



# Children's Council of Skagit County

## Strategic Plan 2016-2018

---

To align with the state and regional efforts, the Children's Council of Skagit County has adopted the Washington State Early Learning Plan (ELP) Ready Frames as the structure for establishing the goals, activities and indicators for the Children's Council of Skagit County.

---

### VISION:

Skagit County grows thriving families.

### PURPOSE:

Bringing community members and agencies together to empower and enrich the lives of young children and their families in Skagit County.

### VALUES:

- **Respect and Integrity** - Welcoming and being open to all conversations, questions, and input about our shared vision and common goals.
- **Equality and Equity** - Collaborating to create conditions that provide equitable support ensuring an equal start, thus allowing all children to reach their full potential.
- **Diversity and Inclusivity** - Striving to reflect and engage all of our community.
- **High Standards of Quality** - Holding ourselves accountable for making informed decisions and producing quality work.
- **Connectivity and Partnerships** – Working together to align and support collective outcomes.
- **Continuous Growth** – Responding and adapting to the changing needs of our community as identified by current research and evaluation.
- **Curiosity, Creativity, and Playfulness** – Creating spaces that inspire, encourage, and foster an environment of possibility.

**GOAL:**

Promote optimal health and development for children prenatal through age 8.

**FOCUS AREAS:**

1. Communication, collaboration, and education about early childhood and learning supports with families, caregivers, and other stakeholders.
2. Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments
3. Kindergarten readiness across all domains

<b>Ready &amp; Successful Children</b> <i>are healthy and socially, emotionally, and cognitively prepared for success in school and life.</i>			
<b>ELP GOALS</b>	<b>NWEL GOALS</b>	<b>CC STRATEGIES</b>	<b>INDICATORS</b>
<p>Strategy #4 “Build Continuum of Infants and Toddlers Services and Programs”</p> <p>Strategy #5 “Make Home Visiting Available to At-Risk Families” Combined</p> <p>Strategies: #11, #27 and 28. “Expand Early Numeracy Programs; Align Prekindergarten and K-3 Instructional and Programmatic Practices; and Implement Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (WaKIDS)”</p> <p>Strategy #6 “Ensure Developmental Screening and Connections to Responsive Supports”</p>	<p>Elevate the importance of birth-3 within our locally developing system of P-3</p> <p>Understand more about pre-birth to three home visiting in our region</p> <p>Increase collaboration among pre-birth to three service providers</p> <p>Increase school readiness across systems</p>	<p>Function as the advisory board for the ICC (Interagency Coordinating Council)</p> <p>Form partnerships with organization &amp; agency that increase school readiness and/or promote optimal health --- through mutual training, networking, advocacy &amp; referral</p> <p>Participate &amp; Support NWEL WaKIDS work and mutual training</p> <p>Promote Universal Developmental Screenings</p> <p>Formalize prenatal – 3 provider group connection with Children’s Council</p>	<p>Percent of students entering kindergarten demonstrating characteristics of readiness (by domain and by number of domains)</p> <p>Percent receiving a well-child check up in the past year (60% Skagit County, WA Health Alliance report)</p> <p>Percent of children who visit the dentist for preventative and/or treatment (MEASURE OF PCP that apply fluoride varnish as part of EPSDT exams – 3%)</p> <p>Children with special needs, birth to 3, served by Individual Family Service Plans (ESIT)</p> <p>Number of places implementing universal developmental screenings</p>

<b>Ready &amp; Successful Parents, Families, &amp; Caregivers</b> <i>have the information and resources needed to be their children's first and most important teachers.</i>			
ELP GOALS	NWEL GOALS	CC STRATEGIES	INDICATORS
Combined Strategies: #16,#25,#26 #30 "Ensure Social-Emotional Learning – Parents, Caregivers, Early Learning Professionals; Provide Health, Mental Health and Social-Emotional Consultation in Early Learning Settings; Ensure Continuum of Social-Emotional Learning—Children, Expand Compassionate Schools – Reducing Effects of Complex Trauma"	Increase awareness of and participation in NWEL and its affiliate county coalitions among families, caregivers and service providers, school districts, legislators, etc.  Identify gaps in parent and provider learning  Support parent and provider learning opportunities  Expand play & learn groups	Support parents as their children's first and most important teachers by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing Incredible Years Program</li> <li>• Distributing United Way's School Readiness Calendar</li> <li>• Coordinating parenting education</li> </ul> Serve as the advisory board to Parent to Parent Conduct family survey based on 0-3 survey Coordinate Spotlight Film Festival Support Fire Engine Program Partner and support the Oral Health Coalition Formalize prenatal – 3 provider group connection with Children's Council EMERGING: Collaborate with Basic Food Outreach Educator Work with United Way on signature issue of early learning and kindergarten readiness  PAST: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Love, Talk, Play event</li> <li>• Welcome Baby</li> <li>• Born Learning</li> <li>• Early Learning Nights</li> </ul>	Established Play & Learn groups  Percent of new mothers who breastfeed their children – initiation and at 6 months  Percent of mothers who receive prenatal care in their first trimester (75%)  Percent of eligible Families served by WIC  Percent of families served by family support programs, early head start, PCAP, and NFP.  CPS referrals for child abuse and neglect.  Percent of eligible children participating in the Basic Food Program (Advocate)

