

Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight (LEWPRO) Task Force

August 18, 2022

9:00 am - 12:00 pm



Opening

Presented by:

Charice Pidcock, Special Assistant for Poverty Reduction, Community Services Division, Economic Services Administration, Department of Social & Health Services

Rules of Engagement



- Maintain a respectful body language, tone, and volume when sharing our opinions
- Value the many different sources of knowledge; listening to the entire message without editorializing or interrupting
- Act in ways that edify the group's self-esteem
- Seek first to understand before being understood
- Be honest and explain why
- Always assume good intentions; give people the benefit of the doubt
- Look for places to agree, connect, and support it helps us get to better solutions
- Make it a safe environment to share no personal attacks
- Listen to the entire message, literally, and mentally:
 - (a) don't interrupt we are modeling respectful behavior; and
 - (b) our listening implies that we care, even if we don't agree



Transforming Housekeeping: Task Force Members Lives

- Designated as "panelists" and will have the ability to participate
- All other attendees are muted
- Please use your reaction/hand raise buttons to ask questions, speak and vote
- Staff will count hands to determine outcome of votes



Housekeeping: Public & Non-Task Force Attendees



- Chat function is turned off
 - If you have questions during the meeting, please use the Q&A function
 - Q&A should not be used for comments or discussion
- Request to participate during 2 public comment periods by using the "raised hand" feature
- When it is your turn to speak, you will be "promoted" to panelist
- To keep us on time:
 - Green = 2 minutes remaining
 - Yellow = 1 minute remaining
 - Red = Time to move to the next speaker



Welcome & Introductions

Presented by:

Representative Mia Gregerson, 33rd Legislative District

Secretary Jilma Meneses, Department of Social & Health Services

Review/Approve Agenda & Prior Meeting Minutes

Presented by:

Representative Mia Gregerson, 33rd Legislative District

Topic	Time
Opening	5 minutes
Welcome and Introduction	10 minutes
Review/Approve Agenda	2 minutes
Review/Approve prior meeting minutes	3 minutes
Public Comment	10 minutes
Review 5-year Plan Implementation Tracking Tool	20 minutes
Poverty Reduction Sub-Cabinet Update	20 minutes
Universal Basic Income	20 minutes
Poverty Reduction Budget Proposals	15 minutes
Break	5 minutes
Prioritize Strategies/recommendations	25 minutes
Community/Stakeholder Legislative Strategies	20 minutes
Public Comment	20 minutes
Good of the Order	5 minutes





Quorum & Prior Meeting Minutes





Public Comment





Review 5-year Plan Implementation Tracking Tool

Presented by:

Babs Roberts, Director, Community Services Division, Economic Services Administration, Department of Social & Health Services

Implementation Tracking Tool





Implementation Tracking Tool

I like...

- The tool
- One collective place to capture the work, update, and public can see progress

I wish...

Also track
 initiatives that
 fail/unsuccessful,
 etc., to allow for
 lessons learned

I wonder...

- Is this a pilot, proviso, is there an end date?
- Is there more work to be done for categories with items next to them?
 Is there a way to identify what work needs to be done?
- Which platform might be best to do this work and address comments?
- Way to sort, filter, etc.?
- Can this be shared at combined cabinet meetings and add to it?
- Is there a way to capture the rigor expected to be successful toward the five year goal?

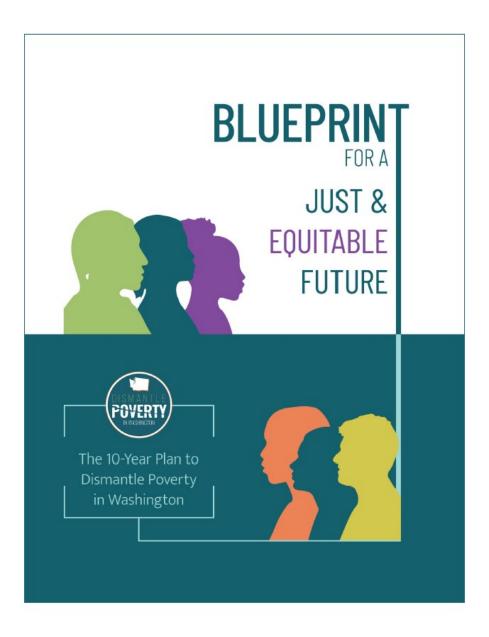
Poverty Reduction Sub-Cabinet Update & Universal Basic Income

