

Transforming
Lives

Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Poverty Reduction Oversight Task Force

December 3, 2020

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Task Force Business
 - a. Review and confirm prior meeting minutes
 - b. Task Force membership
 - c. Advisory Committee members
- III. Overview of TANF spending plan
 - a. Expenditures to date
 - b. 15% reductions
 - c. Incentives for Commerce Community Works participants
- IV. Child Welfare Coalition and the 5-year plan
- V. Food insecurity issues
- VI. Public Comments

WorkFirst Monitoring and Projection for SFY21

State Fiscal Year 2021 - As of October 31, 2020

(Dollars in Thousands)

(Updated: 12-1-2020)

DSHS - Economic Services Administration (ESA)

ESA - Assistance to Clients (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(b))

	Spending Plan	Disbursements & Accruals thru October 31, 2020	Total SFY2021 Projection	Variance (Spending plan-Projection)
TANF Grants (WorkFirst) (note 1)	129,190	57,524	168,284	(39,094)
Diversion Assistance	2,487	165	920	1,567
Subtotal - ESA Assistance to Clients	131,677	57,688	169,204	(37,527)

ESA - WorkFirst Services (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(c))

Tribal TANF - State MOE	12,545	7,117	12,545	-
DSHS - Interpreters	1,385	171	878	507
DSHS- Local Contracts	6,878	868	3,479	3,399
DSHS - Limited English Proficiency (LEP)	5,600	1,422	5,600	-
ESD - Job Search & Placement	13,490	2,343	10,686	2,804
SBCTC - Education & Training	14,484	3,243	11,707	2,777
Commerce Dept. - Subsidized & Community Employment, LEP	20,058	2,894	13,049	7,009
Working Family Support	1,000	173	830	170
Home Visits	2,190	418	2,190	-
Subtotal - ESA WorkFirst Services	77,630	18,649	60,964	16,666

ESA - Child Care (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(d))

Child Care Subsidy	176,701	58,904	176,701	-
Subtotal - ESA Child Care	176,701	58,904	176,701	-

ESA -Child Welfare Services with in DCYF (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(e))

Child Welfare Services	34,248	11,416	34,248	-
Subtotal - ESA Department of Children, Youth and Families	34,248	11,416	34,248	-

ESA - Overhead & Administration (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(f))

DSHS Staffing Operations	68,880	20,225	64,727	4,153
Subtotal - ESA Overhead and Administration	68,880	20,225	64,727	4,153

Total State and Federal - ESA (ESSB 6168, Section 205(1)(b) through Section 205(1)(j))	489,136	166,883	505,844	(16,708)
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Other

Tribal TANF - Federal	24,003			
DSHS - Overhead	12,369			
Total - Other	36,372			

Total WorkFirst Spending Plan	525,508			
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TANF Spending Plan

- 15% reductions



TANF Spending Plan

- 15% reductions
- Incentives for Community Works participants



5-Year Plan: DCYF and Child Welfare Coalition

STRATEGY 7: Decriminalize poverty and reduce reliance on the child welfare, juvenile justice, and criminal justice systems that exacerbate its intergenerational effect.

DCYF Strategic Overview

December 3, 2020

www.dcyf.wa.gov



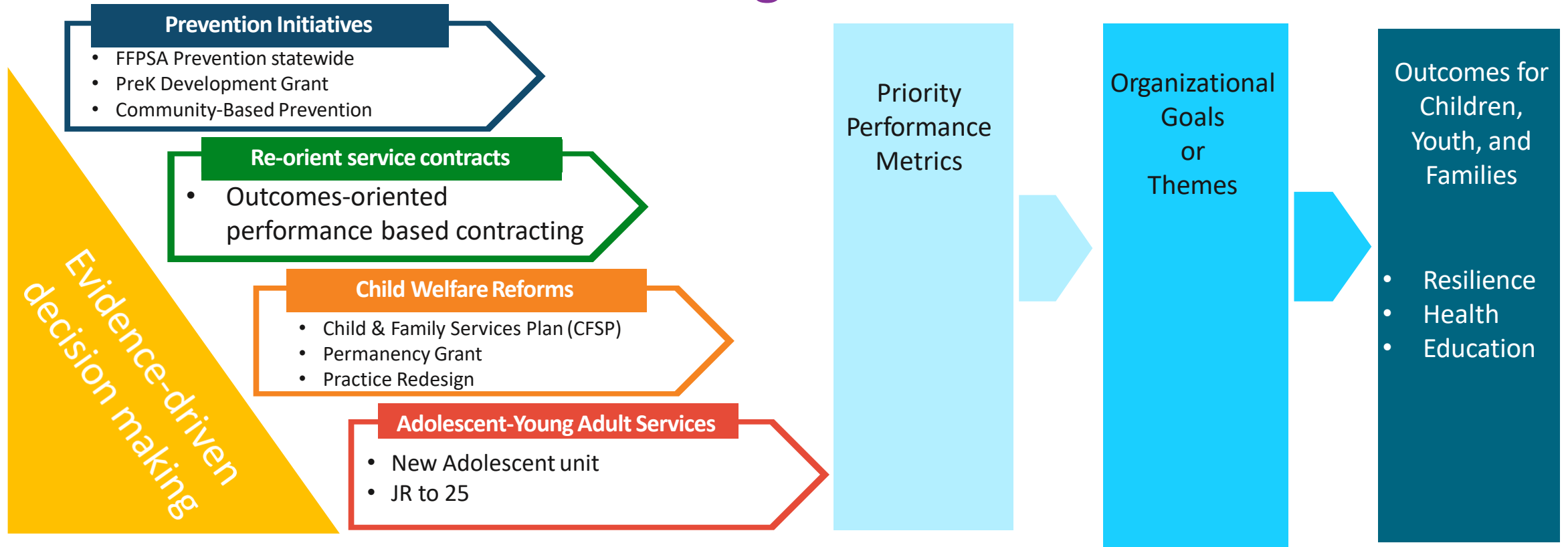
Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

