

# King County's 2025 Youth Action Plan

*Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee  
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 King County

**DCHS**

Department of Community  
and Human Services

# Overview

- Background
- Timeline
- Youth Action Plan Principles
- Overview of Recommendations
- Q & A



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# Youth Action Plan: Background

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- In 2014, King County council called for the development of a Youth Action Plan (YAP) to set King County's priorities for serving infants through young adults.
- In 2023, the community-driven King County Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB) called for the update of the Youth Action Plan, to recognize investments and reflect the current realities of young people.

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# Process, September 2023 – October 2025

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**Phase 1:** Reviewed and synthesized Youth Action Plan progress since 2015

**Phase 2:** Reviewed emergent themes with community and asked, ‘Did we get it right?’

**Phase 3:** Leveraged County expertise to further inform recommendation areas

**Phase 4:** Updated the Youth Action Plan section on how children and youth are faring in King County

**Phase 5:** Synthesized input, draft recommendations, gathered feedback

**Phase 6:** Finalized the report

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# Youth Action Plan Principles

 King County

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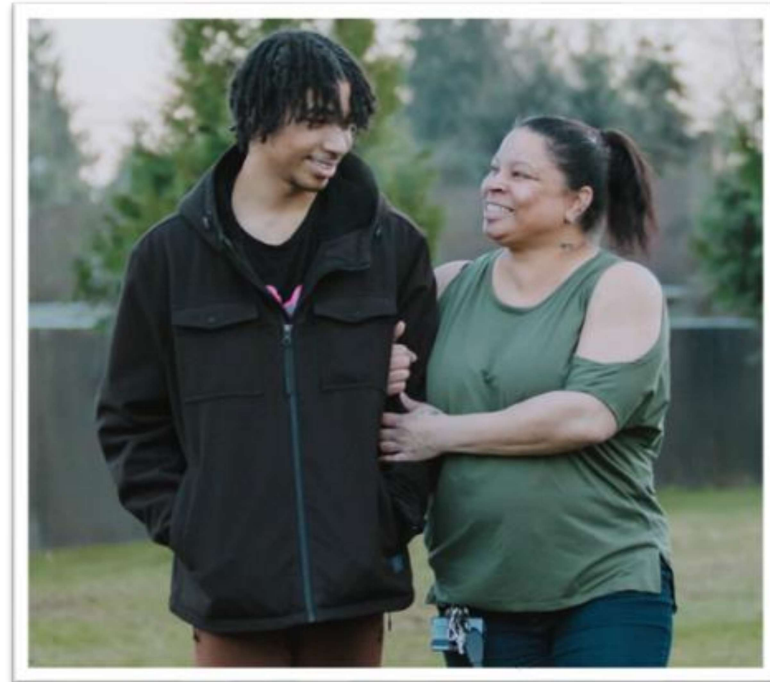
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1. Strive for optimal well-being, healing, and joy. [Not just the prevention of negative outcomes such as homelessness, unemployment, and incarceration.]
2. The well-being of children, youth, young adults, and families should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, and/or immigration status.
3. Child and youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include the people impacted by the policies and services in authentic and meaningful ways.

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# Youth Action Plan Recommendation Areas

1. Lead with Equity, Racial, and Social Justice
2. Strengthen and Stabilize Families, Children, Youth and Young Adults
3. Stop the School-to-Prison Pipeline
4. Strengthen Cross-sector Collaboration and Collective Impact
5. Be Data Informed and Data Inclusive
6. Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Community-Informed Outcomes
7. Implementation, Accountability, and Evaluation
8. Youth Bill of Rights
9. Strengthen the Community-Based Organization Ecosystem