Presented by:

Lori Pfingst, Senior Director, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Economic Services Administration, Department of Social & Health Services



8 STRATEGIES | 60 RECOMMENDATIONS



8 STRATEGIES POVERTYREDUCTION

ROOT CAUSES & BEYONI









- UNDO STRUCTURAL RACISM
 Understand structural racism and
 historical trauma and take action to
 undo how they manifest in state
 policy, program, and practice.
- BALANCE POWER

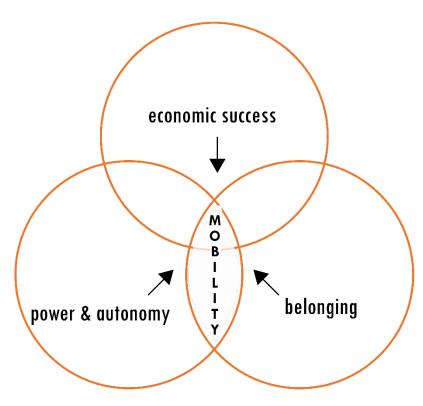
 Make equal space in decision-making for people and communities most affected by poverty and inequality.
- Target equitable income growth and wealth- building among people with low incomes.
- 4 ENSURE FOUNDATIONAL WELL-BEING
 Strengthen health supports across the life span to promote the intergenerational well-being of families.

- PRIORITIZE URGENT NEEDS

 Prioritize the urgent needs of people experiencing homelessness, mental illness, or addiction.
- BUILD A HOLISTIC CONTINUUM OF CARE
 Build an integrated human service
 continuum of care that addresses
 the holistic needs of children, adults,
 and families.
- DECRIMINALIZE POVERTY
 Decriminalize poverty and reduce reliance on the child welfare, juvenile justice, and criminal justice systems.
- PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK Ensure a just transition to the future of work.

GOAL

Build a just and equitable future in which all Washingtonians live with the dignity of having their foundational needs met and the opportunities they need to reach their full potential in life.





SUCCESSES (so far...)

- 25 recommendations immediately acted upon in 2021 legislative session
- \$1 billion invested in poverty reduction and homelessness in 2022 session
- Washington state poverty reduction efforts recognized as national best practice
- New Subcabinet on Intergenerational Poverty
- State agencies are using 10-Year Plan in building 2023-25 budget and policy priorities







2023 SUBCABINET PRIORITIES

Make Navigating Health and Human Services Easy

Modernize and streamline access to existing health and human service programs so that all Washingtonians receive benefits they are eligible for.

Increase Food & Housing Stability for Washingtonians

Increase cash/cash-like resources so that more children, adults, and families can meet their foundational needs.

Invest in the Generational Well-Being of Families

Invest in ample and affordable housing and child care so that Washingtonians can pass health, wealth, and well-being from one generation to the next.

Strengthen Communities' Ability to Partner

Create formal and equitable pathways for people and communities historically excluded from well-being so that their expertise and solutions are reflected in state policy, programs, and funding decisions.

NEXT STEPS

- Agencies finalize budget and policy requests
- Subcabinet agencies work in interagency teams
 - Align toward shared results that require agency collaboration
 - > Tell a better story
 - Be accountable to people and communities historically excluded from well-being
- Subcabinet continues to develop as a PEAR Team



2021-23 BUDGET PROVISO

ESSB 5092 Sec. 205(11)

"\$77,000 of the general fund—state appropriation is provided solely for the department to conduct a study, jointly with the poverty reduction work group, on the feasibility of implementing a universal basic income pilot program. The study must include research of other universal basic income programs, recommendations for a pilot in Washington, a cost-benefit analysis, operational costs, and an implementation plan that includes a strategy to ensure pilot participants who voluntarily quit a public assistance program to enroll in the universal basic income pilot will not experience gaps in service upon completion of the pilot. The department shall submit recommendations required by this section to the governor and appropriate legislative committees no later than June 1, 2022."



