

King County's 2025 Youth Action Plan

*Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee
April 7, 2026*

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Overview

- Background
- Timeline
- Youth Action Plan Principles
- Overview of Recommendations
- Q & A



Youth Action Plan: Background



- In 2014, King County council called for the development of a Youth Action Plan (YAP) to set King County's priorities for serving infants through young adults.
- In 2023, the community-driven King County Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB) called for the update of the Youth Action Plan, to recognize investments and reflect the current realities of young people.

Process, September 2023 – October 2025



Phase 1: Reviewed and synthesized Youth Action Plan progress since 2015

Phase 2: Reviewed emergent themes with community and asked, 'Did we get it right?'

Phase 3: Leveraged County expertise to further inform recommendation areas

Phase 4: Updated the Youth Action Plan section on how children and youth are faring in King County

Phase 5: Synthesized input, draft recommendations, gathered feedback

Phase 6: Finalized the report

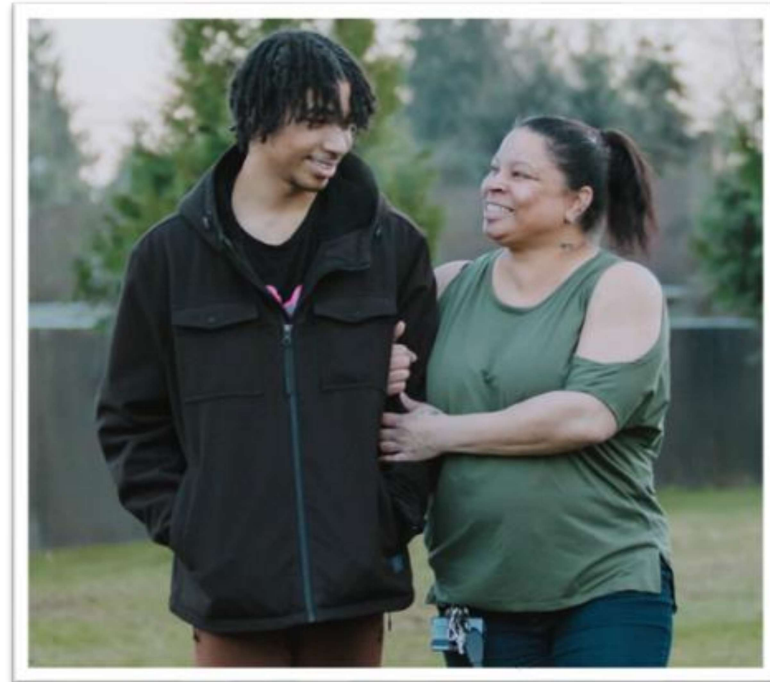
Youth Action Plan Principles



1. Strive for optimal well-being, healing, and joy. [Not just the prevention of negative outcomes such as homelessness, unemployment, and incarceration.]
2. The well-being of children, youth, young adults, and families should not be predicted by their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, geography, income, and/or immigration status.
3. Child and youth policy development, services, and programming should intentionally include the people impacted by the policies and services in authentic and meaningful ways.

Youth Action Plan Recommendation Areas

1. Lead with Equity, Racial, and Social Justice
2. Strengthen and Stabilize Families, Children, Youth and Young Adults
3. Stop the School-to-Prison Pipeline
4. Strengthen Cross-sector Collaboration and Collective Impact
5. Be Data Informed and Data Inclusive
6. Invest Early, Invest Often, Invest in Community-Informed Outcomes
7. Implementation, Accountability, and Evaluation
8. Youth Bill of Rights
9. Strengthen the Community-Based Organization Ecosystem



