



**Whatcom
Healthy
Children's
Fund**

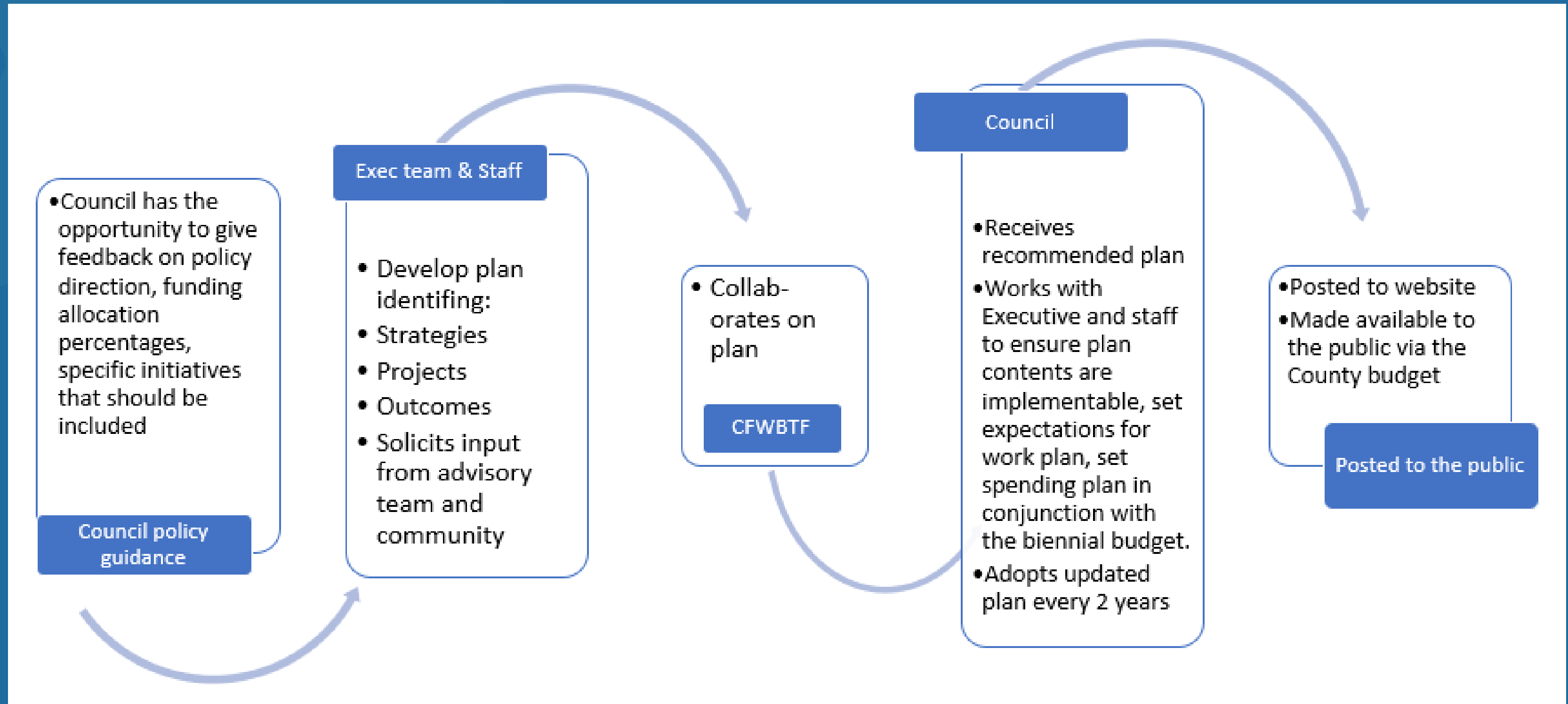
Caring today, shaping tomorrow



Agenda

Item	Time
Review of process & meeting materials	5 minutes
Review of code language	10 minutes
Current funding allocation	5 minutes
Current strategies	15 minutes
Impacts & Communications	10 minutes
Draft Implementation Plan	15 minutes
Four questions	30 minutes

