



—● **Welcome to our King County  
ESIT/DHH Community!**

May 11, 2022

 King County  
Best Starts for  
**KIDS**

## ● AGENDA

- Welcome to the ESIT/DHH King County Community!
- Community Building:
  - Who makes up the DHH/ESIT Community?
  - Community of Caring: Creating Collaborative Relationships
- Overview of Finalized Policies
- Questions

## ● PURPOSE

- Fresh start to building our ESIT/DHH community.
- Establishing collaborative relationships and getting on the same page.
- Provide high level overview of overview of policies, what to expect moving forward.

## —● ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- HUGE THANK YOU TO ROBIN TAFT & NWC!!
- Pilot Sites: Encompass, Kindering, Northwest Center
- Workgroups
- ESIT/DHH Community Feedback

# ● TRANSITION PROCESS RECAP

Prior to July 2021 ●	● July 2021-June 2022 ●	● July 2022 Forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• King County wide DHH FRCs were housed at Northwest Center.</li><li>• Northwest Center declined to continue the county wide role and agreed to extend for one year.</li><li>• King County met with DHH Agencies and all providers to explore numerous options.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pilot Agencies (Encompass, Kinderling, Northwest Center)</li><li>• Policies &amp; Procedures drafted &amp; reviewed</li><li>• Training May &amp; June</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full-service agencies begin taking referrals July 1st</li><li>• Ongoing Training &amp; Community of Practice for ESIT/DHH Community</li></ul>

# ● GOALS FOR ESIT/DHH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

1. Provide **equitable, culturally, & linguistically relevant** services.
2. See **whole child** and support all areas of development.
3. Center **family voice**, strengths, priorities, & support **family choices**
  - Provide services/supports to family sooner & remove barriers to access
  - Simplify family experience, reduce confusion, paperwork, and stressors
4. Each family has a **single unified and collaborative team** across agencies
5. **Clear roles and equitable expectations** for all providers/team members
6. Access to equitable funding efficiently distributed



# Who makes up the ESIT/DHH Community?



# ● BIRTH TO THREE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Maryanne Barnes, Executive Director (currently supervising FRC Dept.)
- Debbie Jackson, Referral Coordinator/ FRC Training/ Point Person

## **DHH FRCS:**

- April Hoffman, DHH FRC, KC

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Debbie Jackson

**Honoring families values,  
beliefs, and journeys.**



# ● BOYER

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Mike Stewart, Executive Director
- Gay Burton, Chief Program Officer

## **DHH FRCs:**

- Candice Becker  
[candice.becker@boyercc.org](mailto:candice.becker@boyercc.org)
- Margaret Wolftange  
[Margaret.wolftange@boyercc.org](mailto:Margaret.wolftange@boyercc.org)

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Jennifer Theis  
[jennifer.theis@boyercc.org](mailto:jennifer.theis@boyercc.org)

**Ensuring all children  
have equal access to  
ESIT services,  
regardless of family's  
language needs.**

# ● CHILDHAVEN

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Jon Botten- CEO
- Michelle Hankinson- Director of ESIT

## **DHH FRCS:**

- Emma Cohanin
- Nancy Garcia Martinez

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PEOPLE:**

- Referrals: Kelsey Sprague  
[kelseys@childhaven.org](mailto:kelseys@childhaven.org)  
206-957-4841
- FRC: Nancy Garcia Martinez  
[nancyGM@childhaven.org](mailto:nancyGM@childhaven.org)  
425-428-8281

**Addressing the epidemic of  
childhood trauma &  
adversity through  
relationship, partnership,  
and innovation.**

# ● CHILDREN'S THERAPY CENTER

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Nichelle Brown-Program Director
- Sandy Carlson- FRC & Contract Manager
- Jayna Ferguson, Shannon Sperberg & Stacy Brown-FRC Team Leads

## **DHH FRCS:**

To Be Determined

**ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**  
To Be Determined

**Passionate about providing high quality, family centered services.**

# —● CHILDSTRIVE

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Mary Cline-Stively CEO
- Jackie OH-ESIT Director
- Pam Bainbridge & Jennie O'Brien-ESIT Program Managers

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Pam Bainbridge-  
[pam.Bainbridge@childstrive.org](mailto:pam.Bainbridge@childstrive.org)

**We are passionate  
about Parent Coaching  
model and Primary  
Service Provider.**

# ● ENCOMPASS

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Jessie Scanzon ESIT Director
- Brooke Boevers FRC Supervisor
- Missy Budworth Provider Supervisor
- Kim Hall Provider Supervisor

