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

May 15, 2025 9:00 am - 12:00 pm



















## **Meeting Goals**

- Hear from the Community and the public
- Understand Economic Justice Alliance work around the state
- Hear from the Advisory Council
- Learning about the intersection of Poverty and Technology ongoing learning series
- Understanding federal and state legislative happenings

## **Mutual Expectations**

- 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
  - o (b) our listening implies that we care, even if we don't agree









#### Housekeeping



#### **Task Force Members**

- 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



#### **Public 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 unmuted

#### **Your Team - Behind the Scenes**

- Facilitator: Babs Roberts, Senior Advisor
- Lori Pfingst, Senior Director
- Livey Beha, Senior Program Manager
- Gwen Teok, Senior Analyst
- Lindsay Morgan Tracy, Innovator-in-Chief
- ASL Interpreting services provided by Universal Language Services:
  - Brenda Howe
  - Anne Miller

#### **Welcome & Introductions**

#### Presented by Co-Chairs:

- Representative Mia Gregerson, 33rd Legislative District
- Secretary Cheryl Strange, Department of Social & Health Services

#### Welcome to new members:

- Senator Liz Lovelett, 40<sup>th</sup> Legislative District
- Tim Reynon Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
- Colleen Thompson Department of Health

## **Consent Agenda**

Presented by:

Secretary Cheryl Strange, Department of Social & Health Services

Items for Approval:

- May 2025 Meeting Agenda
- November 2024 Meeting Minutes
- TANF Spending plan report

Items for Information: WorkFirst Performance Measures | DSHS

## **Public Comment**

Listening



## **Economic Justice Alliance**

**Update - Discussion - Requests** 



#### **Advisory Council Update**

In Conversation With Your Advisory Council Co-Chairs



Johnathan Hemphill Lived Expert



Amy Martinez
CEO, South Central Workforce

#### **Alliance Architecture**



#### **LEWPRO Business**

**Develop Ad Hoc Working Groups as needed:** 

Starting with RCW / Bylaw updates

**Congressional Letter/Fact Sheet** 

## Intersection of Poverty and Technology - Foundation

Learning & Discussion



## Federal Funding Landscape

Learning & Discussion





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

May 15, 2025



2025-27 Biennium									
Administration	<u>FTE</u>	GF-S		<u>Federal</u>		<u>Local</u>		<u>Total</u>	% Federal
Behavioral Health	5,487.5 \$	1,432,438	\$	212,281	\$	15,151	\$	1,660,550	12.8%
Developmental Disabilities	4,902.8 \$	3,034,770	\$	3,043,719	\$	23,987	\$	6,104,496	49.9%
Aging & Long-Term Support	3,010.6 \$	5,572,366	\$	6,839,614	\$	122,541	\$	12,907,252	53.0%
Economic Services	3,938.4 \$	1,472,591	\$	1,910,479	\$	5,002	\$	3,394,476	56.3%
Vocational Rehabilitation	329.6 \$	51,368	\$	121,507	\$	-	\$	172,875	70.3%
Administrative & Support	1,284.8 \$	249,855	\$	152,146	\$	-	\$	402,001	37.8%
Special Commitment Center	433.7 \$	161,189	\$	-	\$	-	\$	161,189	0.0%
Payments to Other Agencies	0.0 \$	151,475	\$	67,585	\$	-	\$	219,060	30.9%
Technology Innovation	0.2								
Consolidated Field Services	149.4								
Total	19,536.9 \$	12,126,052	\$	12,347,331	\$	166,681	\$	25,021,899	49.3%

92% of federal funding from 3 federal grants

- \$10.2 B Medicaid Funding
- \$ 876M TANF Funding\$ 225M SNAP Funding



#### What Do We Know?

- We expect the president to unveil his proposed budget later this month. Congress will then craft and work to pass its own budget to be signed by the president by the end of September.
- Until Congress passes, and the president signs a budget, the status of federal funding remains uncertain.



## How is DSHS Preparing for Federal Funding Uncertainties?

- Creating modeling tools to allow the agency to quickly determine service coverage changes in the event of federal funding reductions:
  - Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)
  - Federal Poverty Level (FPL), by service area
- Performing an agency-wide inventory of federal funding sources.

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• Compiling client stories to illustrate how potential federal funding cuts will affect Washingtonians receiving DSHS services/support.

#### **Client Stories**

#### Meet the people navigating health and human services

**APRII 2025** 



**Gender:** Female

**Age:** 26

Lives with: Two children (ages 3 and 9 months)

**Employment and Income:** WorkFirst

Benefits: TANF, Basic Food (\$432/month), and Apple Health



Olivia's Story: Olivia is a client who has received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash benefits for the past 11 months. She is a single mother of two children who is gaining work experience through WorkFirst and managing/getting care for her mental health. Her family also receives Basic Food benefits and she and her children are enrolled in Apple Health. Without TANF and WorkFirst support, Olivia's family would struggle to make ends meet and she would not be able to focus on her mental health while gaining important work skills. TANF support allows Olivia to work toward economic stability.

Note: Name is changed, and a stock image is used to protect privacy. Photo: Getty Images/Djavan Rodriguez

## **Legislative Updates**

Updates & Discussion



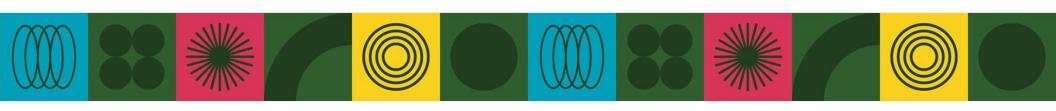
## **Public Comment**

Listening



## **Good of the Order**

Closing





## Thank you.