CATEGORY	SELF-IDENTITY	#	CATEGORY	SELF-IDENTITY	#
Gender	female	12		tribal indian	1
	male	6	Native Status	urban indian	1
	transgender woman	2		non-native	20
	transgender man	1		no disability	18
	non-binary, queer	1		neurological condition	1
Sexual Orientation	gay or lesbian	4	Disability	behavioral illness	2
	heterosexual	13	Status	limited mobility	1
	queer	3		hearing impaired	1
	bisexual	1		visually impaired	1
	pansexual	1		baby boomer	1
Race & Ethnicity	black	6	Generation	gen x	14
	white	5		millenial	7
	Latina/o/x	3		stably housed	15
	asian	2	Housing Status	experience w/ housing instability	7
	vietnamese	1	6:1:	U.S. born	18
	samona pacific-islander	1	Citizenship	naturalized citizen	3
	alaska native-tlingit	1		urban	10
	mexican american	1	Region	suburban	10
	american indian/white	1		rural	2
	mexican american/white	1			

A BASIC INCOME IN WASHINGTON SHOULD...



Honor the dignity of human beings by ensuring their foundational needs are met and pathways to selfdetermination are abundant.



End poverty by establishing a stronger economic floor with no cracks to fall through.



Contribute to racial equity and economic justice through a targeted universalistic approach.



Provide flexible resources that fill in the gaps of existing public assistance programs.



Value the act of caregiving and the role of caregivers, who are often unpaid for their contributions to families and communities.



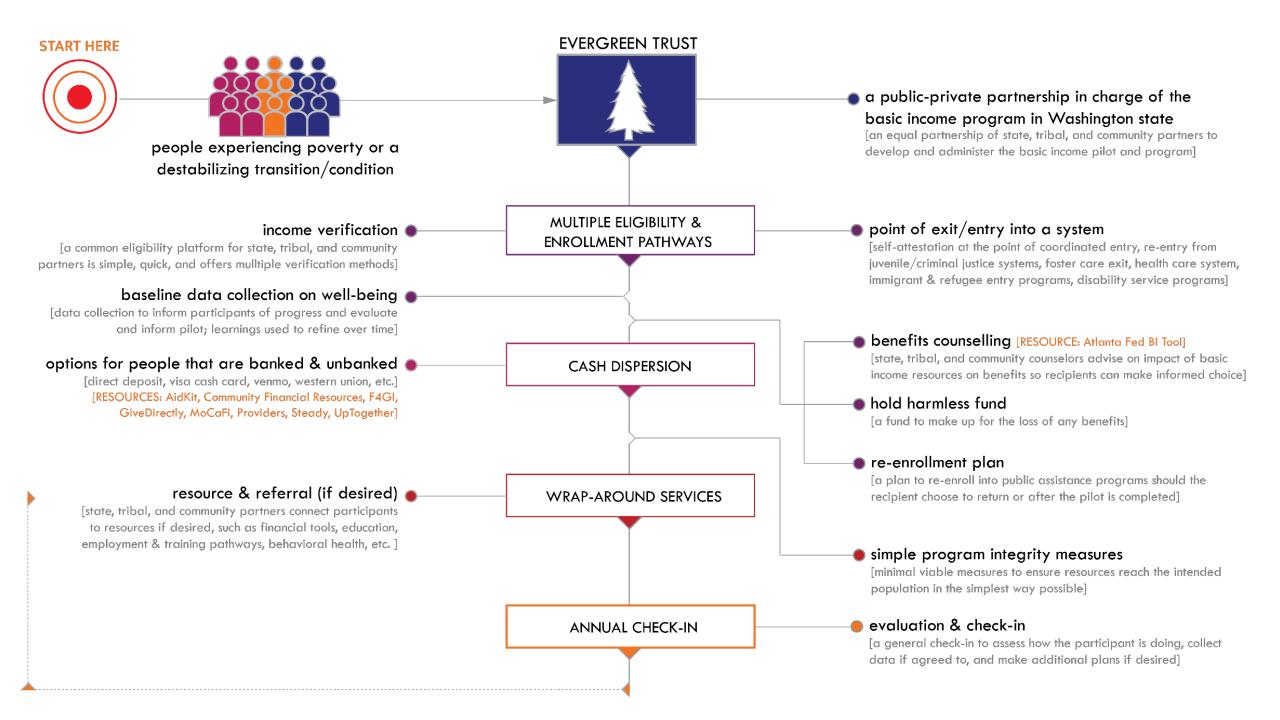
Ease the burden of accessing resources by elimnating oppressive conditions and requirements.

