



Provider Supports Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Welcome, Virtual Meeting Protocols, and Introductions

Provider Supports Executive Committee Co-Chair Katie Hudkins welcomed members and completed introductions.

Review of Meeting Materials

Provider Supports Executive Committee Co-Chair Julie Schroath led the group in the review of meeting materials.

- [February 14, 2024, Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Feedback Loop](#)
- [Agency Updates](#)
- [TLS Recommendation Response Memo](#)

Discussion	<p><i>Agency Updates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you share if community outreach has started for the living wage proviso? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We had a special webinar in March and we are working with Washington Communities for Children (WCFC) and their networks to have some community conversations. WCFC also sent out a survey and we’re also doing some engagement with the Indian Policy Early Learning Committee (IPEL). ○ Join DCYF and Washington Communities for Children (WCFC) for a virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 21 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. to hear an update on the Child Care Access and Living Wage Proviso activities! WCFC will share high level takeaways from the statewide listening sessions and online survey and DCYF staff will share about next steps. Click here to register.
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Revisions to Child Care Basics and School-age Basics

DCYF’s Learning Content Manager Leesa Thomas and Curriculum Coordinator Sue Rose provided an update and requested feedback on revisions to Child Care Basics and School-age Basics.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was there a reason why special health care need or disability was left off the list? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are some light touches on that integrated in the Child Growth and Development, Environments, and Interactions. That’s the way it was done in Basics before, however we would love to do more on that if you think that it needs its own topic. ○ The hardest part about coming into childcare as a new person is working with children who are harder to work with. I think that we should spend more time on that in the childcare basics. • Do you envision a future where there is an evergreen link to a recorded childcare basics that people can register and take? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We are building it so that it will be asynchronous and people can just log on and take it through Articulate 360. Regarding an evergreen link, we can take this back to our team to discuss making it more accessible to find and take trainings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I would also advocate in that same conversation that Provider Access to a Community Equivalent (PACE) go that same direction. • Online trainings being compatible on phones is important. A lot of people don’t have access to computers. • Incorporating language access into topics discussions is crucial.
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- What order should the topics be in?
 - Child growth, health and safety, relationships, behavior supports,
 - I would move health and safety and positive behavior supports up.
 - For the order, I would like to see the modules built out, then see how it could flow the best.
- A post-course survey could be used to find out what participants actually need more of.
- As you are presenting these topics, also provide resources that you can share with families and use while you are in classrooms and homes. Language access is also important. Disability and special healthcare needs should be at the top of this list.
- Are there example scenarios for positive behavior support included in this?
 - Yes, we definitely have activities like that.
- Will the Restraint Training be included in childcare basics? Also, just to confirm, any and all required trainings by the state, that way to start, it is a one and done?
 - We will follow up on this.
- Are restraints not currently included in 30 hours?
 - It is not currently in there.
 - And the other trainings that are required, can safe sleep and medication management be incorporated?
 - We've had the conversation. Including the trauma informed care in the 30 hour is proving difficult to stay in 30 hours. We can circle back and have a conversation about that.
- It would make a huge difference if bloodborne pathogens and mandated reporting were included in the 30-hours basics.
 - We will add this into the note about requirements.
- I have my opinions about the flow, but I am wondering if we are ordering this according to what we think is most important, or are we ordering this for ease of knowledge building? Also, is there a foundations of ECE to start? And then they would jump into these topics? And should the focus of the first 3 to 30 hours of training be on making sure teachers can function effectively in the classroom?
 - We've made a note of this. That's a great suggestion.
- I would argue that flow isn't as important.
 - And that is exactly what I was wondering. In this case, I would lean on what directors and teachers feel is most important right away.
- Interactions are so important with examples! First few days in a classroom, new teachers need support on how to navigate sample interactions in the classroom.
- If current staff have their STARS hours, will they be required to re-take the updated version or will the new modules be available for them to take independently?
 - Once Childcare Basics is marked as met, they are not required to complete it again.
- Also suggest your team consult with teacher educators in WA state who Guide adult learning.
- We've had multiple licensors asking staff to complete mandated child abuse, those five federal health and safety standards, outside of childcare basics. I don't know if it's new licensors coming up and they don't understand that those things are included in childcare basics but it sounds like a messaging piece that we need to get out to the licensing supervisors.
 - I will follow up with you on this.
- Will there be a survey after each session to gather feedback from your audience?
 - That is a discussion we wanted to have with this group around recommendations to engage providers. We want to engage providers in some way that is



	<p>manageable with their schedules but we want their input, thoughts, and perspectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you please add these important trainings in DCYF student portal and we can take these trainings at our times
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please reach out to Dawn Williams (dawnwill@uw.edu) and Ka'ohē Wong (kwong@schoolsoutwashington.org) with any follow up questions or comments.

