

HEALTHY CHILDREN'S FUND

FUND DISTRIBUTION STATUS UPDATE

Contracts Executed, In Development, and Planning

May 2025



WHATCOM COUNTY
HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY
SERVICES



SUMMARY

\$20 million budget based off of 2 years (2023-2024) of HCF collection

Category	Amount Contracted/ Budgeted	Amount In Development/ Projected	Amount in Planning/ Projected	Totals	Percentage of \$20m HCF Budget
All	\$7,901,309	\$9,247,170	\$1,811,000	\$18,959,479	94.8%
Early Learning & Care (ELC)	\$2,989,776	\$9,247,170	\$1,000,000	\$13,236,946	66.2%
Supporting Vulnerable Children	\$4,911,533	\$0	\$811,000	\$5,722,533	28.6%

CONTRACTS EXECUTED

Funding Recipient	Budgeted	Project Description	Notes
#1 Small Capital Grants			
Generations Childcare	\$67,000	Room expansion to add infant childcare	Contract Executed; End Date 6/30/32
#5 Create Regional ELC Hubs & Services			
Drop-in Care: Peace Centers	\$499,921	Network of countywide safe, quality drop in childcare options	Contract Executed; End Date 4/30/26
Catalyst Therapies	\$199,417	Countywide Autism support services	Contract Executed; End Date 3/31/26
Opportunity Council (Childcare Stabilization)	\$119,305	Emergency childcare vouchers for income eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
C-RECC (OC & Bellingham Chamber of Commerce)	\$411,631	Retain current childcare slots and increase childcare slots in county	Contract Executed; End Date 7/31/26
#6 Innovative ELC Approaches			
Sendan Center	\$242,000	Behavioral and mental health supports and specialty instruction in child care centers - 17.5 Month Contract	Contract Executed; End Date 4/30/26
Whatcom Family YMCA	\$506,253	OT, PT, and Speech therapies onsite and instruction in classrooms of all three centers - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed; End Date 4/30/26
MORE Smiles Learning Center	\$15,214	Curriculum to offer comprehensive kindergarten readiness	Contract Executed; End Date 3/16/26
Whatcom Family YMCA	\$32,401	Curriculum for all three centers classrooms	Contract Executed; End Date 3/11/26
Cozy Bears Early Learning	\$43,500	Kindergarten Readiness Curriculum - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed, End Date 3/11/26
AHA! Childcare and Family Learning Center	\$106,773	Kindergarten Readiness Assessments, Language, Speech, Nutritionist and Physical Education Instruction - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed, End Date 3/11/26
Ferndale School District	\$149,000	Spanish speaking and Latin culture outreach for Early Learning and Care Center - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed, End Date 3/11/26
Opportunity Council - SEAS	\$40,000	Case Management - 12.5 Month Contract	Contract Executed; End Date 3/31/26
Lummi Indian Business Council (LIBC)	\$282,889	Coordination between Lummi Health Center, tribal families and Early Learning Center. Milestone Education, support services, screening and in-home kindergarten readiness skill building - 14.5 Month Contract	Contract Executed; End Date 9/30/26
Whatcom Center for Early Learning	\$225,525	Specialty supports for kids with complex medical needs in child care settings, specialty instruction for speech, OT and PT in child care settings - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed, End Date 3/31/26
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association	\$48,947	Expansion of slots, and quality care rating advancement - 1 Year Contract	Contract Executed, End Date 3/31/26
#7 Recruit Mental & BH Workforce			
Brigid Collins	\$452,907	Mental and behavioral health service expansion for children 0-5 and their families	Contract Executed; End Date 4/30/26
Ferndale School District	\$271,817	Mental and behavioral health service expansion for children 0-5 and their families	Contract Executed; End Date 8/31/26
Lydia Place	\$474,786	Mental and behavioral health service expansion for children 0-5 and their families	Contract Executed; End Date 4/30/26

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CONTRACTS EXECUTED CONTINUED