Establish the Evergreen Trust

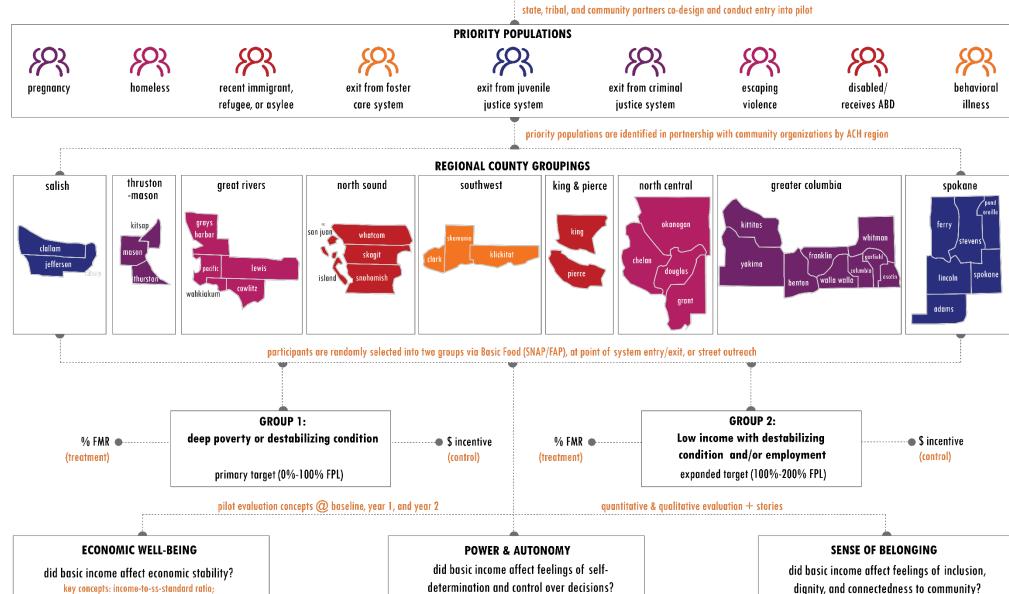
- State, tribal, and community partners that oversee all aspects of pilot
- 2-year pilot, with a targeted universalism approach focused on two groups:
 - > Group 1: Poverty with a high likelihood of at least one destabilizing condition or life transition
 - > Group 2: Low income with a destabilizing condition or life transition and/or employed
 - Each group has a control group so evaluation can inform a scaled statewide program
- Pilot participants receive a percentage of Fair Market Rent (FMR) as guaranteed income amount:
 - > Study includes estimates for 75%, 100%, and 120% FMR
 - Estimates are provided for sample sizes of 5,000; 7,500; and 10,000
 - > Study suggests recruitment by established Managed Care Regional county groupings