## **DHH FRC:**

- Brooke Boevers

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Brooke Boevers –FRC  
[Brooke.Boevers@encompassnw.org](mailto:Brooke.Boevers@encompassnw.org)  
425-301-8158

**Connecting with families relationally and providing coaching and care that builds their connections with their child/ren.**

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Chris Matsumoto, Principal (EEU) & Associate Director (Haring Center)
- Laura Crawford, Program Coordinator for Early Support Program (EEU)

## **DHH FRC:**

- Betsy McAlister - [betsym3@uw.edu](mailto:betsym3@uw.edu)

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Laura Crawford - [rere8@uw.edu](mailto:rere8@uw.edu)

**At the EEU, we are passionate about our equity work and continuing to push ourselves forward so that we can better provide support and services to our community. In our equity change team and across the center, we have been discussing as a staff both racism and ableism and the intersection between race and disability and the impacts on our work.**

## FAMILY CONVERSATIONS-

### Northwest School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children

#### **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Head of School- Kabian Rendel  
[k.rendel@northwestschool.com](mailto:k.rendel@northwestschool.com)
- Chief Operating Officer- Sara Reyerson  
[s.reyerson@northwestschool.com](mailto:s.reyerson@northwestschool.com)

#### **Communication Coaches:**

- Shyla Geck [s.geck@northwestschool.com](mailto:s.geck@northwestschool.com)
- Brandie Fisher [b.fisher@northwestschool.com](mailto:b.fisher@northwestschool.com)
- Ninalynn McGruder [n.mcgruder@northwestschool.com](mailto:n.mcgruder@northwestschool.com)
- Amy McCall [a.mccall@northwestschool.com](mailto:a.mccall@northwestschool.com)

#### **Coordinator of Sign Language Instruction:**

Alisa George [a.george@northwestschool.com](mailto:a.george@northwestschool.com)

#### **Administrative Assistant:**

Kim Pygott [k.pygott@northwestschool.com](mailto:k.pygott@northwestschool.com)

#### **ESIT/DHH Point People:**

- Program Lead: Jill Bargones  
[j.bargones@northwestschool.com](mailto:j.bargones@northwestschool.com)
- Program Director- Merri McBride  
[m.mcbride@northwestschool.com](mailto:m.mcbride@northwestschool.com)

**We are passionate about helping EACH child to develop the language and communication needed for loving/joyful relationships with their family and to develop their fullest cognitive potential.**



# ● HEARING, SPEECH, & DEAF CENTER

## AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:

Lindsay Klarman – Executive Director

Ariele Belo – Director of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

Anna Dodd – Director of Parent-Infant Program/Deaf and Hard of Hearing Early Language Coach (DHH ELC)\*

Cassie Owens – Senior Deaf and Hard of Hearing Early Language Coach (DHH ELC)

Jessica Kiely – Parent-Infant Program Administrative Assistant\*

## ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:

- Anna Dodd- [adodd@hsdc.org](mailto:adodd@hsdc.org)  
(206) 388-1280 x6206
- Jessica Kiely-Parent-Infant Program Administrative Assistant
- [jkiely@hsdc.org](mailto:jkiely@hsdc.org) , (206) 388-1276 x6226

**Early and consistent access to language, Deaf culture, and community.**

# ● KINDERING

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES**

- Aileen Villapudua, FRC Operations Manager
- Kim Gerdes, Director of Early Support and KidsClinic

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Elizabeth Short, DHH Point Person and FRC-
- [Elizabeth.short@kinding.org](mailto:Elizabeth.short@kinding.org)

**Helping all kids and families develop the skills to soar!**

# —● LISTEN AND TALK

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Maura Berndsen/Executive Director
- Tara Ellis/Birth to Three Program Manager
- Maria Chomyszak/Director of Finance and Operations
- Mark Fowler/Birth to Three Admin Assist.
- Martina Farova/Bookkeeper

## **ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON:**

- Tara Ellis

**Helping families find delight  
along their Listening and  
Spoken Language journey.**

# ● NORTHWEST CENTER

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Kayla Khan-Business Operations Director
- Melinda Bourgette-FRC Senior Manager
- Sara Circelli-H2H Site Supervisor

## **DHH FRC:**

- Robin Taft, [rtaft@nwcenter.org](mailto:rtaft@nwcenter.org)  
(206)200-3008

## **ESIT/DHH Point Person:**

- Kayla Khan,  
[kkhan@nwcenter.org](mailto:kkhan@nwcenter.org)  
(206)939-2714

**We're passionate about meeting each and every family where they are considering unique values, experiences, priorities, and needs.**