Funding Recipient	Budgeted	Project Description	Notes
Whatcom Center for Early Learning	\$398,709	Mental and behavioral health service expansion for children 0-5 and their families	Contract Executed; End Date 3/31/26
Mobile Mama Therapy	\$164,235	Internship program for counseling graduate students to serve Medicaid eligible moms	Contract Executed; End Date 7/31/26
#8 Limit Housing Instability for Families			
Ferndale Community Services	\$376,416	Housing & financial assistance, budgeting, case management and other resources for families to avoid homelessness	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Mercy Housing	\$96,870	Housing & financial assistance, budgeting, case management and other resources for families to avoid homelessness	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Lydia Place	\$1,155,524	Housing & financial assistance, budgeting, case management and other resources for families to avoid homelessness	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
#9 Expand & Enhance Early Parenting Supports			
Onward Love Care Collective	\$34,890	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Birth by Design	\$38,090	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Drayton Harbor Doula	\$39,050	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Labor of Love	\$22,850	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Whatcom Working Doulas	\$34,050	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
The Very Best Doulas	\$34,570	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Marissa Peterson	\$30,410	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Sarah Day Doula Services	\$21,910	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Many Moons Birth	\$39,450	Doula Services to improve birth and early life outcomes for Medicaid-eligible families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Opportunity Council (Basic Needs)	\$93,811	Infant basic needs including diapers, formula, hygiene items, transportation and household safety products	Contract Executed; End Date 2/28/26
Lydia Place	\$38,500	Infant basic needs including diapers, formula, hygiene items, transportation and household safety products	Contract Executed; End Date 5/15/26
Bellingham Food Bank	\$867,688	Infant basic needs including diapers and formula to be distributed at the Bellingham Food Bank and 12 other food banks in Whatcom County	Contract Executed; End Date 1/31/26
#10 Integrate/Co-locate Services to coordinate access to resources			
Opportunity Council - SEAS	\$225,000	Increased capacity and population served through Single Entry Access to Services (SEAS) line opening up services to perinatal and post-partum families	Contract Executed; End Date 12/31/25
Early Learning & Care (ELC)	\$2,989,776		
Supporting Vulnerable Children	\$4,911,533		
TOTAL BUDGETED	\$7,901,309		

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IN DEVELOPMENT

Funding Recipient	Projected	Project Description	Notes
#1 Small Capital Grants			
<i>Not Determined</i>	\$3,000,000	Small capital expansion for early learning and care facilities and home-based centers	RFP in development. Aiming for April release of RFP.
#2 Pathways to stable ELC workforce			
Bellingham Technical College	\$1,294,000	Scholarships for employees and support for childcare business owners to send staff to trainings	Budgeted - \$647K each year for 2 years. Contract being reviewed as of 1/16/25
#3 Early Learning & Care Subsidies			
<i>Not Determined</i>	\$2,116,870	Childcare payment subsidies for income-eligible families	Resolution Passed 12/3/24; RFP being reviewed *this is for 6 months
#4 Expand/Retain ELC Workforce			
<i>Not Determined</i>	\$1,566,300	Rate augmentation for childcare providers serving Working Connections families to cover cost of service	Resolution Passed 12/3/24; RFP being reviewed *this is for 6 months
#5 Create Regional ELC Hubs & Services			
Meridian Early Learning Hub	\$1,000,000	Offices for HUB services such as therapy, OT, PT and speech therapy, admin services and supports for in-home providers and shared usage of classroom spaces for training and family services like play groups.	In development
Tiny Steps	\$270,000	Operation costs to start up and develop a new childcare center on ARC of Whatcom County Property - 1 Year Contract	In development
Early Learning & Care (ELC)	\$9,247,170		
Supporting Vulnerable Children	\$0		
TOTAL PROJECTED	\$9,247,170		

PLANNING

Funding Recipient	Projected	Project Description	Notes
#5 Create Regional ELC Hubs & Services			
<i>Not Determined</i>	\$1,000,000	County wide services, that support expansion and quality of child care slots	In development
#9 Expand & Enhance Early Parenting Supports			
<i>Not Determined</i>	\$171,000	Hospital based social worker for families with immediate and emerging complex medical needs.	In development
Compass Mental Health Crisis Center	\$10,000	Baby/child-parent visiting room expansion and resources for clients	In development
Peer-to-Peer Parenting Groups	\$300,000	Training and program development and facilitation of a peer-to-peer parenting support and resources county wide.	RFP waiting for approval from finance Submitted 12/24
#10 Integrate/Co-Locate/Coordinate Services			
System for Childhood Wellbeing Development	\$330,000	Bring together all providers, share data, single entry stream for family efficiency and placement in care that matches needs. Ease of finding and assessing services.	In development
Early Learning & Care (ELC)	\$1,000,000		
Supporting Vulnerable Children	\$811,000		
TOTAL PROJECTED	\$1,811,000		