Implementation Plan process



Implementation Team

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization Affiliation</i>
Aida Rodriquez	Imagine Institute & Former In-Home Care Business Owner
Allison Williams	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Allyson Halverson	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Amy Rydel	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Ann Beck	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Ann Granberg	Child and Family Well Being Task Force and YMCA Child Care Program Director
Heather Flaherty	Chuckanut Health Foundation
Hunter Pluckebaum	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Jamie Desmul	Child and Family Well Being Task Force and YMCA Child Care Program Director
Janie Oliphant	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Jessie Thomson	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Jill Boudreau	Whatcom County Executive's Office
Kathryn DeFilippo	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Laurie Sailing	Opportunity Council
Marilyn Chu	WWU Professor Emeritus
Melissa Pickel	Brigid Collings
Meredith Hayes	Child Care Coalition & Chuckanut Health Foundation
Pamela Jons	Child and Family Well Being Task Force & Whatcom Community Foundation
Patty Boyce	United Way of Whatcom County
Ray Deck III	Child and Family Well Being Task Force & Skookum Kids
Sallye Quinn	Child and Family Well Being Task Force
Samya Lutz	City of Bellingham
Sarah Simpson	Whatcom County Health and Community Services
Susan Marks	Commission on Sexual and Domestic Violence
Tilda Doughty	Child and Family Well Being Task Force & Opportunity Council

Groups to be invited to comment

- *Healthy Whatcom*
- *Whatcom Public Health Advisory Board*
- *Racial Equity Commission*
- *Commission on Sexual & Domestic Violence*
- *Business & Commerce Committee*
- *Whatcom Small City Mayors*
- *Local Chambers of Commerce*

Handout:

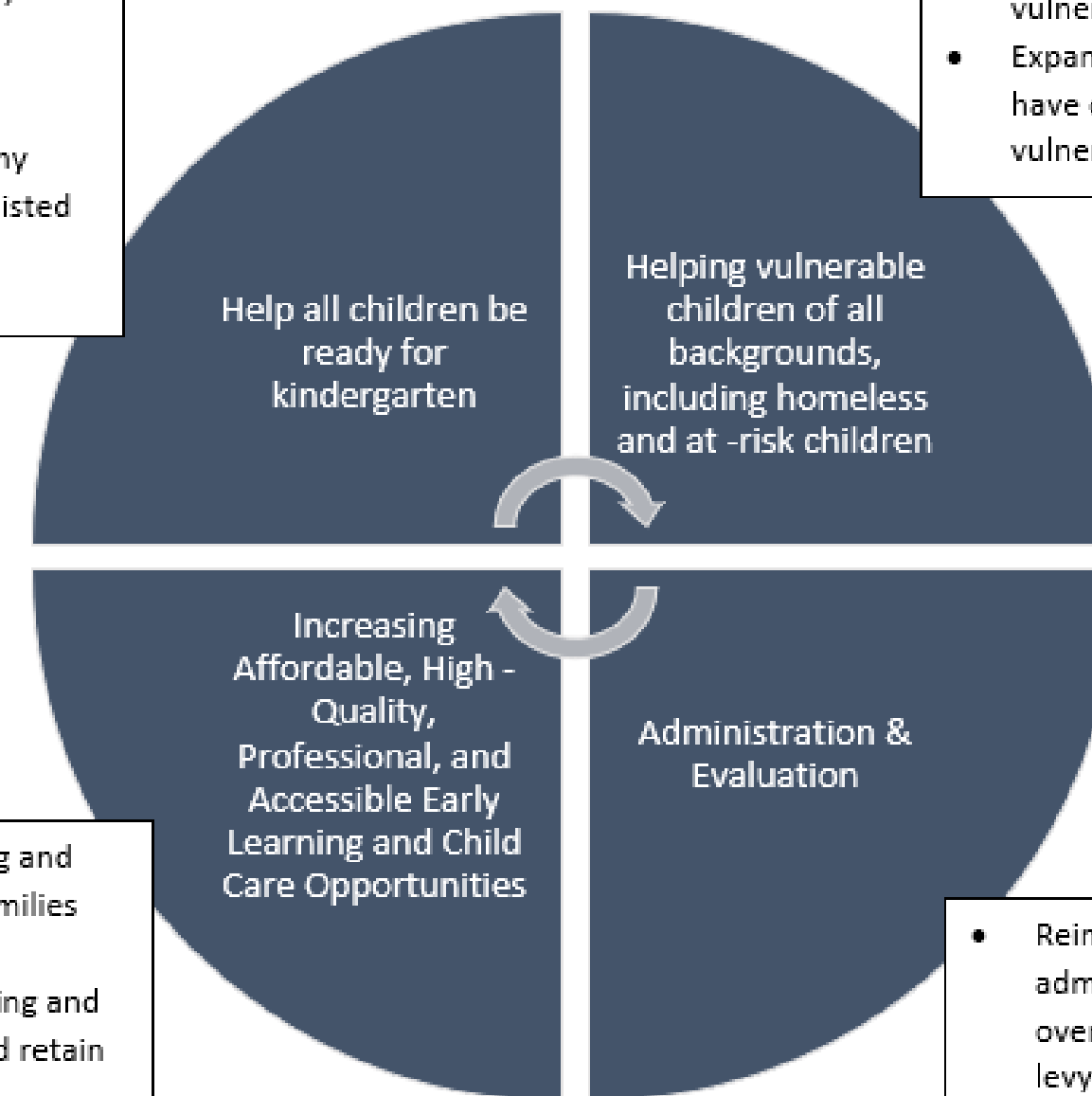
Ordinance is very prescriptive of what funding can be spent on

