



## Parent Advisory Group (PAG)

### Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2023 - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

#### Welcome, Virtual Meeting Protocols and Introductions

DCYF Community Engagement Manager, Emily Morgan, welcomed attendees and initiated introductions. Members introduced themselves and shared their personal updates and successes.

#### PAG Recruitment and In-Person Meeting

DCYF Community Engagement Manager, Emily Morgan led the group in a discussion regarding PAG recruitment and the plan for an in-person meeting.

<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our original plan was to have an all-day in-person meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup>. However, our outreach and recruitment for PAG members has been delayed. Recruitment should be going out in the next couple of weeks, but this has pushed back our timeline. A concern is that any new parents coming onto PAG might not be able to arrange things in time to join the in-person meeting. Does this group have thoughts on making the July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting virtual and moving the in-person meeting to September 20<sup>th</sup>? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I think that sounds like a good idea. Where would the meeting be? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Currently, the plan is to hold the meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton in Sea-Tac.</li> <li>▪ My concern with holding an in-person in September is that kids are back in school. Parents might have more freedom in the summer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I agree. I want parents be able to have the time to put things together but summer is easier.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ How long is an all-day meeting? Can you explain logistics? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The meeting would likely be 9am-4:30pm. We provide refreshments and lunch. If you live more than 50 miles away we would arrange travel for members including a hotel room, airfare/rental car/gas stipend.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Would family be welcome? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Yes, they are welcome to travel with you. In the past, partners and kids did not participate in the meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• If summer is a better option, would could push the July in-person meeting to August. Please note, for any in-person meeting we will always have a virtual option for those who cannot attend. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ August is great.</li> <li>○ We could still meet virtually in July to touch base about the in-person meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ That's a great idea. The July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will still take place virtually in the evening.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• An in-person meeting would be a good time for everyone to meet and get to know each other especially with new members coming onboard.</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps/Follow Up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Engagement Team will be sending out a survey to gather PAG member availability for an August in-person meeting.</li> </ul>

#### 2023 Legislative Session Debrief and 2024 Legislative Planning

DCYF Director of Public Affairs, Allison Krutsinger provided an update on the 2023 legislative session and members discussed 2024 Legislative Planning.

- [Legislative Session Presentation](#)



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<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I think excluding child support when it comes to assessing eligibility is really important. My child's father was ordered to pay child support, but I rarely received the payments.</li><li>• The seamless referral or plan of care has really changed lives.</li><li>• Is extending eligibility for Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) and Head Start about income?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yes, some of that is about income: How do we make more families eligible for those pieces and increasing eligibility but also continuing to remove barriers.</li><li>○ The other piece related to that is around supporting permanency through guardianships. Adoption requires termination of parental rights which is traumatic for everyone involved and can be really complicated. We're looking at how do we support families post adoption and post guardianship so that the family is stable.</li></ul></li><li>• There are lots of supports for adoptive mothers, but I would like to see more resources and supports dedicated to adoptive fathers.</li></ul>
<b>Next Steps/Follow Up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please reach out to the Community Engagement Team (<a href="mailto:dycf.communityengagement@dycf.wa.gov">dycf.communityengagement@dycf.wa.gov</a>) or Allison Krutsinger (<a href="mailto:allison.krutsinger@dycf.wa.gov">allison.krutsinger@dycf.wa.gov</a>) with any follow-up questions.</li></ul>

**2023 Meetings, Closing Remarks, and Adjourn**

<b>Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2023 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.</li></ul>
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