Range of GI Amount	75 %	100%	120%
Minimum – Garfield	\$587	\$783	\$940
Maximum — King	\$1,533	\$2,044	\$2,453









key concepts: psychological well-being; self-efficacy;

sense of control; stress

key concepts: closeness with others; social support; belonging;

ability to pay bills, enough food, stable housing, debt

PILOT COSTS

% FMR	SAMPLE SIZE		
	5,000	7,500	10,000
75 %	\$65 - \$80 million	\$98 - \$117 million	\$126 - \$155 million
100%	\$85 - \$104 million	\$126 - \$154 million	\$166 - \$204 million
120%	\$101 - \$124 million	\$150 - \$184 million	\$198 - \$244 million



COST-BENEFIT & EVALUATION

economic

stability

economic well-being food stability housing stability ability to pay bills reduced debt power & autonomy psychological wellness • feeling of self-efficacy control over decisions ability to plan for future connectedness to others belonging social support sense of beloging feeling hopeful



intergenerational

 greater engagement in community, work, or school

- less risk of involvement with justice systems
- less risk of homelessness

intermediate outcomes

- less risk of involvement with child welfare systems
- less use of public assistance

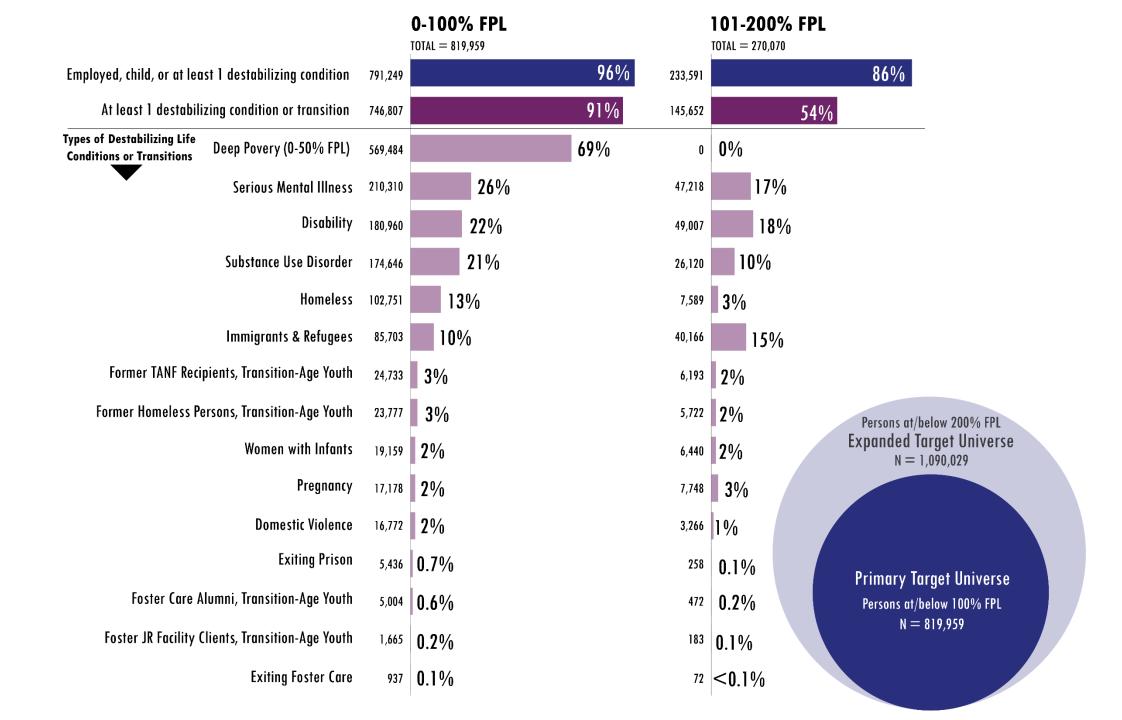
educational gains

improved health

long-term outcomes

higher earnings

asset & wealth building



Executive Summary

Public Webinars & Work Sessions

Opportunities for 2023 legislative session

THANK YOU!

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QUESTIONS?