Ordinance does not specifically define actions to fulfill this goal, or specifically allocate funding.

OSPI/WaKIDS Whole-child Assessment measures: Social-emotional, Physical, Cognitive, Language, Literacy, Mathematics.

Whatcom County interpretation is any services that improve a child's skills listed above, within the early learning and childcare experience.

- 55-68% of funds
- Decrease the cost of early learning and child care experiences for both families and providers.
 - Increase the quality of early learning and child care experiences. Attract and retain quality early childhood educators.
 - Expand early learning and child care services that meet the varied needs of families and children. Geographic locations, ages of children, special needs, and a broad range of child care scheduling needs (including emergency child care opportunities) will all be considered in the development.



20-36% of funds

- Expand mental health services for vulnerable children and their families.
- Supporting interim housing services and trauma - focused system reform directed at vulnerable children and their families.
- Expand supports and services for families who have or are expecting children deemed to be vulnerable.

9% of funds, of which up to 3% for evaluation

- Reimbursements to the County for administrative costs, evaluation, and overhead shall be limited to nine percent of levy proceeds, with up to three percent used for auditing and evaluation.
- Every other year, a qualified independent auditor shall conduct a performance audit of the Healthy Children's Fund.

What Is: current funding allocation

Memo: Original Implementation Plan

Table 5. Expected Revenue Allocation for Years 1-2: 2023-2024

	Ordinance Allocation Requirements	Years 1 & 2 Estimated	
		\$	%
Administration (including up to 3% Evaluation)	9%	\$1,795,688	9%
Priority Areas	91%	\$18,156,400	91%
Early Learning & Care	55-68%	\$12,800,000	64%
Supporting Vulnerable Children	20-36%	\$5,356,400	27%
Total	100%	\$19,952,088	100%