2025 Youth Action Plan Recommendation Area:

2. Strengthen and Stabilize Families, Children, Youth, and Young Adults



2.1 Meet the **Basic Needs** of Children, Youth, and Families

2.2 Ensure the Well-being of **Pregnant and Parenting Persons** and Primary Caregivers

2.3. Improve Equity, Access, and Affordability of **Child Care**

2.4 Improve Access to **Expanded Learning** before and afterschool and in summer.

2.5 Expand **Behavioral Health** (Mental Health and Substance Use) Supports and Services

2.6. Increase Opportunities to **Engage Whole Families** in Youth Programming

2.7 Prioritize Services for those **Most in Need**

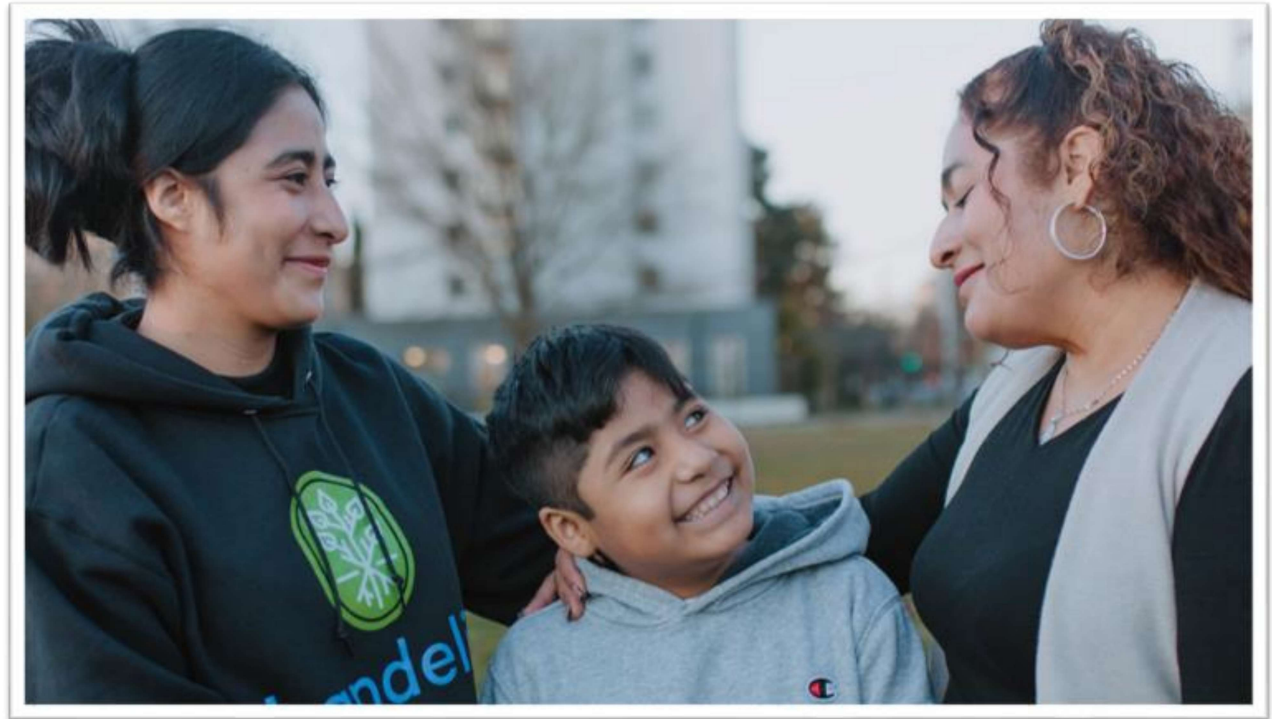
2025 Youth Action Plan Recommendation Area:

9. Strengthen the Community- Based Organization Ecosystem



- Increase the **ease of access for CBOs** to apply for and receive funding
- Recognize the **full cost of providing services** in contracts
- Fund **multi-year** grants and contracts
- Provide low barrier, low bureaucracy **capacity building support**
- Support the **ecosystem** of children and youth serving organizations through resource coordination and entities
- Partner with, and learn from, local and national philanthropic partners and other public funders to **ensure sector strength and sustainability**

The King County **Youth Bill of Rights** and the **Youth Action Plan** provide a vision and foundation to guide King County's efforts to ensure the well-being of our region's young people over the next decade.



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