### Ready & Successful Early Learning Professionals

*are prepared and have the knowledge and responsiveness to children's different learning styles, capabilities and developmental goals so they ensure a high-quality learning experience for children.*

ELP GOALS	NWEL GOALS	CC STRATEGIES	INDICATORS
<p>Combined Strategies: #16,#25,#26 #30 "Ensure Social-Emotional Learning – Parents, Caregivers, Early Learning Professionals; Provide Health, Mental Health and Social-Emotional Consultation in Early Learning Settings; Ensure Continuum of Social-Emotional Learning—Children, Expand Compassionate Schools – Reducing Effects of Complex Trauma"</p> <p>Strategy #23 "Implement Comprehensive Professional Development and Compensation System"</p>	<p>Increase awareness of importance of quality child care among parents, service providers and community members</p> <p>Increase numbers of Early Achievers participating programs</p>	<p>Create &amp; follow a focused annual educational goal</p> <p>Provide educational opportunities to early learning professionals through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connections Conference</li> <li>• Spotlight On..</li> <li>• Monthly meeting networking and sharing</li> <li>• Spotlight Film Festival</li> <li>• Making STARS credit available at trainings</li> </ul> <p>Strengthen the collaboration between child care, preschool and elementary education professionals and systems through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NWEL participation</li> <li>• State of Children and Families report distribution and education</li> <li>• Dinner &amp; Dialogues</li> </ul> <p>Support letters upon request</p> <p>SCAP Subcommittee</p> <p>Outreach to unlicensed providers</p>	<p>Number and percentage of early learning providers who receive ongoing education</p> <p>Percent of licensed child care providers enrolled in Early Achievers</p> <p>Number of shared professional development opportunities</p>

<b>Ready &amp; Successful Schools</b> <i>are prepared to support the learning and development of every child in their community.</i>			
ELP GOALS	NWEL GOALS	CC STRATEGIES	INDICATORS
Combined Strategies: #16,#25,#26 #30 “Ensure Social-Emotional Learning – Parents, Caregivers, Early Learning Professionals; Provide Health, Mental Health and Social-Emotional Consultation in Early Learning Settings; Ensure Continuum of Social-Emotional Learning—Children, Expand Compassionate Schools – Reducing Effects of Complex Trauma” #11, #27 and 28. “Expand Early Numeracy Programs; Align Prekindergarten and K-3 Instructional and Programmatic Practices; Implement Kindergarten Readiness Assessment” WaKIDS	School district early learning contacts participate in NWEL and its affiliate county coalitions  Increase use of common messages and tools/resources for school readiness and transitions	Strengthen the collaboration between child care, preschool and elementary education professionals and systems by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connections Conference</li> <li>• Promote Transition Reports</li> <li>• TS Gold / WaKIDS education</li> <li>• NWEL participation</li> <li>• Collaborations with district early learning contacts</li> </ul> EMERGING: Increase use of transitions report outside of licensed child care / Early Learning settings  NEAR education  POSSIBLE: Collaborate with Communities in Schools for expansion  Utilize technology (Skype) to increase participation in meetings.	Percent of students entering kindergarten demonstrating characteristics of readiness (by domain and by number of domains)  Number of Regional Transition Reports shared between preschool and kindergarten teachers .

## Ready & Successful Systems and Communities

*have the resources and information needed to support expansion and excellence of program and services for children, families and schools, including: governance, financing, accountability, planning and communication.*

ELP GOALS	NWEL GOALS	CC STRATEGIES	INDICATORS
<p>Strategy #35 "Strengthen Public Awareness and Action"</p>	<p>Strengthen state to local coordination in NWEL region</p> <p>Increase awareness of and participation in NWEL and its affiliate county coalitions among families, caregivers and service providers, school districts, legislators, etc.</p> <p>Increase membership</p>	<p>Strengthen local coordination across groups and agencies supporting young children and families from prenatal through age 8 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Networking &amp; sharing through CC meetings</li> <li>• Formalizing prenatal – 3 provider group connection with Children's Council</li> <li>• Hosting an Early Learning Data Carousel</li> <li>• CC Website management</li> </ul> <p>Increase awareness of the importance of early childhood and learning by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting and Attending Early Learning Brunch</li> <li>• Co-Organizing the Spotlight Film Festival</li> <li>• Establishing connections with the business community</li> <li>• Connecting to the Population Health Trust</li> </ul> <p>Increase communication about early childhood and learning supports with families, caregivers, and other stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate parent outreach</li> <li>• Collaborate on information/referral line</li> </ul>	<p>POTENTIAL INDICATORS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness of services/supports</li> <li>• How easy or hard it is for parents to find child care in their community</li> <li>• Message recognition</li> <li>• # of agencies participating in CC</li> <li>• CC Capacity / Infrastructure / Funding</li> </ul>