What Is: current strategies

Early Learning & Care – 64%	\$12,800,000
Strategy 1: Use small capital projects to expand, renovate or repurpose buildings to increase early learning and care slots in a mixed-delivery system.	\$500,000
Strategy 2: Coordinate current and develop additional pathways to ensure a stable early learning and care workforce that can deliver high-quality programs for children.	\$1,500,000
Strategy 3: Improve access to early learning and care through subsidies that reduce the cost of programs for children from families that are cost-burdened.	\$3,300,000
Strategy 4: Ensure access to early learning and care by promoting the expansion and retention of the early learning and care workforce.	\$2,050,000
Strategy 5: Create regional early learning and care hubs that include shared administrative services, co-located early learning and other services for children and families, and support for smaller providers in the county.	\$4,500,000
Strategy 6: Support innovative approaches to meet various Healthy Children’s Fund goals for early learning and care.	\$950,000

What Is: current strategies

Support for Vulnerable Children – 27%	\$5,356,400
Strategy 7: Recruit mental and behavioral health workforce to Whatcom County	\$850,000
Strategy 8: Develop and/or expand resources and programs for families who disproportionately experience housing instability.	\$1,875,000
Strategy 9: Expand and enhance early parenting support.	\$1,875,000
Strategy 10: Integrate and co-locate services via coordinated access to resource navigation.	\$757,000

Funded Child Care expansion

16 infant slots

243 slots for ages 2+

Drop in care: expanded 192 slots available per month

All sites receiving expansion funding serve Working Connections eligible recipients

Childspaces.com

Promotional video:

[Childcare Spaces Launch - Rough Cut](#)

[1.mov - Childcare Spaces Launch -](#)

[Rough Cut 1 - Frame.io](#)

