

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

MCKINNEY-VENTO/FOSTER MEETING 3/8/19

IN ATTENDANCE: 16 staff from 9 districts, 1 Rep. each from Cocoon House, DCYF, Treehouse, South Everett Boys & Girls Club and Yellow Cab Co., 1 Officer from Everett Police Dept. and 2 Reps. from Snohomish Co.

District/ Agency	First name	Last Name	Title
Arlington	Christy	Byle	Administrative Assistant
Arlington	Brian	Long	Director of College and Career Readiness
Cocoon House	Claire	Petersen	Special Projects Manager
DCYF	Laurie	Alexander	Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families
Edmonds	Leanne	Brisbois	McKinney-Vento Liaison
Edmonds	Arlet	Gess	Transportation Dispatcher/MKV Router
Everett	Nancy	Brown	Transportation
Everett	Angelica	Glaser	Foster Care Coordinator
Everett	Gina	Key	Secretary, Categorical Programs
Everett	Sarah	Koehler	Routing Specialist
Everett	Amy	Perusse	KIT Coordinator
Everett Police Department	Anthony	Fletcher	Positive Intervention Outreach Team
Marysville	Deanna	Bashour	McKinney-Vento & Foster Care Liaison
Monroe	Ginnie	Ayres	Director For Instructional Programs
Monroe	Kathy	Bernhardt	Family Engagement Liaison
Mukilteo	Cynthia	Davis	Office Assistant, Categorical Programs
NWESD	Mark	Dennis	NWESD Regional Transportation Coordinator

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Shoreline	Carol	Matsumoto	Student Services Specialist
Snohomish County	Jerry	Gadek	Veterans Services Officer
Snohomish County	Molly	Bauer	Grants & Program Specialist Sno.Co. OCHS
South Everett Boys & Girls Club	Andre	Graham	Unit Director
Sultan	Nyssa	Weideman	Administrative Assistant
Treehouse	Jamie	Burns	Treehouse
Yellow Cab	Angie	Johnson	School Run Coordinator

INTRODUCTION

Meeting was held at Everett Public Schools, Community Resource Center in Everett. Called to order at 10:05am by Amy Perusse, KIT Coordinator, Everett Public Schools. Introductions were made among the attendees.

Guest Speakers:

Molly Bauer, Grants & Program Specialist from Sno. Co., Office of Community & Homeless Services (OCHS) gave an update on the Youth Homeless Development Project (YHDP) <https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/Search?searchPhrase=YHDP> that was awarded \$2,387,593 to use over the next 2 years to effectively build systems and create innovative projects which prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness. As of March 22nd OCHS, is accepting proposals for two different project types:

1. Permanency Navigator Team, helping youth under 18 quickly exit homelessness by obtaining permanent housing, including family reunification, and assist in removing barriers to housing by navigating “all systems.”
2. Joint Transitional Housing – Rapid Rehousing focusing on young adults ages 18 – 24 providing immediate short-term/crisis stability moving to transitional housing and Rapid Rehousing by providing rental assistance.

The deadline for proposals is April 19, 2019. After reviews and revisions, a proposal will be accepted with plans to have the projects up and running by October 2019.

Jerry Gadek, Sno. Co. Veterans Services Officer (VSO) gave a presentation on how the Veterans program at Sno. Co. can assist veterans and their families who are in jeopardy of losing housing or are literally experiencing homelessness in Snohomish Co. Jerry emphasized that this program is not part of the Veterans Administration (VA) or part of the Federal Government. In fact, their office can assist almost any Veteran and their

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family despite their discharge status. Jerry explained the services that are provided in this program:

Services for veterans and their families who are losing housing:

- Complete an overall assessment
- Determine what level of resources are needed
- Provide limited resources to veteran to rehouse
- Ensure access to veterans (VA) benefits

Services for veterans and their families who are experiencing homelessness:

- Ensure entry into Coordinated Entry
- Complete housing assessment(s)
- Allow the family to decide which intervention is more appropriate (RRH vs. Supportive Housing)
- Provide rental assistance/security deposit assistance
- Provide necessary emergency financial assistance
- Provide referrals to other life domains as needed
- Ensure access to veterans (VA) benefits

Jerry asked that we spread the word about the Sno. Co. Veterans Office to every MKV Liaison in Snohomish County. If we know of a Veteran Family that is experiencing homelessness, is doubled-up or in jeopardy of losing housing please refer them to the Veterans Office run by Snohomish County. Stacy LaFlam is the Primary Family Homelessness VSO, contact phone is: (425) 388-7241. You may also contact Jerry Gadek at: (425) 388-7367.

Officer Anthony Fletcher from the Everett Police Department. Officer Fletcher leads Everett's [PIVOT Program](#) that seeks out mentors, role models and community agencies that can help change the course for potential gang members and assist their families as well. They work to provide services and develop specific action plans to replace negative influences with positive influences. Although PIVOT is limited to Mukilteo and Everett, Officer Fletcher can refer people to services in their own community as *there are embedded Social Workers throughout Snohomish County*. In further conversation, the MKV Liaisons at the meeting agreed that it would be very helpful to have the contact names and information of the embedded Social Workers throughout the county as an additional resource for the students & families that we serve. Officer Fletcher introduced **Andre Graham**, Unit Director, for the South Everett Boys & Girls Club. Andre & the South Everett B&G Club work closely with Officer Fletcher and the organization is an integral partner of the PIVOT Program. Officer Fletcher said there is a great need for more mentors in the PIVOT Program. If you or someone in your community might be interested, please contact Office Fletcher at the Everett Police Department.

