

Washington State Interagency Fatherhood Council

Nov. 6th, 10:30-12:00



Meeting Goals:

- 1.) Welcome- Let's try introductions in the Zoom Chat
- 2.) Deep-dive conversation and learning around Men's housing resources in Washington

Attendees: Steve Grilli, Ron Haunstein, Anne Stone, Nikki Dyer, Whitney Mathisen, Darin Goff, Byron Jackson, Louis Mendoza, Keoki Kauano, Jacob Dieter, Richard Watkins, Amanda Krotke-Crandall

Guest: Theresa Slusher, Melodie Pazolt, Kira Schneider Teesha Kirschbaum, Jason Bliss; Melinda Trujilo, Jason Bliss

| Notes | Topic |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 78% of poll participants wanted to remain on Friday. 56% want to stay at 1.5 for meeting time. We will keep the meeting on Friday make it work in 1.5 hours. | <p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New version of the Reduced Cost Services Guide RCSG including resources for low income internet, phone, and utilities. This is updated regularly and will be linked on our new Fatherhood website. Share with your constituencies! • Poll Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is Friday still the best day to meet? • Could we move from 1.5 hour to 2 hours? |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We had a presentation from Theresa Slusher Housing Stability Manager at ESA giving an overview of the housing system in Washington. • Local advocates shared bright spots - Family Promise in Spokane. • It was decided the Council staff will work with Commerce to ascertain local shelter policies around taking men with children and/or both parents with intact families to add to our Environmental Scan data set. This will be linked on our new fatherhood council website • Health and Behavioral services are creating a peer support network of individuals with lived experience. We cannot tell how many are men, as that is not asked on the application. We encourage you to send this out to your networks and promote this important opportunity. Application can be found here • Oxford Houses provide housing for women with children and men with children; no houses for families but opposite genders can visit the house. One requirement of parents living in Oxford housing is that they are improving their parenting skills. This can be done through a parenting class that can be difficult to find in rural communities. <p>NEXT STEPS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION - Family Support Center's Pear Blossom Place Emergency Shelter in | <p>Fatherhood Fridays – Housing for Fathers</p> <p>Fifth deep dive conversation around a specific topic. Thanks to Emily Grossman, Senior Policy Advisor with the Department of Commerce, for sharing the work that the state is doing around housing fathers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Data • Recovery Housing & Oxford Housing • Jason Bliss; Senior Outreach Coordinator Oxford House Inc. based in Pasco • Alan Muia; Co-Founder and Executive Director of New Earth Recovery in Mount Vernon, and President of Washington Alliance for Quality Recovery Residences • Melodie Pazolt & team; Health Care Authority; Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery • Washington Low Income Housing Alliance • Coordinated Entry Site • Department of Commerce homeless programs |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Thurston County accepts dads in their shelter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men with kids under 18 • Men with a pregnant partner • Same sex partner dads • They shelter all family compositions • They do not shelter single men with no children in their care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION - Look at mental health Peer Support Credential to see how many men are presently credentialed? How can we link to that resource? • What are ways to get the credentialing process out to networks? • ACTION- Oxford houses could host onsite/virtual Parenting classes, Keoki at FESS will reach out to Jason Bliss to begin the conversation. The Council should look at this at the system level too. • Jason Bliss (509-430-1155) provided his contact information stating that if you know men in recovery that would benefit from an Oxford House, please reach out to him. | |
| | <p>Future Meetings 10:30-12:00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dec. 11th: DCYF – child welfare – relative outreach, Families First plan and advisory • January 8th: Establishing a council roadmap for the year |
| | <p>We need your voice to help plan our virtual third summit please join us over Zoom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nov. 10th 4-5 • Nov. 20th 10-11 |