



Provider Supports Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Welcome, Virtual Meeting Protocols, and Introductions

Provider Supports Executive Committee member David Mayer welcomed members and completed introductions.

Review of Meeting Materials

Provider Supports Executive Committee member Julie Schroath led the group in the review of meeting materials.

- [January 22, 2025, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Feedback Loop](#)
- [Agency Updates](#)
- [Creation of the Child Care Monitor Visit Survey: History & Timeline](#)

Discussion	<p><i>Meeting Minutes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there any update on the Provider Access to a Community Equivalent (PACE)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An update should coming to this group in May. • The minutes include a response that DCYF will look into the wait list for North Seattle Early Childhood Education (ECE) program to report back. Is there any news about the lack of funds? Some folks are now paying for the Initial and Short certificates for their staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I do not believe we have information on funding or budget updates at this time. We will follow up on this once more information is available. <p><i>Feedback Loop</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are providers being told they have the opportunity to fill out the Post-Visit Licensing Survey? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is automatically generated following the completion of a provider’s annual monitoring visit and is located in the program’s provider portal. ○ The licensor should also be telling the provider during their monitoring visit. • Regarding the PACE program, is there anyone at DCYF that we can talk to about those qualifications and information on it or do we have to go somewhere else? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For questions about staff qualifications and PACE, contact Suzie Campbell, the staff qualifications coordinator. suzie.campbell@dcyf.wa.gov • Can we get a resource list for available agencies offering developmental care on childcare sites? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We will follow up on this. It may be data housed outside of DCYF. The rule change is from the Health Care Authority and primarily affects health care providers. Here is the original message from the Health Care Authority (HCA).
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please reach out to dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov with any follow up questions.



Early Care and Education Facilities Exploration Project

Allegra Calder, Project Manager at BERK Consulting, Barbara Rosen, Subject Matter Expert at BR Consulting and Diana Stokes, DCYF's Access and Living Wage Manager provided an overview of the Early Care and Education Facilities Exploration Project.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please share why the 7% goal is combined with the living wage ask? This makes for an untenable fiscal note putting both goals on hold. Can they be separated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They are combined by how the proviso was written. However, as we put forward the implementation plan, recommendations will each have their own costs identified. • What is the status of pre-licensing? Do they have employees? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It has been a challenging time to get the program up and running. Right now, there's still a focus on folks who are looking to expand and apply for that ELF grant. We can follow up and provide and update.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please reach out to Diana Stokes (diana.stokes@dcyf.wa.gov) with any follow up questions. • To reach the pre-licensing unit please email dcyf.welcome@dcyf.wa.gov.

Early Learning Legislative Update

DCYF's Government Affairs Policy Advisor Courtney Parker provided an update on early learning legislation.

- [ERFC Monthly Newsletter - March 14, 2025](#)
- [Senate Bill Report ESSB 5752](#)
- [Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education - TVW](#)
- [DCYF Government Affairs](#)

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Phased for centers only" - regarding subsidy increase. What does that mean? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Family childcare providers are represented by SEIU 925. They have a collective bargaining agreement that contemplates their rates, the enhancements, the trauma informed care enhancement, the dual language rate as well as subsidy rates. Governor Ferguson's proposed budget left the collective bargaining agreement intact. There are changes to the rate for centers for Working Connections Child Care (WCCC). The rate increase for family childcare, as negotiated in the collective bargaining agreement, would go into effect. July 1, 2025. • What exactly is the removal of the utilization of WCCC? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was an ask for some specific dollars for outreach to drive up utilization of WCCC subsidy. Right now, we're at about a 17% uptake rate of those eligible statewide. We recognized that with the delayed expansion of working connections eligibility, we could target some investment with some additional resources in the currently eligible population. Ferguson's proposed budget eliminates those resources that would do some of that targeted outreach. • On Senate Bill 5769, what would be different from the current environment with Transition to Kindergarten (TTK)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This means that TTK programs cannot grow so there will be no new ones next year. It caps the level of TTK programs and slots. • Regarding HB 1648 Washington State Legislature and the creation of a workgroup, will they be coming to Provider Supports to ask for participants? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We're working closely with the Early Learning division, and they are also watching these bills. We will work with them if a workgroup is needed.
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Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please reach out to Courtney Parker (courtney.parker@dcyf.wa.gov) with any follow up questions.
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Community Child Care Conversations

DCYF’s Child Care Program Manager Jennifer Gomes and Child Care Area Administrators Natasha Reed and Karen Christiansen provided an overview of the Community Child Care Conversations, formerly known as the ‘Forums’.

- [Community Child Care Conversations](#)
- [Early Care and Education Newsletter Sign Up](#)

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is considered north King County versus general King County? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We tried to target it so that the Licensors, Supervisors, and Area Administrators (AAs) attached to that office would be able to be in attendance and support their providers. In terms of cities it would be Lynnwood, northern parts of Bellevue, Northgate, Woodinville. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What should someone do if they don’t know which meeting to attend? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please email your licensor or one of your local AAs. • I think it's unfortunate that we can't attend one in another area. Sometimes they're nearby and on a day that works better with our schedule. Honestly all info should be similar everywhere - other than intros to local licensors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We’re not telling you that you can't, it's just that the emails are going to be targeted for the licensed providers in those local communities. But if your local meeting doesn't work, you can attend a different one. You just would not meet your local licensing staff and that's who we wanted the conversations for to build those relationships with our local office. • It would be great if the DCYF Regional Map had the corresponding offices on it. That might make it easier for people to know which office is connected to their program. Does a map like that exist? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We have a list of the Early Learning and Child Care Offices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The problem with that page is that there is not a corresponding map with each office, so in some of the more populated areas it is hard to know which office you are supposed to contact. If a map is not possible each office could detail the cities it serves - might be helpful.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please contact dcyf.communityengagement@dcyf.wa.gov with any follow up questions.

Closing Remarks/Adjourn

Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025
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