DCYF Agency Strategic Plan

Nicole Rose, Director of Eligibility and Provider Supports



DCYF Strategic Framework



System Supports

For Managers & Supervisors – building and sustaining new skills, abilities, knowledge; change management, systems thinking

For Line Staff – workforce supports, clear expectations, supportive supervision, communication/information

For Evidence-Driven Decision Making – data availability, evidentiary support, integrated data warehouse, modern IT infrastructure

For Reform – implementation science, process improvement supports, fidelity monitoring

DCYF Draft Strategic Priorities 2021-2026

Agency Priority		Focused Agency Work
EQUITY	Eliminate racial disproportionalities and advance racial equity	Adopt racial equity and social justice as core agency values
		Build capacity for liberatory, human-centered, and healing-centered design across DCYF
		Center experiences of BIPOC children, youth, and families
		Ensure assessments and programs are equitable across DCYF

DCYF Draft Strategic Priorities 2021-2026

Agency Priority		Focused Agency Work
INTENTION	Safely reduce the number/rate of children in out-of-home care by half	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement and expand effective secondary prevention • Safely reduce placement rates • Reduce length of stay • Improve service availability
	Create successful transitions into adulthood for youth and young adults in our care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance stability and quality of adult relationships • Strengthen therapeutic environments • Strengthen partnerships to enhance availability of services/supports needed by young people (e.g. education, housing, behavioral health services)
	Create high quality integrated B-8 system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with K-12 partners on Integrated Pre-K • Support recovery of childcare industry • Expand access to infant/toddler supports and services • Expand access to affordable high quality child care & developmental services

DCYF Draft Strategic Priorities 2021-2026

Agency Priority		Focused Agency Work
CAPACITY	<p>Improve quality and intention of our practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support staff as our most valuable resource • Enhance supportive supervision and management • Evaluate and re-design child welfare practice model • Re-dedication to JR residential therapeutic model (DBT)
	<p>Improve quality and availability of provider services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency-wide implementation of performance-based contracting • Expand access to effective and needed services • Enhance service matching at individual & population levels • Identify opportunities to integrate contracts and management

Juvenile Rehabilitation Strategies

Allison Krutsinger, Deputy Director of Government Affairs

Kathleen Harvey, Director Community, Reentry and Parole



Create successful transitions into adulthood for youth and young adults in our care through

Agency Request Legislation to Expand Therapeutic Options in Less Restrictive Community Settings

- Currently only available to a very small number of individuals with adult sentences
- Consider developmentally appropriate programs for successful reentry
- Progressively supportive, less-restrictive option with therapeutic supports for young people reentering community
- Utilizing electronic home monitoring as a tool embedded in a community approach

By increasing access to needed community transition services:

- Provides housing assistance
- Connects to community based behavioral health treatment, independent living, employment, education, and family and cultural opportunities
- Currently 50% of youth releasing with no support

Eases the bottleneck due to limited capacity of community facilities

- Only 25% have access to community facilities



Decision Package

Less Restrictive Environments for Young People in JR

1. **Expand Least Restrictive Options – support reduction in racial and ethnic disparities**

- Expand community facility capacity
- Create options in lieu of incarceration for step-down alternative — Community Transition Services (ARL)
- Expand reentry aftercare support for all young people
- Quality Assurance on the Risk Assessment Tool



Decision Package: Provide SUD treatment and Dialectical Behavior Therapy

2. Provide Necessary Behavioral Health Services To Youth in JR

- Provide substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for the nearly 58% of youth with identified treatment needs who do not receive it
- Provide high-fidelity, culturally-responsive Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) to young people up to age 25 with complex mental health needs



Child Welfare

Kwesi Booker, Assistant Secretary, Field Operations

Steve Grilli, Director of Child Welfare Programs



Field Operations Update

- Field Operations Racial Equity Social Justice team
- Identifying and addressing racial bias during the Intake process
- CPS/FAR/Foster care
- Exploring Race Blind removals



Prevention and FFPSA

- Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), signed into law February 9, 2018, focuses on creating new opportunities for states to receive federal reimbursements for services that aid in preventing children from entering foster care and improving the well-being of children already in the system.
- Family First is not an infusion of new federal funding to states – it's redirecting existing federal funds to prevent those at imminent risk from entering foster care.