# ● WONDERLAND

## Agency Leaders:

- Alex Lundy- Director of Programs
- Mandy Schlegel- Family Services Senior Manager
- Jenna Buzzard- Therapy Senior Manager

## ESIT/DHH Point Person:

- D/HH FRC & Point Person: Marsha Monroe  
[mmonroe@wonderlandkids.org](mailto:mmonroe@wonderlandkids.org)
- Back up Point Person: Mandy Schlegel

**We are passionate about supporting all families, but also specialize in supporting families who are raising a child with prenatal substance exposure.**

# ● WITHINREACH

## **AGENCY LEADERS/ROLES:**

- Diana Castillo, Supervising Coordinator-Reporting and Coordination
- Jennifer Huynh, Family Support Specialist-Process ESIT Referrals
- Byanka Castillo, Bilingual Family Support Specialist-Process ESIT Referrals

➤ **ESIT line:** 206-204-3536

➤ **Email:**  
[childdevelopment@withinreachwa.org](mailto:childdevelopment@withinreachwa.org)

**Passionate about well-being.**

**To create healthy, equitable,  
vibrant communities in  
Washington where all families  
have the opportunity to thrive.**



# ● COMMUNITY

**What does  
“community”  
mean to you?**





# —● PROPOSED GROUP NORMS & EXPECTATIONS FOR COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION

- Engage thoughtfully and honestly, with courage and openness
- Keep an open mind: Cultivating a lens of developing shared understanding
- Let go of past experiences/interactions
- Respect all voices, everyone has areas of expertise.

# —● COLLABORATIVE COMMUNICATION SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What inspires you to support DHH children and their families?
2. What does the following look like for you?
  - Healthy thriving community
  - Collaborative communication
3. How will we support each other:
  - In adapting to change
  - When communication breaks down

# Overview of Policies



# ESIT-DHH Process Overview

## Full-Service Agency's Process for DHH Child Moving Forward:

- Inform Family & Support Choices
- Alert DHH Agencies of scheduled dates to be ready
- Move child/family through process without delays



## Once DHH Agency is Chosen:

- Include DHH Provider as full team member in all steps

# 1. HOLDING TIMELINESS AND FAMILY CHOICE

## **Full-Service agency holds timeliness and family choice:**

- At every step in the process, the full-service agency is responsible for enrolling and serving DHH children/families with timeliness.
- DHH FRCs coordinate scheduling of evaluations/assessments and IFSP meetings in alignment with their agency's practices.
- DHH FRCs are responsible for ensuring that a family is informed and supporting their choice of a DHH agency.
- As soon as the family chooses a DHH agency, the DHH FRC informs/includes the assigned DHH provider as a full team member who is co-responsible for engaging in all subsequent steps in the process with timeliness.

## 2. COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION

- **Timely Communication:** All team members respond to written communication within 2 business days, or sooner when possible, or when needed to meet ESIT timelines.
- **Inclusive & Regular Teaming:** Teams serving DHH children, and their families include all other team members in scheduling, planning, reflection, discussion of best practices and quality improvements for serving the family—via email and meetings.



## ● 3. INTERPRETERS & ACCESSIBILITY

### Scheduling Interpreters:

- DHH FRCs are responsible for ensuring the family's home language is supported by scheduling and arranging interpreters for every step of the IFSP process.
- Direct service providers are responsible for arranging interpreters for services they provide.

### Accessibility

- When a DHH child is referred, the DHH FRC will notify all three agencies of the scheduled evaluation/assessment and IFSP meetings including dates and times so that interpreters, to ensure accessibility, can be scheduled in advance if needed.
- When caregivers or team members need interpreters for accessibility, meetings will be scheduled at least two weeks in advance.
- DHH agencies are responsible for scheduling interpreters to ensure accessibility to ESIT activities for their staff members whenever needed.
- *In Process—King County will cover a percentage of staff interpreter costs, to ensure ESIT staff accessibility to all ESIT activities.*



## ● 4. ESIT/DHH POINT PERSON & DHH FRCS

**Each agency is responsible for identifying an ESIT/DHH Point Person. At full-service agencies, this role may be a DHH FRC.**

