. Suggest inclusion of community at some point in process of determining outcomes and indicators (combine processes within letters a and b).

Agree with aligning early learning work with Birth-3 Comprehensive Plan and WA State Early Learning Plan with this caveat: statewide priorities are likely to differ from KC priorities due to demographics, especially related to FFN and family support.

Recommendation Area 5

Suggest inclusion of community at some point in process of determining outcomes and indicators. Strongly suggest application of an equity lens to identifying outcomes, indicators and methodology. The way questions are asked, and by whom, is an intrinsic part of what answers are elicited. Evaluation questions and methodologies are frequently not culturally responsive and have historically been used to damage communities of color.

Recommendation Area 6

Innovation: Enthusiastic agreement with this! Kaleidoscope Play & Learn is a great example; sustained funding by the VHSL has supported this model to become a promising practice. There are other emerging models that could achieve this level with long term funding, including funds for research & evaluation.

Invest Early: Enthusiastic agreement regarding funding with proactive approach. Please include family support and strengthening in your definition of prevention.

Also agree with funding outcomes, and recommend changing logic models or work plans to include interim outcomes to facilitate measurement over time. Please be careful with "evidence based" language which can severely limit innovation or adaptation of existing programs to serve diverse communities.

When considering "new resources for early childhood development" please include family support & strengthening in your definition. Programs and strategies that increase parent/caregiver self-efficacy can contribute to improved child outcomes and decreased child abuse and neglect.

Recommendation Area 7

Alignment among KC and external efforts is a good goal, but must take into account the current lack of alignment among CBOs, programs and initiatives. Would be a great task for KC and community advisory team to tackle.

Recommendation Area 9

Enthusiastically agree that revision of contracting to enable smaller CBOs to access funding is a great idea.

Packet Contents

We must develop much better early childhood indicators - unexcused absences, 3rd grade reading scores and CAN are insufficient.

Common Causes by theme - several of these seem related much more to school-aged children and youth (peer pressure, for example).

Beware of assumptions underlying comments such as "family not involved in child's education." If the comment is made by a service provider/educator, it may reflect bias and not the facts underlying the situation, such as parents who work double shifts, face linguistic or transportation barriers, or come from cultures where participating in children's formal schooling is not a norm.

Health - there is an opportunity to include child development education in secondary school so that all youth have a basic knowledge.

Cultural Navigator and FFN programs were conflated. FFN & Kaleidoscope Play & Learn are related to academic success but more directly focus on parent and caregiver education, thus civic & social engagement. Supportive of Protective Factors framework.

Mike Heinisch:

Thank you for the ordinance, 17738, leading to the development of this draft Youth Action Plan setting King County's priorities for serving its young people from infants through young adults. In addition providing this

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opportunity to make public comment on the plan.

I believe the "YAP" captures the priorities well in the three fundamental principles embedded within each of the YAP nine recommendations:

1. The well-being of children and families and youth and young adults should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, or immigrations status.
2. Youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include diverse youth/youth voices in authentic and meaningful ways.
3. Policy development, services, and programming should intentionally incorporate voices of the people impacted by the policies and services in authentic and meaningful ways.

All three of these principles are important with, in my opinion #1 THE most important.

Each of the nine Recommendations, taken together, create a whole approach to positive action and impact on children/youth and young adults (and their families). No one of them can stand alone and no one of them can be set aside without damage being done to the whole.

Since the adoption of Ordinance 17738 the landscape around King County action in support of children and youth has been enhanced significantly with the Transformation Plan work moving forward, the Communities of Opportunity being launched and Best Start for kids. Each adds to a potential new framework for supporting "kids" here in King County.

Worth noting to me is the dovetailing I recognize in the Executive's directive from yesterday, March 31, 2015, capping the number of detention beds at the new Children and Families Justice Center with all of these efforts from the past year. His comments along with Councilmembers and Superior Court judges underscore and relate directing to the various elements of the YAP. With the adoption of the YAP and, these other efforts on the part of King County, we will "do better," in fact "better" than "better" for children and youth here in King County as they eventually become reality not simply plans.