Prevention Pathways



A family that has identified Prevention needs has a series of ways they can receive assistance and services

CPS Family Assessment Response (FAR)

For cases where allegations are considered to be low to moderate risk and are non-emergency, the family would be eligible for a FAR assessment versus an investigation. If in addition, the child(ren) can remain safely in the home with the safety plan, the case remains in FAR for ongoing service provisions.

DCYF is considering an FFPSA prevention pilot with some FAR units as part of the implementation for the FFPSA Prevention plan.

CPS Family Voluntary Services (FVS)

After a CPS investigation, if the family is identified as being moderately-high or high risk (SDM) for future abuse or neglect and the child(ren) can remain safely in the home, the case is transferred to FVS.

FVS will develop a prevention plan, monitors ongoing safety, risk and progress and provides services to address the needs of the family.

This pathway is part of the initial implementation phase for the FFPSA Prevention plan.

Additional DCYF Program

There are multiple programs within DCYF that can provide Prevention support to families. Children on trial return home following placement, Family Reconciliation Services (FRS), youth discharged from state Juvenile Rehabilitation services and potentially others.

DCYF is interested in exploring how FFPSA Prevention services can support these families in these programs.

This pathway will be part of future implementation for the FFPSA Prevention plan.

Community

There are Washington Families that are not yet involved with Child Welfare, but may demonstrate risk factors for involvement

DCYF is interested in developing a pathway to ensure these children and families are supported in their communities.

We will look to our community partners to help in developing the best way to meet these families' needs.

This pathway will be part of the future implementation for the FFPSA Prevention Plan.

Washington State's Candidates for Prevention Services

- CPS Family Assessment Response (FAR)
- CPS Investigation
- Family Voluntary Services (FVS)
- Children on trial return home following placement
- Substance Abusing Pregnant Women
- Adoption Displacement
- Family Reconciliation Services (FRS)
- State Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) discharge
- Pregnant or parenting Foster Youth
- Pregnant or parenting JR Youth
- Children with developmental disabilities and/or intensive mental health needs

Candidate groups will be phased in for implementation over multiple years



Increasing availability of safe, culturally responsive placements for dependent children and youth

Session Priority:

- Authorize and establish the option of issuing child-specific foster care licenses.
 - Licenses issued by the department to caregivers who only wish to be licensed for one or more specific children, rather than for the foster child population at large.
 - The license would be available to certain relatives and family members of the specified child.
- Authorize and establish the right of child-specific foster care licenses for “fictive kin.”
 - Fictive kin, sometimes referred to as “a suitable other,” generally refers to a person who is not related to a child by blood, marriage, or adoption; but is someone who has a substantial, close, and caring, relationship with the child and who is willing and able to provide a suitable home for the child.

Questions?



Thank you!

