



Memorandum

TO: WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM: Keith Montoya & Jennifer Wright, Co-chairs, Child & Family Well-being Task Force

DATE: January 4, 2023

RE: CFWBTF Memo to Council re member vacancy recommendations

The Child & Family Well-being Task Force is currently seeking applications from community members for 7 Council appointed positions on the Task Force. The terms for all 7 positions end January 31, 2023 and have been 2-year terms in order to stagger vacancies. Going forward, all terms will be for 4 years.

Per [Ordinance 2020-079](#), the Task Force is comprised of 30 members. Fifteen of the 30 total members are permanent members appointed by their designated agency specified in the ordinance. The other 15 members are appointed by the County Council, and must represent at least one of the following experiences: community members from under-represented communities; community action agency, non-profit housing organization or social service agency; faith community; private school, home school, higher education or child care provider; medical and behavioral health care provider serving young children and families; community members with experience caring for children such as parent, foster parent, grandparent, or guardian; private business, corporation, or philanthropic organization.

The Task Force co-chairs and staff support have assessed current appointed member sector representation and identified gaps in the sectors. Please see the table below for recommended applicants to fill underrepresented sectors. As Council reviews the applications at the January 10, 2023 meeting, we request you consider the need for diverse Task Force experience and representation in order to effectively make recommendations about improving the health and well-being of all young children and their families in Whatcom County.

Sector	Recommended applicants
Under-represented communities: Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Immigrant, Rural (always a high priority)	Christina Jackson
Medical health care (currently no representation)	Dr. Monika Mahal
Behavioral health provider (current appointed representative's term ends)	
Housing sector (have one appointed member in this field)	Katherine Orłowski Colton Redtfeldt
Private business or corporation sector (currently no representation)	
Education (currently no appointed member representation from public schools or higher education)	Tilda Dougherty Anne Granberg (incumbent)
Philanthropy sector (currently no representation)	Pamela Jons

Thank you for your consideration.

Keith Montoya & Jennifer Wright
Co-chairs, Child & Family Well-being Task Force

