

GRUGER
NORTH
REAMS
SIMS

June 30, 1988
0444C/DE/rr

INTRODUCED BY: SULLIVAN

PROPOSED BY: 88-492

ORDINANCE NO. **8577**

AN ORDINANCE establishing the King
County Children and Family Commission,
and defining the duties and
responsibilities of such commission.

PREAMBLE:

In 1985, a working group established by the executive,
proposed the creation of a citizen's commission on children
and youth as a powerful tool to raise county awareness of
children's issues and advocate on their behalf.

In 1987 continuing into 1988, the county council developed
health and human services funding policies after a series of
community meetings and long hours of staff research.

According to staff research, based on the 1980 census, King
County children under 18 years of age made up 26.4% of the
population living below the poverty level in the county.
Between 1979 and 1983, three-fourths of the growth in the
poverty population occurred among children and adults with
dependent children. Now women and their dependent children
constitute the largest poverty group in King County, with the
majority of them living outside of Seattle.

Strategies developed by the council to address human service
and health issues focused on the needs of children and
families. The county council established family support;
promotion of early childhood development and early
intervention services for children and families as its top
priorities for need and local funding.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Children and Family Commission -- Established

A. There is established the King County children and family
commission, to be composed of seventeen voting members, appointed
by the King County executive and confirmed by the council.

Appointees shall represent the geographic and ethnic diversity of
communities in King County. No more than seven members shall
reside within any one municipal jurisdiction.

B. The commission shall seek the opinions and ideas of
educators, the business community, children services providers
and agency representatives on issues considered by the
commission. These persons shall be invited to participate in
commission discussions on an ad hoc basis.

1 C. The commission members shall be appointed by the county
2 executive, subject to confirmation by the county council.
3 Appointees should include community leaders and decision-makers
4 from both public and private sectors who are interested in
5 improving services for families and children. The executive
6 shall request nominations from each councilmember.

7 D. Appropriate county departments which serve the health,
8 recreational, social, economic and criminal justice needs of
9 children and families shall provide resource people who shall
10 serve the commission in an advisory capacity.

11 E. Once constituted, commission members shall establish
12 terms of appointment by lot. Seven members shall serve one year;
13 five members shall serve two years; and five members shall serve
14 three years.

15 F. Except for the initial term, all appointments shall be
16 for three-year terms. Once confirmed by the council, commission
17 members shall serve as voting members until reconfirmed or a
18 successor is confirmed. Commission members may serve two
19 consecutive terms.

20 G. Any vacancies occurring in the membership of the children
21 and family commission shall be filled for the remainder of the
22 unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointments.

23 SECTION 2. Children and Family Commission -- Duties

24 The King County children and family commission shall act in
25 an advisory capacity to the county executive and county council,
26 focusing on recommendations to further define King County's
27 mission, role, and goals in provision of services to children and
28 families. In addition, the commission shall adopt a formal
29 children and family policy plan for council consideration by July
30 1, 1990 which sets forth the principles, policies and strategies
31 needed to guide King County's efforts on behalf of children and
32 families, provided that strategies should encourage families,
33 schools, educators, social service agencies, businesses,

1 volunteers, youth and children serving organizations, and private
2 foundations to work together for the benefit of children and
3 families. Provided further that primary consideration be given
4 to a goal of increasing cooperation with public and private
5 schools to increase the graduation of youth from high school (or
6 attaining graduate equivalent degrees). Appropriate strategies
7 to attain this goal may address youth-at-risk for social,
8 physical, or psychological problems preventing success at school.

9 SECTION 3. Children and Family Commission --

10 Organizational -- Meetings -- Quorum. The King County children
11 and family commission shall elect its officers, including a
12 chair, vice-chair and such other officers as it may deem
13 necessary. Such officers shall occupy their respective offices
14 for a period of one year. The commission may organize into
15 sub-committees as appropriate. The commission shall adopt rules
16 and administrative procedures for its own operation. Such rules
17 shall include a definition of conflict of interest issues coming
18 before the commission and appropriate voting restrictions. The
19 children and family commission shall hold regular public meetings
20 at least quarterly. Records of the proceedings shall be
21 maintained. A quorum shall constitute a majority of the
22 commission's membership. Any member of the commission who,
23 without having been excused by the chair, fails to attend three
24 regularly scheduled commission meetings, shall be removed and the
25 position declared vacant by the appointing authority.

26 SECTION 4. Children and Family Commission -- Staffing

27 The department of human resources shall have lead responsibility,
28 within available resources, for staffing the commission. Staff
29 for the department will respond to the chair of the commission,
30 assisting in the preparation of agendas, securing information and
31 statistics as requested or required for commission projects,
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1 keeping members informed about meetings and tasks, communicating
2 with the executive office about appointments of new members as
3 needed, and working with the commission to insure the intent of
4 the ordinance is fulfilled.

5 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 27th day of
6 June, 1988.

7 PASSED this 5th day of July, 1988.

8 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
9 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

10 Gary Grant
11 Chairman

12 ATTEST:

13 Gerald A. Peterson
14 Deputy Clerk of the Council

15 APPROVED this 15th day of July, 1988.

16 Orin Hill
17 King County Executive