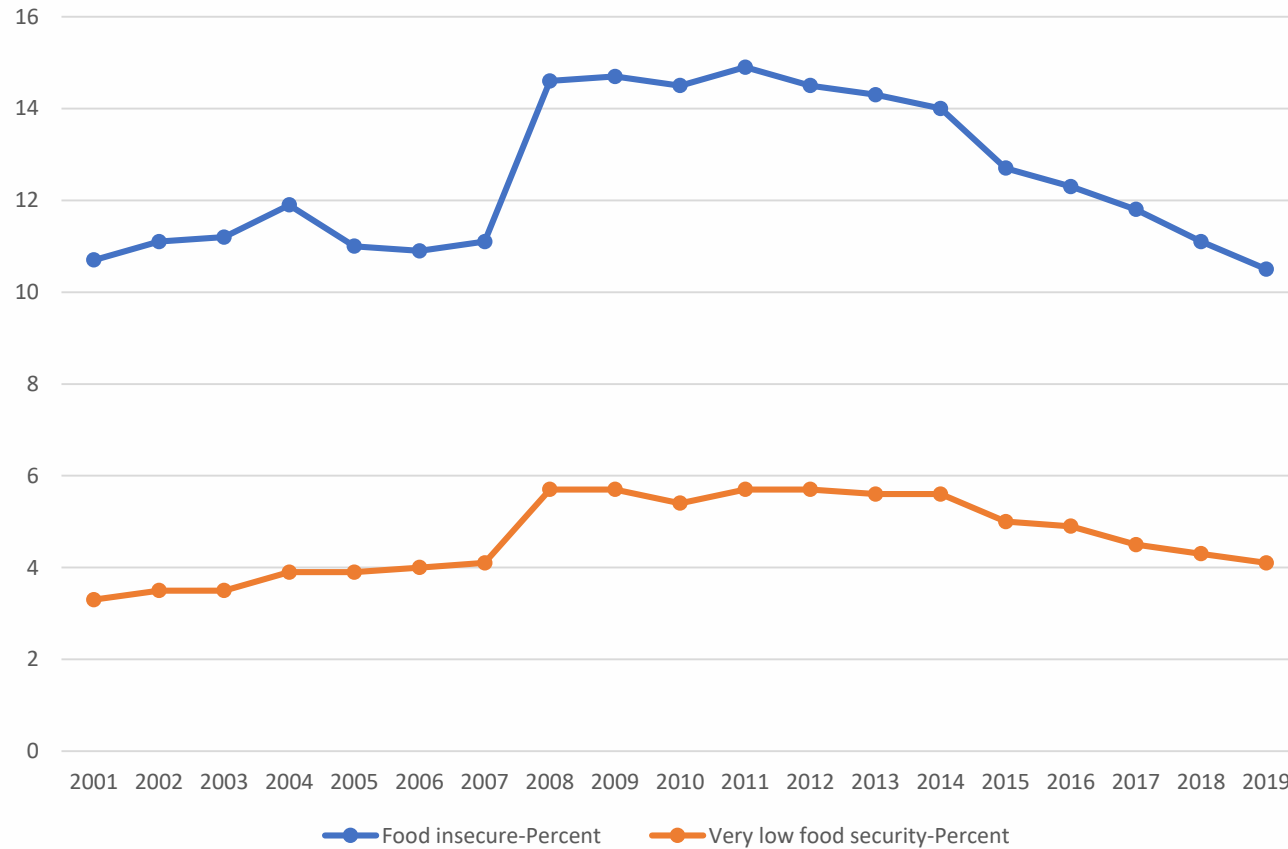
Contact:

DCYF Government Affairs
dcyf.govaffairs@dcyf.wa.gov



Food Insecurity

Trends in prevalence of food security in US
2001-2019



Washington 2019:

9.9% Food Insecure

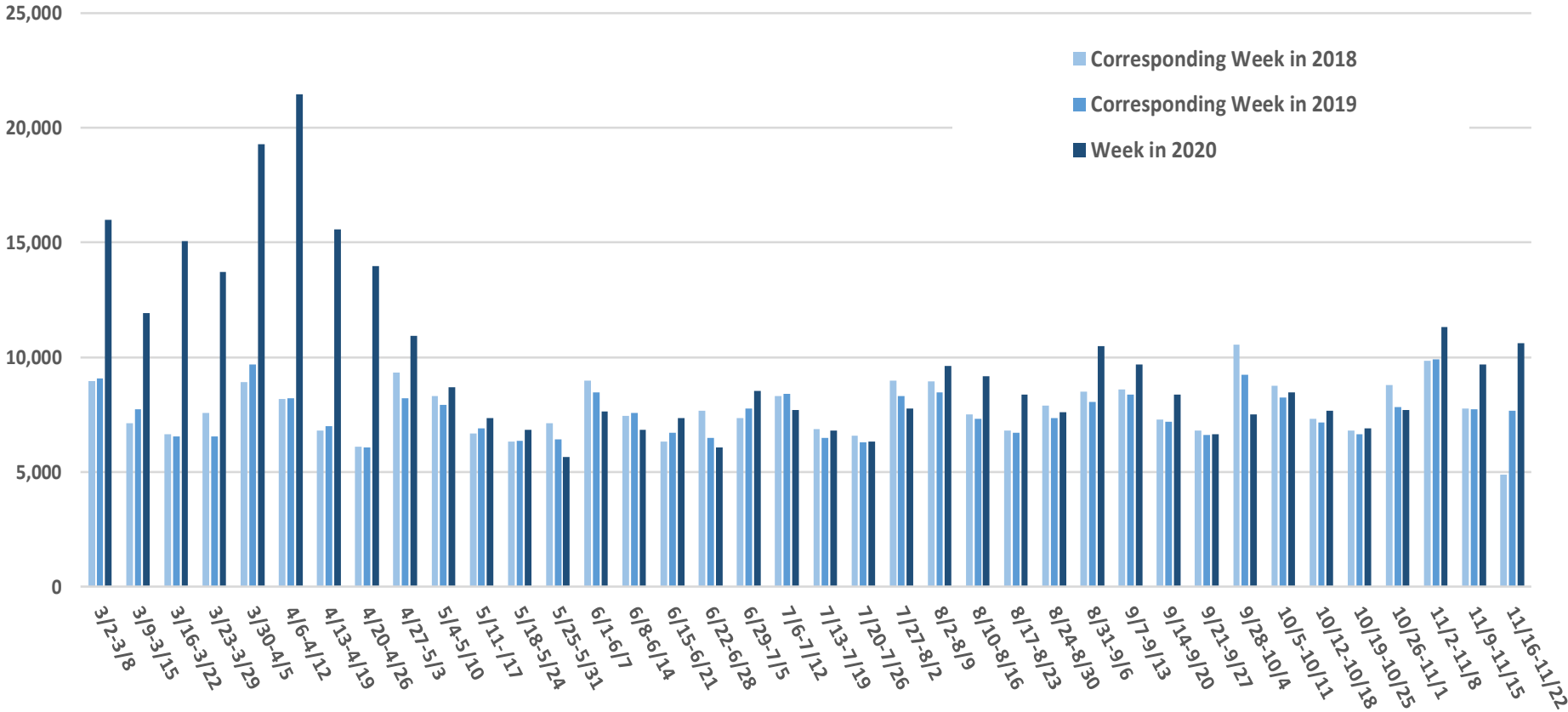
3.5% Very Low Food Security



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Weekly SNAP/FAP Applications (Based on Application Date)



Source: ESA/EMAPS using Barcode data on 11/23/2020.

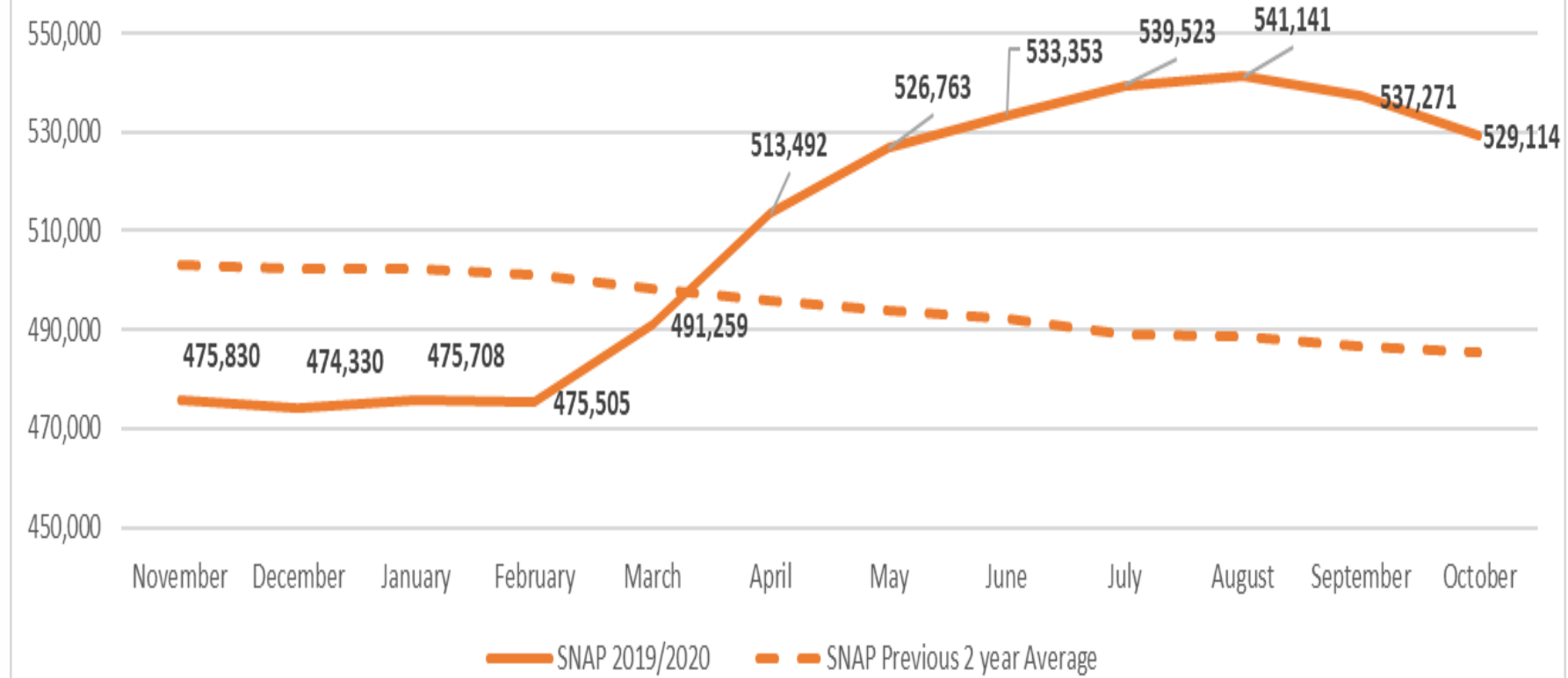
Week in 2020



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Public Benefits Statewide Caseload - SNAP/FAP