## 2025 Youth Action Plan Recommendation Area:

### 2. Strengthen and Stabilize Families, Children, Youth, and Young Adults

2.1 Meet the **Basic Needs** of Children, Youth, and Families

2.2 Ensure the Well-being of **Pregnant and Parenting Persons** and Primary Caregivers

2.3. Improve Equity, Access, and Affordability of **Child Care**

2.4 Improve Access to **Expanded Learning** before and afterschool and in summer.

2.5 Expand **Behavioral Health** (Mental Health and Substance Use) Supports and Services

2.6. Increase Opportunities to **Engage Whole Families** in Youth Programming

2.7 Prioritize Services for those **Most in Need**

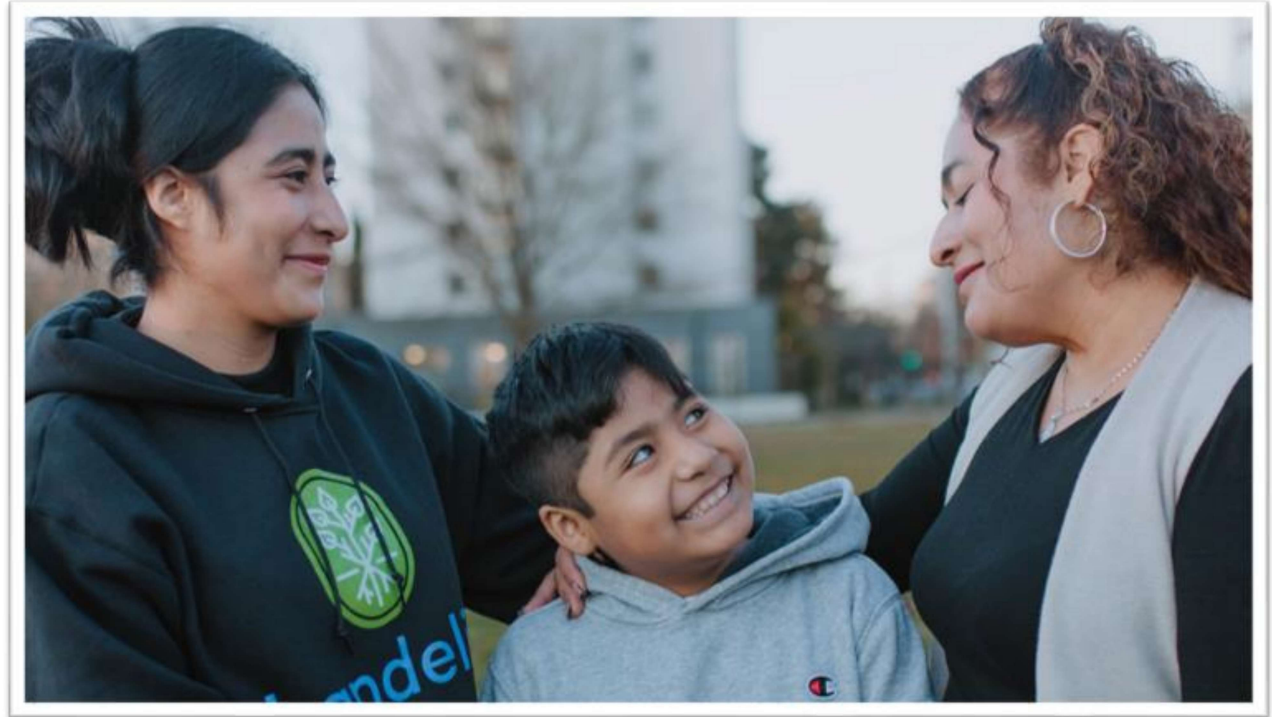
## 2025 Youth Action Plan Recommendation Area:

### 9. Strengthen the Community- Based Organization Ecosystem

- Increase the **ease of access for CBOs** to apply for and receive funding
- Recognize the **full cost of providing services** in contracts
- Fund **multi-year** grants and contracts
- Provide low barrier, low bureaucracy **capacity building support**
- Support the **ecosystem** of children and youth serving organizations through resource coordination and entities
- Partner with, and learn from, local and national philanthropic partners and other public funders to **ensure sector strength and sustainability**

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The King County **Youth Bill of Rights** and the **Youth Action Plan** provide a vision and foundation to guide King County's efforts to ensure the well-being of our region's young people over the next decade.



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