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Cocoon House Updates: Claire Peterson supports the Education & Employment Program at CH. The new CH Center on Colby Ave., Everett, will open on April 22nd. [May 8th is the Butterfly Graduation](#) and May 16th is the Partner Meeting. It was determined that the safest and most convenient School Bus Pick up and Drop off at the new Colby Complex is the alley behind the building. There is plenty of room for the buses and it will not impede traffic. Buses should enter the alley at the south end of the building, proceeding north into the alley, [please see the attached map](#). When the Colby location opens the Pine St. Complex will close and participants will transition to the Colby location. Services will remain the same at the Cedar Street, Monroe & Arlington locations. The August MKV/Foster Quarterly meeting will be at the new CH Colby Complex! Claire reviewed the services offered by CH and Safe Place. It was clarified that Safe Place should only be used if a youth feels they are in an unsafe situation and have nowhere else to turn and need immediate assistance. It is not to be used as an emergency taxi or Uber service to request “a ride.” [Please see the Safe Place Flyer](#).

After a brief break the meeting resumed.

Reviewed and Approved Meeting Minutes from November 2018 meeting.

Action Item Reports:

OSPI Consolidated Program Review (CPR):

As most of the school districts in Snohomish County underwent the CPR this year, there was discussion on how the process went with each district. Arlington commented that they did a lot of prep work communicating with OSPI prior to uploading their documentation which made things go well. They only had a few things to clean up & re-submit. Marysville had the CPR last year and again this year, so it was much easier this time.

Discussion on District Policies for MKV Absences: Best practices to properly code an excused absence that protects the confidentiality of the student. Rather than code as “Excused Absence due to MKV transportation,” it is more appropriate to code as, “Excused Absence due to Program Status.” An Unaccompanied Homeless Youth does not automatically have the right to excuse their own absences. If the youth is under the age of 18 there is usually an adult in their lives that can notify the school of an absence when the legal guardian is not available. It might be an adult who has been given temporary custody or has provided a signed Caregiver Authorization Form. It could also be a trusted adult at the school, ie; a teacher, counselor, etc. This adult should be added to the emergency and/or contact list for the student.

MKV Transportation Requirement:

Does OSPI require districts sharing MKV transportation to have a contract/agreement signed and on file in the beginning of each school year? There was discussion about Transportation Contracts. The [OSPI website](#) has examples of Transportation Contracts available online in their “Transportation Tool Kit.” Although most MKV attendees thought it was a “requirement” to have a transportation contract in place when sharing

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transportation with another district, that is not the case. It's not a requirement but is considered "best practice." However, Marysville SD was instructed by OSPI, last year during their CPR, that they were "required" to have the signed contracts on file. This issue continues to be confusing and requires more clarification from OSPI. Some district's Business Services Departments will not allow their Transportation Department to sign a contract. However, this does not preclude the districts from sharing transportation of MKV students. Revisit the issue at the next MKV/Foster Quarterly Meeting.

Foster Care:

Laurie Alexander reminded everyone that DCYF **requires** each school district in the state of WA to have an Inter-agency Agreement signed and in place with DCYF. It was also clarified that OSPI receives their Foster data through "placements" by DCYF, not by Free/Reduced status as was suggested at November meeting.

Registration is open for the 2019 Student Support Conference in Wenatchee. Pre-Conferences begin on May 22nd with morning and afternoon sessions. The Conference begins Thursday, May 23rd and concludes on Friday, May 24th. Please go to the following OSPI site to register: <http://www.k12.wa.us/FosterCare/>

Marysville announced they are partnering with DCYF for project "Host Homes". Marysville is creating an event to recruit Host Homes. The school district will be a conduit for referrals and awareness of the need for Host Homes. The "homes" are just a temporary placement until long-term placement can be found.

Reminder to all Foster Success Coordinators/Liaisons that [Treehouse](#) advocates are a great resource for school districts to support youth in Foster care. The advocates work with school staff to help meet the needs of the student that the schools are not able to provide.

End of Year Processes to track MKV & Foster Students:

Everett explained their process of gathering information from each school in the EPS District and creating a working spreadsheet. Amy works with school staff to determine continued eligibility for the next school year. Letters go to counselors and parents to notify families of their MKV status. Some districts exit all kids from MKV at the end of the school year and then students re-apply for eligibility in the new school year in the fall. This tends to cause delays and issues in getting transportation set up in a timely manner for the beginning of the school year. Smaller sized school districts communicate directly with their families during the summer or a few weeks before school starts to determine eligibility and arrange transportation. For larger districts it is a cumbersome process and there doesn't seem to be a "preferred method" to accomplish this task.

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The end of the school year process for youth in foster care is to reach out to the Social/Case Worker to determine the best interest for the student for the following school year.

Special Notice of EVENT: June 26th, 12 – 2:00pm DCYF is hosting a celebration to congratulate youth in Foster Care who are graduating from High School, GED, Trade School and Vocational Programs in Region 3. The celebration will be at Bonefish Grill, 2537 172nd ST NE, Marysville, 98271. [Please see the attached flyer.](#) **RSVP by May 1st** with 2 guests to Sarah.Shaffer@DCYF.WA.GOV or Call/Text 425.923.5032

Other News/Updates:

Amy Perusse announced that Everett Public Schools has signed an MOU with the non-profit agency, [Washington Kids in Transition](#) (WA KIT). This non-profit can fill the gap of items that Everett Public Schools are not allowed to fund. There is a category called “Granted Wishes” that has paid for tickets to the Senior Party and a monogrammed school sweatshirt and even a pillow for a youth who is couch-surfing. EPS is very excited about this partnership.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00pm.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

Upcoming meeting dates: Regularly scheduled at Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center 10:00 – 12:00 in the Board Room
Please email aperusse@everettsd.org with agenda items.

- **Friday May 17, 2019**

August Date TBD:

Location will be the new Cocoon House Building with a tour!