



Caring today, shaping tomorrow



# Agenda

Review Implementation Planning and Feedback Processes

Review Implementation Feedback Themes

Present Final Implementation Plan

# Implementation Plan process

•Council has the opportunity to give feedback on policy direction, funding allocation percentages, specific initiatives that should be included

Council policy guidance

Exec team & Staff

- Develop plan identifing:
- Strategies
- Projects
- Outcomes
- Solicits input from advisory team and community

 Collaborates on plan

CFWBTF

Council

- Receives recommended plan
- Works with
   Executive and staff
   to ensure plan
   contents are
   implementable, set
   expectations for
   work plan, set
   spending plan in
   conjunction with
   the biennial budget.
- Adopts updated plan every 2 years

- Posted to website
- Made available to the public via the County budget

Posted to the public

#### ORDINANCE 2022-045

## Review of Ordinance Funding Allocations

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.

#### 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.

Help all children be ready for kindergarten Helping vulnerable children of all backgrounds, including homeless and at -risk children

Increasing
Affordable, High Quality,
Professional, and
Accessible Early
Learning and Child
Care Opportunities

Administration & Evaluation

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.

#### 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.

## **Comment Period**

## Open Comment Period: October 1st-17th 2025

The Draft Implementation Plan and community survey will be available to the public on the Whatcom County Health and Community Services website

### Groups sent invitations to comment:

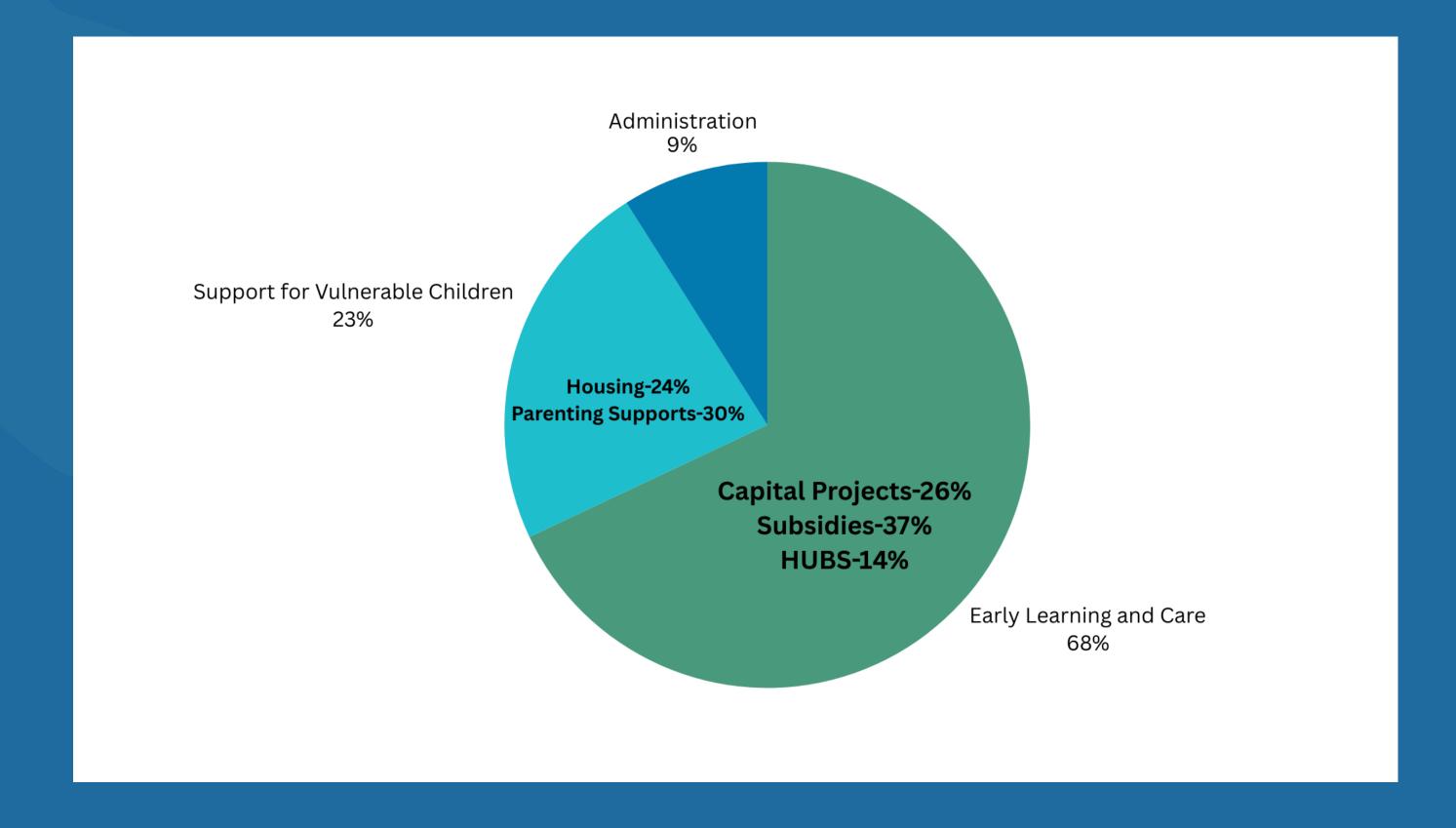
- Healthy Whatcom
- Whatcom Child Care Coalition
- Whatcom Public Health Advisory Board
- Racial Equity Commission
- Commission on Sexual & Domestic Violence
- Business & Commerce Committee
- Whatcom Small City Mayors
- Local Chambers of Commerce
- Current Healthy Children's Fund Contractors

# DRAFT Implementation Plan Feedback Themes

- Strong Community Investment
- Measuring Success
- Inclusion
- Funding Eligibility and Expansion
- Mental Health and Family Stability
- Technical Assistance

# Draft 25/26 Implementation Plan

This pie chart depicts how funding allocations correspond to County Council's stated priorities in the Draft Implementation Plan.



# Looking Ahead

### Councils Interest:

- Clearly defining "vulnerable children" in alignment with funding allocations
- Refining and focusing strategies to drive measurable, systemlevel change

### • Plan for 2026:

- Begin co-design plan with Council and Subject Matter Experts
- Adopt next Implementation Plan in time for 2027-2028 budget cycle
- Involve Director Thomaskutty