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Food Insecurity

Programs that assist:

- Free/Reduced Meal Programs in K-12 schools - OSPI
- Women's Infants Children (WIC) – DOH
- SNAP / FAP - DSHS
- Emergency food programs - WSDA

Crisis response

- Federal Waivers
- Additional Resources

Food Insecurity

Relevant Strategies/Recommendations:

- **3a-vi:** Increase the availability of affordable child care and housing for student parents on or near college campuses.
- **3a-viii:** Increase opportunities for Washington students and adults who are disconnected from the educational system to prepare for and access affordable and high quality post-secondary educational pathways.
- **5d:** Develop stronger public-private partnerships to increase opportunities for supported education, job training, and employment.

Food Insecurity

BFET / ABAWD collaborations and expansions

- Clarify Work Study under Student Eligibility rule
- Expand post secondary education programming allowable under BFET program
- Implementation of ABAWD navigators

Work with colleges under HB 1893

- Develop / submit waiver request to allow use of SNAP benefits on college campuses (denied)
- Technical assistance to Colleges to become certified to accept EBT cards (ongoing)



Postsecondary Student Basic Needs

Dr. Erin Frasier

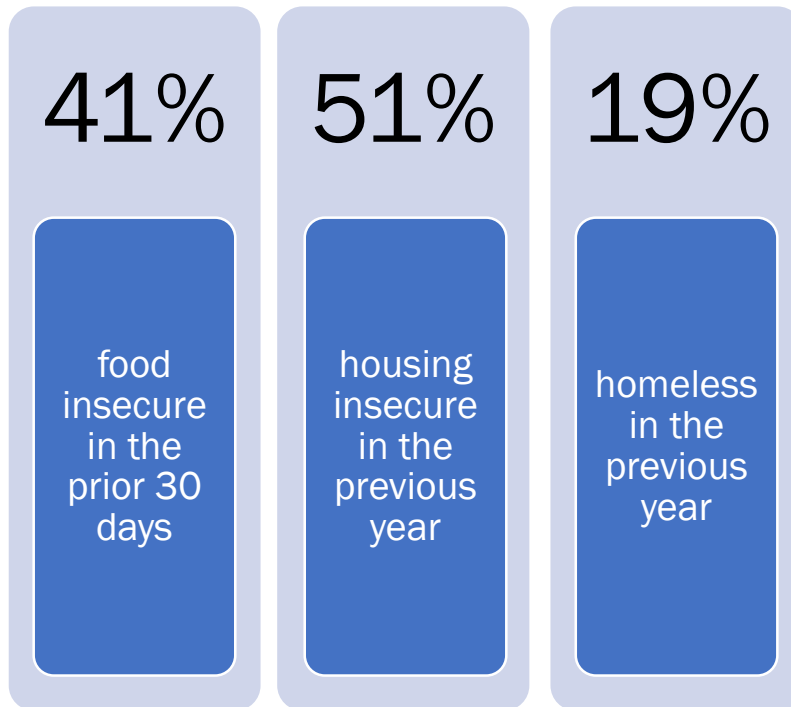
Dec. 3, 2020





Housing and Food Security

for WA Community & Technical College Students



2018-19 Academic Year

- 65,245 (38%) students received need-based aid
- 47% of students were employed
- 24% of students had dependents
- 31,408 students were enrolled in a student support program

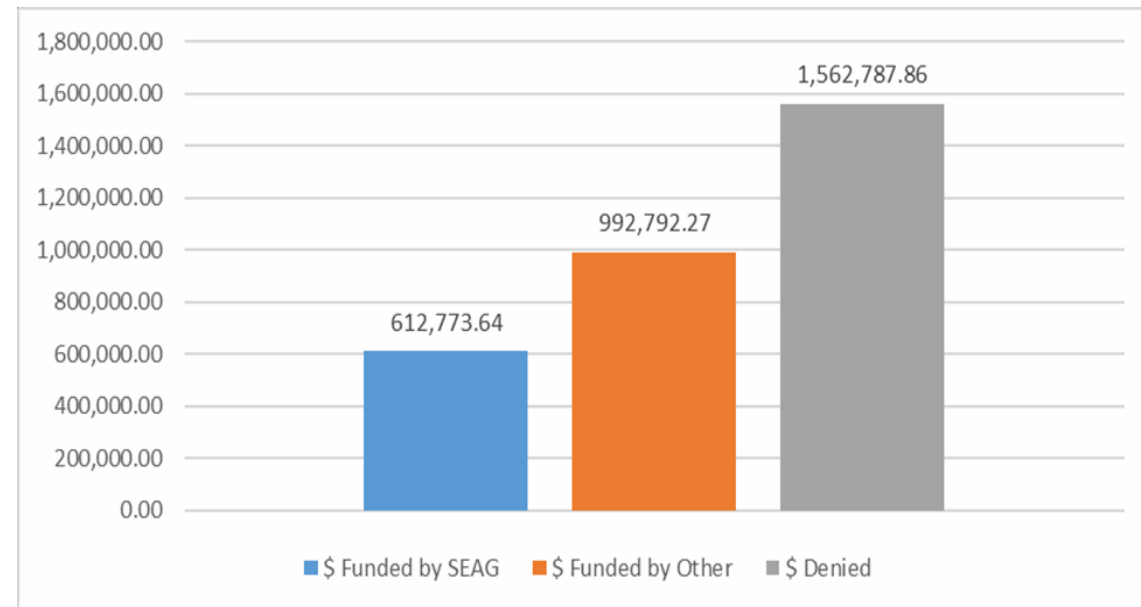
SBCTC Enrollment Data Dashboard:
<https://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/research/data-public/enrollment-public.aspx>



