

Washington State Interagency Fatherhood Council

Values | Equitable Systems ▪ Support for All Parents ▪ Affirming Fathers

Vision | Men in Washington are supported to be the fathers they want to be for their children and families.

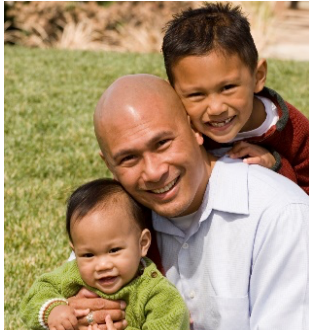
Mission | We lift the voices of fathers in Washington State by promoting fatherhood inclusion, equity, and value to strengthen families and maximize children's potential.

Values |

- **Diversity** – understanding and valuing the varied cultures and experiences fathers have while raising their children
- **Inclusion** – welcoming the diverse spectrum of cultures and experiences of fathers to actively participate in the council
- **Equity** – all fathers are essential to their children's social-emotional growth and well-being and need targeted support through an equity framework with a goal of achieving co-parenting efficacy.
- **Education** – providing learning opportunities for community members, as well as public private and non-profit service providers about the importance of and how to best support fathers
- **Partnering** – bringing together a broad spectrum of fathers, community members, service providers, and state agencies to achieve our goals
- **Leadership** - developing transformational leaders at all levels to bring our message to the community
- **Cultivating** – fostering and nurturing a father inclusive culture and approach to providing services and supports
- **Advocacy** – consistent and ongoing support of and education about the positive impact of father inclusive policies and programs

Washington State Interagency Fatherhood Council

Values | Equitable Systems ▪ Support for All Parents ▪ Affirming Fathers



2020-21 Strategic Plan

Vision | Men in Washington are supported to be the fathers they want to be for their children and families.

Mission | We lift the voices of fathers in Washington State by promoting fatherhood inclusion, equity, and value to strengthen families and maximize children’s potential.

Role | To bring together a broad spectrum of fathers, public and private agencies, academics, and advocates to: Collectively raise awareness around the essential role of fathers; nurture a father inclusive culture in our communities, agencies, and policies; develop leaders at all levels to carry messages; and welcome diverse cultures and experiences of fathers to drive change.

Goals

The following goals focus the Council’s work on increasing fathers’ awareness of and inclusion in fatherhood programs, practices and policies that increase child and family well-being.

Promote positive fatherhood stories to increase awareness around the essential role of fathers.	Make services known to fathers and those who serve them.	Build the capacity of systems to serve whole families to increase parenting time for fathers.	Increase healing opportunities for fathers through mentoring and parenting education in restorative services.
<p>JAN 2020: Launch Speakers Bureau of fathers and staff to effectively share messages and success stories of fathers to 6 audiences by Dec 2020.</p> <p>DEC 2020: Create 5 compelling 3-5 minute fatherhood video stories for a variety of settings.</p> <p>OCT 2020: Deliver the 3rd Annual Fatherhood Summit engaging a broad array of stakeholders including fathers with lived experience.</p>	<p>JUN 2020: Complete a baseline environmental scan of fatherhood specific formal and informal supports.</p> <p>SEP 2020: Conduct the second annual statewide fatherhood survey.</p> <p>SEP 2020: Create an effective strategy for community resource storing and sharing of fatherhood specific services.</p>	<p>JAN 2021: Design community resilience local fatherhood convening strategy and launch in at least 6 regions.</p> <p>JUL 2020: Conduct a human centered design process to assess the feasibility of a prenatal Fatherhood group visit protocol.</p> <p>NOV 2021: Create cross cutting consensus on a sustainable Council structure, financing, and staffing model</p>	<p>SEP 2020: Complete five proposals for funding for local fatherhood groups.</p> <p>JAN 2021: Secure funding to launch local fatherhood convening groups for mentoring, leadership development, and support.</p> <p>JAN 2021: Incubate emerging culturally specific fatherhood programs to support sustainability.</p>

Work Plan DRAFT

6/3/2020 need SMART goals

Objectives as they relate to child welfare:

- 1) Increase support to non-residential/non-custodial fathers around healing trauma and gaining relationship skills.
- 2) Increasing culturally competent father friendly workforce that includes training content around intimate partner violence, EBP curricula like Nurturing Fatherhood Program (NFP), and Fathering in 15™, group facilitation, and navigation of the critical systems i.e. child welfare, child support, health and wellness, re-entry, housing, and employment.
- 3) Increasing time fathers spend with their child(ren) to increase bonding/attachment and a positive role in their child's life.
- 4) Increasing access to basic needs for fathers that in turn supports the whole family.
- 5) Increasing public/private investment in programs that bring men together into cohorts for mentoring, shared stories, and leadership development that provide mutual support.
- 6) Value policy around co-parenting as we work with fragile families to keep them out of the child welfare system.

Activities:

- 1) Create, deliver and support speakers bureau outreach and seek audiences to spread fatherhood messaging and success stories.
- 2) Incubate and promote fatherhood cohort social connections across the state with the goal of at least one group in each of the Washington Children for Families regions.
- 3) Seek to identify and promote policies that support co-parenting.
- 4) Work with public partners to realign resources in existing system to include a fatherhood focus (i.e. WIC, Home Visiting, Health navigators, etc.).
- 5) Resource development to leverage and realign existing public investments and build infrastructure that outlasts short cycle funding.
- 6) Create and deploy positive messages via increased internet presence to counteract social stigmas.
- 7) Conduct focus groups and outreach around VROOM application fatherhood friendliness.
- 8) Raise awareness within current transformation efforts of the need to carve out fatherhood strategies (i.e. child abuse prevention continuum, new state early learning plan, poverty reduction plan, juvenile rehab expansion to 25years, support to student parents, P-5 social emotional health, etc.)
- 9) Annual convening of broad based stakeholders in a Summit that brings father's voices together with policy, academia, and investors.