Licensing | CPS Investigations FAQ Docs Final Review

DCYF's QA/CQI Program Manager Taylor Nussbaum provided an overview and gathered feedback on the final draft FAQ docs for Licensing and CPS investigations.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instead of an entire Washington Administrative Code (WAC) being referenced in an answer, can it be narrowed down to a specific line or specific language that backs up DCYF's answers? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It really is situational. Some of these answers need to stay broad to provide a larger picture. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It's not helpful though for example when a provider is asked for their whole contact list for an incident that involved one child. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Revised Code of Washington (RCW) law it does say for Child Protective Service (CPS) investigations, investigators have access to all records in that childcare. And when the investigator asks for records, they should be giving an explanation as to why they are accessing those records. • Why do non-valid need to be on a report or providers records? If it's not valid, it should not be written anywhere. These reports are viewed by insurance companies and have a HUGE impact on insurance rates and even the ability to get insurance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any non-valid finding for childcare licensing inspections are not posted on childcare check, only valid findings. However, people can request licensing history, which is public information. • What is put on our records by DCYF does have an impact on the outcome of insurance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ That's one of the reasons we don't put everything on Childcare Check. • The WA State Office of the Insurance Commissioner regulates the insurance industry, and they used to have a robust customer service team who answers so many questions around all types of insurance. • 2024 global insurance outlook • When an employee is being interviewed, it says a third party can be present. Who qualifies as a third party? Can an owner or director sit in on the interview? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As long as they are not involved in the investigation, yes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does an employee have the right to have an attorney present? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes but it doesn't necessarily need to be an attorney. It could be somebody there just to support them. • If an alleged subject of a CPS investigation would like to have an attorney present during the CPS interview, they absolutely can request that. ▪ We were told the director/owner were not allowed to be present with the staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The third party just cannot be involved in the investigation. • It needs to say in the CPS one what happens to someone if the report is valid. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It also needs to know their due process. Just because a report if found valid, it doesn't end there, they have rights for a hearing.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When DCYF does a founded letter on the subject, it outlines the due process and first steps.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please reach out to Taylor Nussbaum (taylor.nussbaum@dcyf.wa.gov) with any follow up questions.

Help Me Grow Developmental Screening

DCYF’s Help Me Grow Lead Sarah Holdener provided an overview and requested feedback on Help Me Grow Washington developmental screening.

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is Help Me Grow Funded? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help Me Grow has a lot of government contracts, philanthropy, state proviso funds. It is a blended approach. When you say "young children", is there an age limit? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is essentially pre-natal to eight. Providers are already using a lot of different developmental screening tools. Will this be required? Sometimes we are told things are voluntary and then it becomes mandatory later. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is voluntary and we have no plans to make it mandatory. One of the issues families have is navigating through the Washington Connection website to get access to subsidized care among other services. Will that be integrated in this work at all? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washington Connection is a system and website that is owned by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). Childcare Aware, a family resource center, is an assistance agency and can help families navigate. Is this also available for home providers to use as well? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, that is the intention. We intend to offer this to the array of providers, licensed, family home, Early Achievers etc. across the state. I am a part of this initial pilot. There are two family providers, one play and learn program and seven centers that are represented across the state. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I believe two of the ten programs are Spanish speaking. Will you be partnering with Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) or Early Head Start as well? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That is the intention but we haven’t decided when that will happen.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please reach out to Sarah Holdener (sarah.holdener@dcyf.wa.gov) with any follow-up questions.

End of Session Update and Next Biennium Planning

DCYF Senior Policy Advisor Melissa Cheesman and Assistant Secretary of Early Learning Nicole Rose will provide a legislative update.

- [DCYF Government Affairs Webpage](#)
- [WA State Fiscal Information](#)

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you know what days and times fingerprint appointments within DCYF offices will be available? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The implementation team are currently looking at that. We will follow up on this. Governor’s Veto Letter What happens if you can’t reach the 30 hours because we work nonstandard hours? The bonus should not be tied to hours work. Is there any possibility to change that? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This change is only about the amount of dollars paid once you reach the 30 hour threshold. It does not change the number of hours in order to get to the non-
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	<p>standard hours bonus. That would require additional changes and additional funding. Within the existing rule, this change will increase the non-standard hour rate from \$135 to \$150.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Nonstandard hours bonus: WAC 110-15-0249<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The amounts listed in the WAC will be updated.● If a home provider takes on a child who only needs care Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, that's only going to amount to 25 hours, there is no non-standard hour rate for that, correct?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ You have to meet the thirty-hour threshold.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What would someone have to do to put in a rule change?<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Because it costs money, it's more than a rule change. We would need to get funding from the legislature to do this.● Regarding the state board getting funding for community and technical college for Early Care and education (ECE) classes, is that just to get students into the classes or is that funding for instructors?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ It helps fund the point of contact to help students navigate and access the variety of funding streams that they can access including the Early Achievers opportunity grants.
Next Steps/Follow Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Please contact Melissa Cheesman (melissa.cheesman@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 Tuesday, June 11, 2024.
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