Behavioral Health workforce/services expansion

1,946 training hours

1,262 caregiver appointments

586 child appointments

328 family support visits

All caregivers and children receiving serves are Medicaid eligible

Basic Needs

1,087,067 diapers

49,804 packages of formula

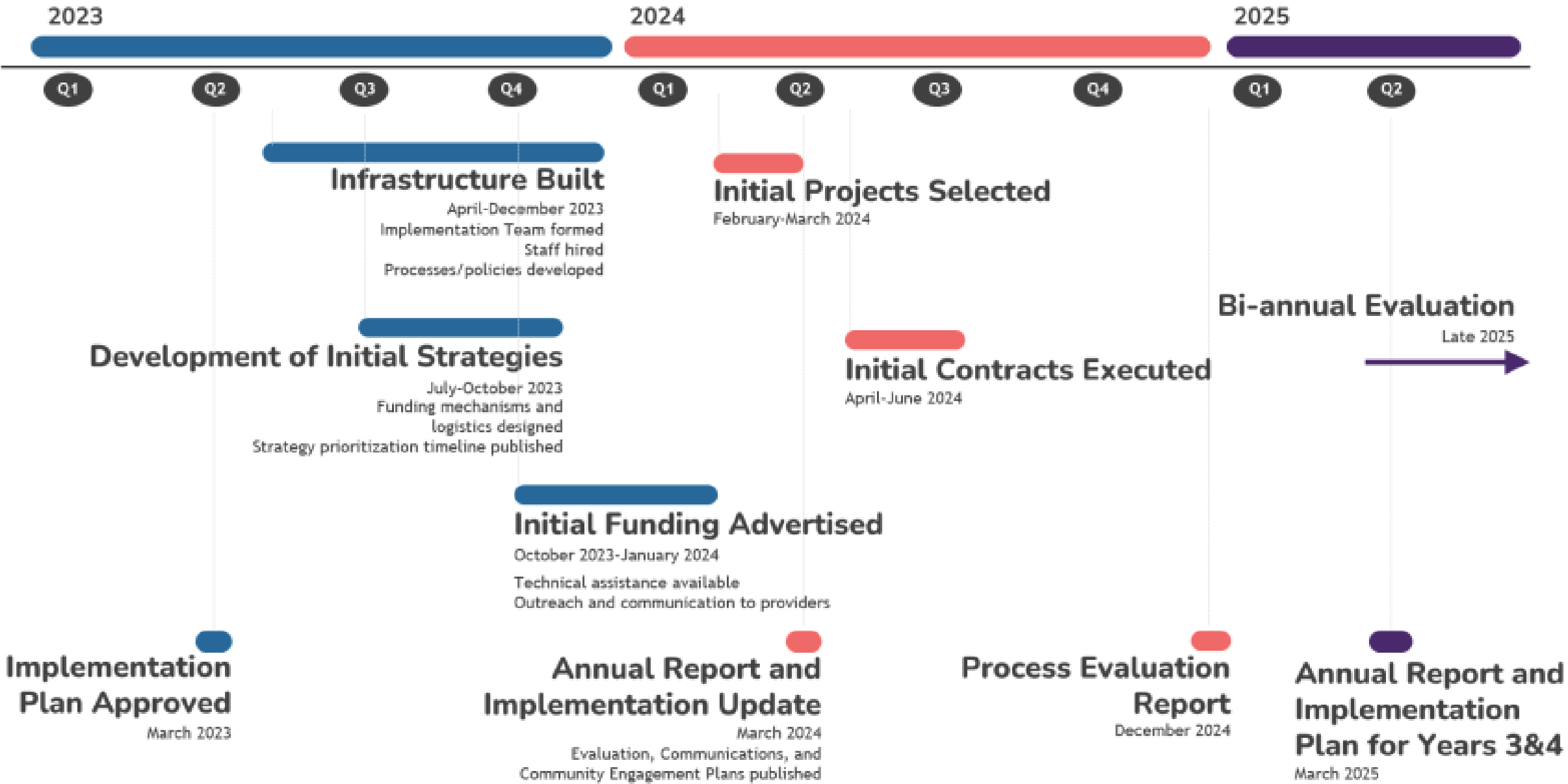
55,226 packages of wipes

109 Safe home products

12,246 households per quarter – NOT unique count

Recipients are all Medicaid eligible

Healthy Children’s Fund: Expected Timeline*



* This timeline offers a sequence and expected dates for initial strategies: those that are most ready to implement. Subsequent strategies will roll out as the necessary internal infrastructure and external capacity of potential funding recipients is built. All dates are based on current understanding and may shift as new information emerges and circumstances change.

37 Active contracts

\$7,901,309

\$7.6M pending

What Could Be?

Draft Implementation Plan
2026-2027

Developed by staff and the
Implementation Team

Similar to original because
data still coming in

Prioritize exercise



2025-2026 Draft Implementation Plan
Years 3 & 4

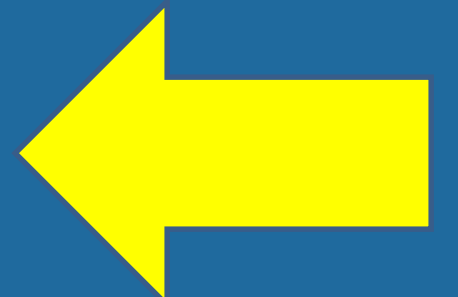
Implementation Plan 2026-2027

1. What strategies are most important to you, and would you prioritize these?
2. Do you agree with the 10 strategies? Should we have 10?

What Could Be?

Table X. Expected Revenue Allocations for Years 1-4: 2023-2026

	Ordinance Allocation Requirements	Years 2023-2024		Years 2025-2026	
		\$	%	\$	%
Fund Administration	9%	\$1,800,000	9%	\$1,800,000	9%
Priority Areas	91%	\$18,079,358	90%	\$18,320,642	91%
Early Learning and Care	55-68%	\$12,361,905	62%	\$13,613,815	68%
Supporting Vulnerable Children	20-36%	\$5,717,453	29%	\$4,423,632	23%
TOTAL	100%	20,079,358	100%	\$19,743,635	100%



Implementation Plan 2026-2027

1. Do you agree with the funding percentages?
2. What information do you need to make funding decisions?



Questions and Discussion

Implementation Plan 2026-2027

Next steps:

Workforce: accessible pathways through coaching, specialized training; access to specialized support on-site

Continued conversation around the investments supporting vulnerable children