Lori Pfingst | Iori.pfingst@dshs.wa.gov



Poverty Reduction Budget Proposals

Presented by:

Secretary Jilma Meneses, Department of Social & Health Services

Tony Bowie, Assistant Secretary, Economic Services Administration



Transforming Lives

Decision Package Review

Economic Services Administration LEWPRO

August 18, 2022

Tony Bowie, Assistant Secretary

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Transforming Lives

Poverty Reduction

Increasing Asset Limits for Public Assistance – To reduce disparities for individuals and families in need DSHS proposes to improve access to cash assistance for income-eligible households with retirement accounts, liquid resources above \$6000 and below \$25,000, and a vehicle valued at over \$10,000.

Budget Requests \$5,947,000 GF-State

Cash Grant Alignment with the need standard and inflation – DSHS proposes to align the Cash Grant with the need standard DSHS ESA proposes amending RCW 74.04.770 to require that the grant standard for cash assistance programs be set at either a specified percentage of the need standard or the prior year's grant standard, whichever is higher.

Budget requests \$48,664,000 GF-State

Smoothing the Cliff Effect - DSHS ESA proposes to allow households who are recipients of cash assistance, who gain new employment an option to maintain their full grant for six months by disregarding 100 percent of their new employment earnings. After six months, the current 50 percent disregard would apply.

Budget Request \$21,765,000 GF-State

Extending TANF Hardship - DSHS is requesting to make permanent TANF Hardship and eliminating time limits for ineligible parents, and to fund caseload impacts of making permanent an additional hardship TANF time limit extension (TLE) for all TANF applicants and recipients who have exhausted 60-months of cash assistance.

Budget request \$27,039,000 GF- State

Reducing Poverty for people with a work-limiting disability or incapacity

Removing the Interim Assistance Burden for Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Program Recipients — DSHS is requesting to remove the Interim Assistance Burden by amending RCW 74.62.005 and 74.62.030 and eliminate the interim assistance repayment requirement for Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) program

Budget request \$39,218,000 GF-State

Restoring Cash Assistance to Clients with an Incapacity - to amend RCW 74.04.805 and RCW 74.62.030 to restore cash benefits to individuals who are incapacitated from gainful employment because of a physical or behavioral health incapacity that is expected to continue for a minimum of ninety days.

Budget requests \$13,823,000 GF-State

100% Pass Through of Child Support – DSHS request to Amend RCW 26.23.035 to allow 100% of child support (current only) collected to pass-through to the custodial TANF/SFA family. Any pass-thru is not counted as income against cash grants.

Budget Request \$8,756,000

Other Policy level requests NOT tied to Legislative change

Increasing Access to AREN

DSHS, ESA requests \$3,766,000 GF-State to restore the maximum Additional Requirements Emergent Need (AREN) payment to \$1500 in order to better assist families with urgent housing needs.

AREN is an emergency assistance program for families who receive TANF but need additional help to prevent an eviction or a utility disconnection.

Improving Program Access

DSHS, ESA requests (8.4) FTEs and \$12,829,000 GF-State to eliminate the Eligibility Review (ER) interview requirement for recipients of the Aged, Blind or Disabled (ABD) and Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral programs as well as eliminate the requirement for a Mid Certification Review (MCR) for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and State Family Assistance (SFA) recipients. These changes would eliminate a significant barriers to continued program access.

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

060 - PL - QN - Expanding OAR

DSHS, ESA requests \$3,203,000 GF-State and .5 FTE to expand Ongoing Additional Requirements (OAR). This includes extending eligibility to the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral population; modernizing OAR benefits to include transportation, dentures, hearing aids, optometrist visit for eyeglasses, eyeglasses, internet service, and care of service animals including boarding, grooming, and veterinary costs; and increasing the payment standards for existing services.

OAR is a state funded payment that meets a need beyond the basic essentials of food, clothing, and shelter, which are necessary to enable a person to continue living independently. This benefit is available for individuals or families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD); Supplemental Security Income (SSI); and Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA).