Student Emergency Assistance Grant

- 16 Colleges Selected
- Learning Community
- Program Model
 - Trust students, Respond Quickly, Reduce Stigma & Bias, and Connect to People & Resources
- 2,503 Requests
- 284 students completed by Spring 2020

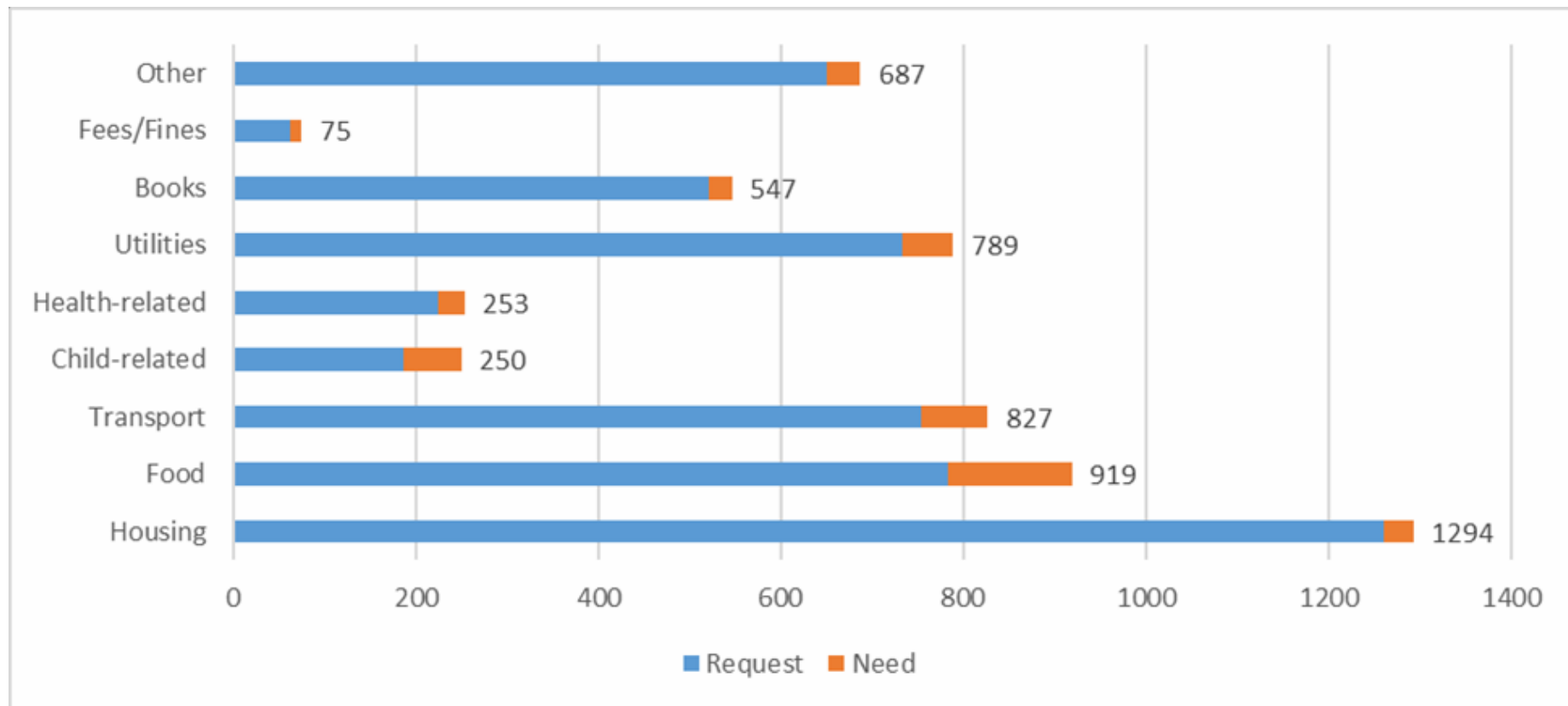
Funded versus not funded requests in dollars