ESIT/DHH Point Person	DHH FRC
Participate in all DHH training requirements	Participate in all DHH training requirements.
Participate in ongoing Community of Practice	Encouraged to join Community of Practice
Support all FRCs who work with DHH children/families at their agency, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share back with all DHH Team Members</li><li>• Ensure DHH Policies &amp; Procedures implemented</li></ul>	Support family throughout the entire process  Implement DHH Policies & Procedures
Build collaborative relationships with: DHH Providers, DHH FRCs, & WithinReach	Build collaborative relationships with DHH Providers & all DHH Team Members
Address & respond to concerns as they arise	

## ● 5. PILOT WELCOME SESSION WITH ALL 3 DHH AGENCIES

A joint virtual session with all 3 DHH Agencies will be scheduled weekly to:

- Support families in understanding their choices
- Provide information
- Answer questions
- Interpretation will be provided as needed.
- DHH Agencies must have plan in place for coverage when a provider is out of the office.



## ● 6. PILOT OPTION FOR MORE THAN 1 DHH AGENCY

- A family may choose more than one DHH Agency, but not more than two.
- This option may be shared with families who have not chosen a DHH Agency two weeks before their Initial IFSP meeting.
- If a family chooses more than 1 DHH Agency to work with, intentional teaming is required to keep in mind scheduling, collaboration, and consistency.
- DHH FRCs will check in with the family and providers every few months to see how this is working.
- Each annual IFSP process will include a team discussion of how well this approach is working for the child and family, and whether to continue.

## ● 7. SCHEDULING ASSESSMENT OR EVALUATION

- The Full-Service Agency is responsible for scheduling and completing the Assessment or Evaluation within timelines and in alignment with agency's practices.
- DHH FRCs will participate in the scheduled Assessment or Evaluation, to support continuity for family.
- As soon as the family chooses a DHH agency, the DHH FRC includes the assigned DHH provider in the scheduled Assessment or Evaluation.
- The DHH provider makes every effort to participate, and if available to do so, the communication specialist from the Full-Service agency evaluation team may be excused.

## ● 8. INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS

All agencies are required to develop an Inter-Agency Agreement when more than one agency provides services on the IFSP and submit to King County, initiated by the DHH FRC.

- Each agency identifies an IFSP team member responsible for leading communication between agencies;
- The DHH FRC will coordinate and schedule evaluations, assessments, IFSP meetings, and transition conferences, including all IFSP team members;
- IFSP team members share the responsibility to meet required DCYF/ESIT timelines for data entry and will provide IFSP documents and reports to the FRC to ensure that timelines are met.

## 9. BILLING & SPECIAL EDUCATION RATE

Child's IFSP	DHH Agency	Full-Service Agency
DHH Services & DHH/FRC at Full Service	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK, CDS</li><li>• 90% of SE</li></ul>	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK</li><li>• 10% of SE</li><li>• Cannot bill for CDS for FRC*</li></ul>
DHH Services & DHH/FRC + More Services at Full Service	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK, CDS</li><li>• 50% of SE</li></ul>	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK, CDS</li><li>• 50% of SE</li><li>• Insurance, if allowed</li></ul>
Services at 2 DHH Agencies & DHH/FRC at Full Service	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK, CDS</li><li>• 45% of SE</li></ul>	Can bill, if served, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part C, BSK</li><li>• 10% of SE</li><li>• Cannot bill for CDS for FRC*</li></ul>

\*Can bill CDS and insurance for assessment or evaluation

## ● 10. DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES APPLICATION

- The DHH FRC is responsible for initiating all DDA applications and change forms to DDA and CCing any other agency on the IFSP.
- The other agency, for example any DHH agency, is responsible for following up with DDA to ensure the authorization is in place with their agency.



# ● Upcoming

## MAY 2022

### ☐ Process Training Series:

- #1: May 18<sup>th</sup> 3:00-4:30pm
- #2: May 25<sup>th</sup> 3:00-4:30pm
- #3: June 1<sup>st</sup> 3:00-4:30pm

## JUNE 2022

### ☐ Transfer of Robin's current caseload

### ☐ Audism & Ableism Training

- June 22<sup>nd</sup> 3:00-4:30pm

## July 2022

### ☐ Full-service agencies begin receiving DHH referrals

### ☐ ESIT/DHH Community of Practice

- Monthly Second Wednesday 3:00-4:30pm





## —● QUESTIONS?

- Norma Lobo:  
[nrenteri@kingcounty.gov](mailto:nrenteri@kingcounty.gov)
- Wendy Harris:  
[Wendy.harris@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Wendy.harris@kingcounty.gov)



—● THANK YOU!

**Check-Out in the chat:**

One hope you have for the  
ESIT/DHH community