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Break time

Transforming Lives





Prioritize Strategies & Recommendations

Presented by:

Secretary Jilma Meneses, Department of Social & Health Services

Babs Roberts, Director, Community Services Division, Economic Services Administration, Department of Social & Health Services

Transforming Lives

Simple Decision Matrix Example

	Inexpensive	Requires Legislation 0 = yes 1 = no	Fewest Resources	Total	Sorted Rank
Option 1	7	1	7	15	1
Option 2	4	0	2	6	4
Option 3	6	1	5	12	2
Option 4	2	1	3	6	4
Option 5	1	1	1	3	5
Option 6	5	0	4	9	3
Option 7	3	0	6	9	3

Weighted Decision Matrix Example

	Inexpensive	Requires Legislation 0 = yes 1 = no	Fewest Resources (x5)	Weighed Total	Unweighted Total	Weighted Rank	Unweighted Sorted Rank
Option 1	7	1	7 x 5 = 35	43	15	1	1
Option 2	4	0	2 x 5 = 10	14	6	6	4
Option 3	6	1	5 x 5 = 25	32	12	3	2
Option 4	2	1	3 x 5 = 15	18	6	5	4
Option 5	1	1	1 x 5 = 5	7	3	7	5
Option 6	5	0	4 x 5 = 20	25	9	4	3
Option 7	3	0	6 x 5 = 30	33	9	2	3

Prioritize Strategies Overview





Prioritize Strategies/Recommendations

Duplicate this slide for step 2: Consider whether weighting is needed for any of the criteria

Step 1: Identify the criteria

What criteria should be considered when thinking about how to prioritize the strategies and recommendations? (For example: easy to do, inexpensive, requires legislation, etc.)

- Reform actually removes poverty
- # people served
- Alleviating poverty
- Expand/replicate pilots, scalability
- Data based research
- Leverage existing work
- Expand on current population served
- Remove institutional barriers or dismantle them
- Serve new population
- Difficulty to implement (operationally and bi-partisan)
- Infrastructure (i.e., Budget, etc.)
- Sustainability
- Community voice
- Who is being serve is it serving those underrepresented
- Significant Impact
- Economic impacts on economic recovery (housing, jobs,
 etc.)
 Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

- Other barriers (affordability, access, etc.)
- Cost per person served
- Lead to self-sufficiency
- Equity lens
- Return on investment (ROI)
- Long term impact
- Short term impact (refugees, etc.)

Prioritize Strategies/Recommendations

2b: Institutionalize the

decision making by

stakeholders on the

reduction.

3a-viii: Increase

adults who are

pathways.

workers.

with local labor

opportunities for

practice of including people

most affected by poverty in

establishing a state-level

entity to collaborate with

implementation of the

strategic plans for poverty

Washington students and

disconnected from the

educational system to

prepare for and access

3e: Work in partnership

organizations and the

government to modernize

unions and the rights of

4e: Increase funding to

appropriate outreach for

support culturally

affordable and high quality

post-secondary educational

Step 3: Rank each strategy/recommendation by the criteria [INSERT CRITERIA]:

1a: require state entities to collaborate with emerging Office of Equity to develop trainings on historical trauma, institutional racism, and implicit bias that are required of all public employees in systems that touch upon the lives of people experiencing poverty.

3a-iii: Replace discipline

practices in schools with

engagement supports.

4b: Ensure funding and

access to culturally and

linguistically appropriate

health care and support

after pregnancy.

job training, and

employment.

5d: Develop stronger

services before, during, and

public-private partnerships

to increase opportunities

for supported education,

emotional, and

culturally responsive social,

2a: Invest greater state resources in partnerships with communities of color and other groups most affected by poverty, so solutions are customized and sensitive to cultural and linguistic needs

3a-vii: Remove residency barriers for college students with refugee status.

3d: Enact changes to the state tax system that lower the effective tax rate for low- and moderate-income households (bottom two auintiles).

4d: Ensure access to free and low-cost counseling and contraceptive options.

5f: Improve access to prevention, treatment, and recovery support services

5c: Increase the number of emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive housing options.