885 Funded by SEAG
592 Funded by Other
1,026 Not Funded

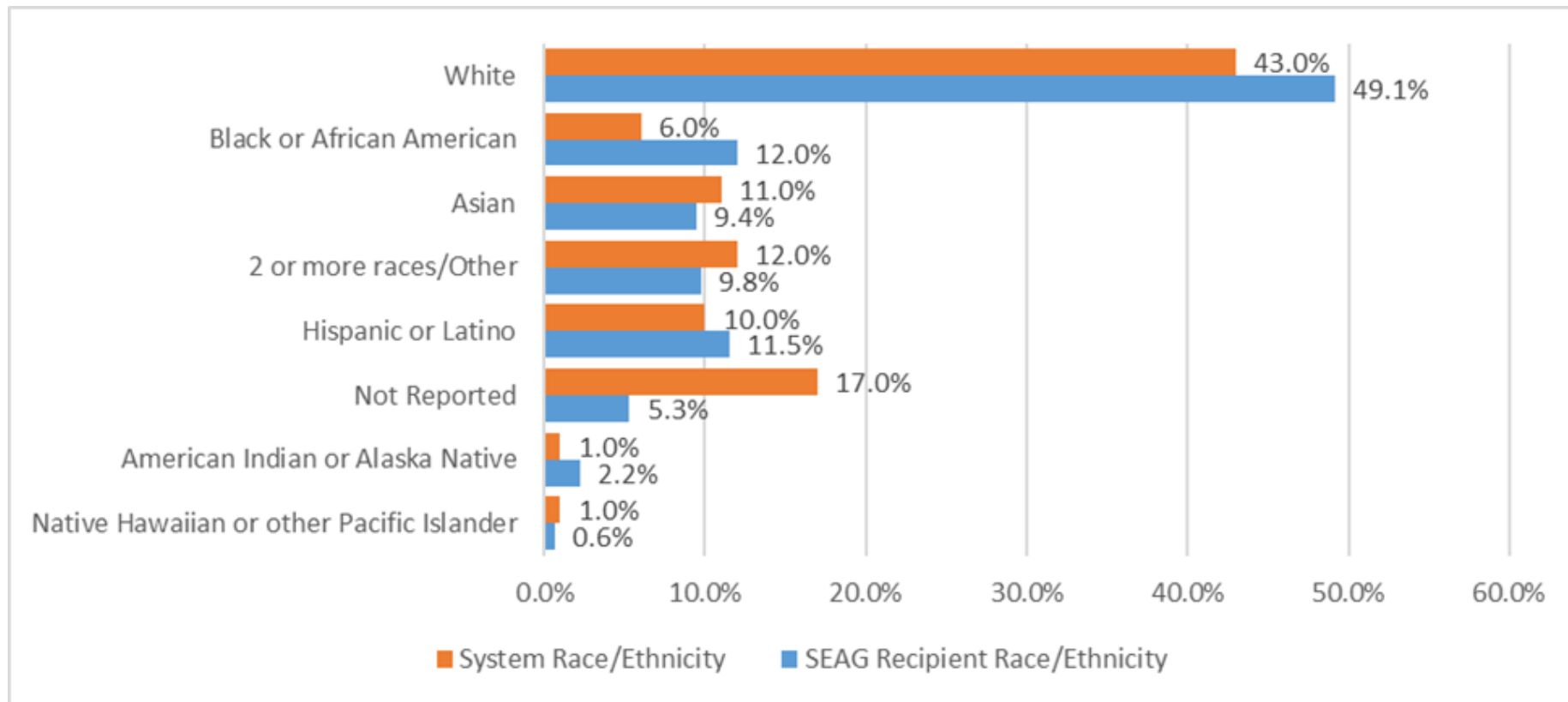
Student Emergency Assistance Grant

SEAG requests by type of emergency assistance



Student Emergency Assistance Grant

Percentage of SEAG recipients by Race and Ethnicity





Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness

- 5 months – 100+ Students Served
- Experiencing homelessness/at imminent risk
- ALL students served completed the term and persisted to their next term
- Most were female and 61% had dependents



6 College Pilots

Eastern Washington
University

Western Washington
University

Edmonds College

South Puget Sound
Community College

Walla Walla
Community College

Yakima Valley
Community College

Questions?

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Dr. Erin Frasier

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Public Comment



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Proposed Meeting Dates 2021

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM:

- February 25, 2021
- May 26, 2021
- August 26, 2021
- November 18, 2021



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