



STATE OF WASHINGTON
LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE WORKFIRST POVERTY REDUCTION OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2024 from 9:00 am – noon
Virtual Meeting
TVW [Recording](#)

Attendance

Voting Members

Quorum? Yes No

Senators

- Sen. Perry Dozier (R)
- Sen. Manka Dhingra (D)
- Sen. Chris Gildon (R)
- Sen. Joe Nguyen (D)

Representatives

- Rep. Mia Gregerson (D) (Legislative Co-Chair)
- Rep. Michelle Caldier (R)
- Rep. Carolyn Eslick (R)
- Rep. Strom Peterson (D)

Agency Members

- Jilma Meneses, Department of Social and Health Services (Executive Co-Chair)
- Colleen Thompson, proxy for Kelly Cooper, Department of Health
- Veronica Gallardo, Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction
- Diane Klontz, Department of Commerce (Co-Chair Advisory)
- Jennie Fitzpatrick, Department of Corrections
- Tim Probst, Employment Security Department (Co-Chair Advisory)
- Nicole Rose, Department of Children, Youth, and Families
- Jennifer Dellinger, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Non-Voting Members

- Terry Redmon, Economic Security Administration Secretary
- Mystique Hurtado, Governor's Office Indian Affairs
- Megan Matthews, Office of Equity
- Grace Yoo, Washington State Women's Commission
- Anna Minor, Office of Financial Management
- Nam Nguyen, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs
- Ed Prince, Commission on African American Affairs
- Sheri Sawyer, Washington State LGBTQ Commission
- Maria Siguenza, Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Drayton Jackson, PRWG Steering Committee
- Juanita Maestas, PRWG Steering Committee

Staff

- Amber Leaders, Office of the Governor
- Alex Panagotacos, Department of Social and Health Services
- Babs Roberts, Department of Social and Health Services
- Brice Montgomery, Department of Social and Health Services

- Charice Pidcock, Neutral Facilitator, Department of Social and Health Services
- Lindsay Morgan Tracy, Department of Social and Health Services
- Lori Pfingst, PhD, Department of Social and Health Services
- Gwen Teok, PhD, Department of Social and Health Services

Presenters

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Opening

Meeting opened at 9:00 am.

Rules of Engagement

Meeting engagement for the virtual meeting were shared. Rules of engagement were reviewed as a reminder of acceptable behavior for the meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

Co-chairs, Representative Mia Gregerson and Secretary Jilma Meneses, welcomed members, presenters, and guests.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was shared, consisting of the meeting agenda and the meeting minutes from May 2023. Quorum was not met; therefore, the consent agenda items were tabled to the next meeting.

The following consent agenda items were tabled:

- Meeting agenda
- April 2024 minutes
- WorkFirst Performance Measures
- WorkFirst Spending Plan/Governor's Supplemental TANF Budget Proposal

Aligned Poverty Efforts & LEWPRO Engagement

A summary of the April meeting was shared, including:

Key Principles

- Act for people, not political interests
- Be accountable
- Participate and engage
- Create space for shared understanding and discussion
- Center lived experience
- Intentional relationship building
- Support alignment of priorities
- Prioritizing community-driven solutions

Strategies

- Leverage existing advisory groups
- Intentional collaboration and inclusivity
- Alignment with WEJA
- Establish feedback loop for implementation support
- Prioritize immediate needs of impacted communities

Action-Oriented Approaches

- Act on recommendations
- Support strategy implementation
- Drive system changes
- Clear process guidance
- Integrate plan into the work
- Collaboration for collective impact

Public Comment

Public comment period was offered. There were no comments made.

Review of TANF Budget Analysis

Dr. Lori Pflugst and Babs Robers reviewed the TANF Budget over time and the TANF spending plan for fiscal year 2025.

Digital Equity – Affordable Connectivity Program

Katrina Tuggle, Digital Equity Program Manager with the Office of Equity, Lisa Heaton, Managing Director of the Broadband Equity Unit with the Department of Commerce, and Amanda Saxton, MSW, MPA, presented on the impacts of the federal Affordable Connectivity Program.

Integrated Eligibility & Enrollment (IE&E) Project Update & Digital Modernization Enhancements

The IE&E Executive Director, Jason Leung, provided an update on the digital modernization enhancements project.

Public Comment

Public comment period was offered. Lianna Kressin, of the Statewide Poverty Action Network, offered comment expressing the urgency of families in need and historic TANF spending.

Good of the Order

The next LEWPRO meeting will be held on August 15, 2024, from 9:00 am to noon. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 am.