# Washington Communities for Children (WCFC)



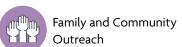
An early childhood network: Connecting local and statewide efforts to improve the well-being of children, families, and communities across Washington. For more information, go to www.washingtoncfc.org.



WCFC is a network of early childhood coalitions, working together to create systems-level coordination.

- Organizing framework: Six network components.
- **Regional Support:** Each region is supported by a leadership team and specialists in each of the component areas.
- Statewide Representation: 128 regional and specialist leads supporting local early childhood coalitions across the state.
- WCFC's Goal: Create a connected system that promotes health and well being for the whole child, whole family, and whole community.













WASHINGTON'S PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE RENEWAL

FY2021 EVALUATIVE BRIEFS www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/IAA\_0004.pdf



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#### Accomplishment

Developed and implemented a connected statewide people infastructure:

- 90% of essential roles were filled
- In June 2021 alone, regional leaders directed 45 monthly meetings and collaborated with more than 1,500 people

#### **Barrier**

- Challenges to primarily virtual systems building and coordination in the time of COVID-19
- Need additional long-term investments to:
  - Sustain regional and statewide network
  - Support data for decision making

In June 2021, each region's monthly reports were analyzed by the PDG-R B-5 Evaluation Team to evaluate WCFC's capacity, functioning, and coordination process across all 10 regions. Below are emergent themes from these 55 reports.

#### Success



#### **Community Partnerships**

Partnerships are robust and far reaching. For example, county partnerships with government, health focusedinitiatives, and parent councils were mentioned over 16 instances.

#### Growth



## Participation in **Equity-Focused Groups** and Conversations

Successes in equity-focused groups and conversations, including affinity groups, were mentioned over 11 instances. While this was an area of growth for many teams, it also presented challenges, with seven instances describing barriers to operationalize equity efforts at the regional and local level.

# Challenge



## Capacity, Momentum, and Purpose

Regions demonstrated challenges with scaling to a statewide system, which was mentioned in over 13 instances. These included developing capacity, maintaining momentum, and establishing clarity in purpose. Presenting this data to teams in August 2021 was one of many efforts to meet these challenges.

#### **NEXT STEPS: 2022**



Demographic data collection and collaboration survey to all coalition members



Interviews with regional/ state leads to better describe project impact



Seeking funding opportunities for robust statewide data system