6f: Revamp policies, programs, and practices to inspire hope and build resilience.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), the **Farmers Market Nutrition** Program and Senior **Farmers Market Nutrition** program.

and TANF Program Improvements. 7h: Connect children,

2c: Task the emerging

Indigenous, Black, and

Brown Washingtonians to

develop a formal process

for truth and reconciliation.

3a: Adopt the Washington

Kids for Washington Jobs

recommendations, and

bolster these with more

3f: Adopt the Child Care

Collaborative Taskforce

increase the availability of

affordable, high quality

4f: Increase in-home

their home and avoid

behavioral health

settings and K-12.

Medicaid funds for

early care and education.

supported living for seniors

so they can receive care in

costly residential programs.

5g: Improve integration of

treatment in early learning

recommendations to

specific, intentional

equity.

strategies to achieve

Office of Equity to

collaborate with

6g: Implement WorkFirst

3a-i: Increase funding to accelerate the process of naturalization for immigrants, refugees, and

asylees.

3a-ii: Strengthen literacy programs and services for children and adults across the entire education and workforce-development pipeline.

pipeline. 3a-iii: Replace discipline practices in schools with culturally responsive social, emotional, and

engagement supports.

3a-ii: Strengthen literacy

programs and services for

children and adults across

the entire education and

workforce-development

Duplicate this slide so that there

is one slide for each of the

criteria listed in step 2:

3h: Enact changes to the tax system that support equitable economic growth.

5b: Increase state and local

rental assistance and

allow children, youth,

to make ends meet.

and connect them to

support services when a

child or adult is at risk of

entering the juvenile or

criminal justice systems

7b: Rapidly engage families

diversion programs that

5a: Provide greater resources for communityled data collection.

3a: Adopt the Washington

Kids for Washington Jobs

recommendations, and

bolster these with more

3a-i: Increase funding to

accelerate the process of

immigrants, refugees, and

3g: Increase and preserve

affordable housing for

renters and owners.

naturalization for

specific, intentional

equity.

asylees.

strategies to achieve

6a: Develop a shared set of outcomes for individual. child, and family wellby structural racism and collectively held

7j: Expand and strengthen post-release family and peer support services

4a: Create a state funded supplemental Apple Health assistance benefit.

5c: Increase the number of emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive housing options.

5c: Increase the number of emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive

housing options. 6c: Develop a universal

intake, data sharing, and technology platform so that essential information on people served can be shared across agencies, systems, and sectors.

7c: Increase in-home assistance and support services to keep children in the care of people and environments that make them feel the most stable and safe.

1b: Require state entities to collaborate with the emerging Office of Equity to develop data, processes, and tools that prioritize racial equity in state government policies, programs, practices and partnerships.

3a-vi: Increase the availability of affordable child care and housing for student parents on or near college campuses.

3b: Enforce stronger salary 3c: Incentivize, promote and wage transparency and and expand access to noor low-cost financial fair labor practices among employers to ensure pay resources and education that empower, rather than equity for women and people of color. prey upon, people experiencing poverty.

> 4c: Expand culturally and linguistically appropriate voluntary home visiting so all families who are eligible can receive it.

5e: Create a Medical-Financial Partnership model for Washington state

6e: Smooth on-ramps and off-ramps for programs.

6d: Increase cash 7e: Expand education, job assistance and test the training, and employment impact of making it unconditional upon work. opportunities for children

7f: Review and reform Legal Financial Obligations and adults while they are in (LEOs)

7g: Provide adequate funding to increase the availability of safe,

adults, and families to public assistance and

support services

7i: Eliminate education and

Management

7a: Decriminalize and destigmatize poverty by shifting resources toward diversion, treatment, and

adults, and families to avoid homelessness. 6b: Update "Standard of Need", assistance levels,

being, in partnership with communities most affected poverty that each agency is

6h: Transform Case

and eligibility to reflect the real costs of what it takes for individuals and families

accountable to achieve.

Community/Stakeholder Legislative Strategies





Public Comment

Transforming Lives









Good of the Order

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2022 9:00 am - noon

