



Comprehensive Plan Section 5 – Community Strengths and Services

5.1 Resources Inventory

Network-wide supports for children and families

A basic set of services exists in Washington State to support children and families. In addition, each county provides basic services which it has determined are important to its residents. Cities in many cases supplement services further. Finally, the non-profit community provides an array of support services - in some cases locally based, and in other cases regional or statewide in scope. This description first focuses on services which are generally available throughout the South King County Community Network area. It's important to understand this context, since these services generally form the most consistent supports for families across the South King County Community Network's area.

Income and Basic Needs Support Services

Some Washington families - including some who have adults working outside the home - receive public assistance. Forms of public assistance vary, depending on the basic reason for eligibility. Eligibility regulations themselves vary according to family size, resources and the reasons a family needs support. Some of these supports are state funded, others federally funded - with federal funds passing to the recipient through state agencies. Basically, the forms of public assistance available to Washington residents include:

Aid to Families with Dependent Children is what most people think of when they think of welfare or public assistance. This program provides cash benefits (and typically linked food stamps and medical benefits) to families with dependent children and adults who are not working. Most adults participating in AFDC currently have work or job training requirements, though these are waived for the parents of very young children and for parents for whom the state cannot provide adequate child care to allow them to work or attend vocational training.

Administered by the Social Security program of the federal government, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides a cash benefit for people who become disabled without having accumulated enough work quarters to qualify for Social Security benefits. Recipients of SSI are persons with physical disabilities, chronic mental illness, and in some limited cases, chronic substance abuse which is disabling. Retirees whose earned Social Security Retirement benefits fall below certain minimum levels also are eligible for SSI to bring their monthly benefits to a minimum standard level.

Child Support Enforcement Services are not technically a form of public assistance, but are included here because they help avoid dependence on public assistance for families which are not receiving court-ordered child support payments. These services are administered by the Department of Social and Health Services. When working on behalf of families receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children, a portion of child support payments collected reimburses the state for the AFDC costs. When working on behalf of families not receiving AFDC, the payment of child support reverts directly to the family.

Unemployment Compensation is considered by some to be a form of public assistance, and by others to be an earned insurance benefit for displaced workers. Unemployment compensation funds are actually derived by payments of employers into an insurance fund which supports payment to displaced workers. The Employment Security Department, which administers unemployment insurance payments to workers, also provides a variety of job search and employment training programs, including the:

- Job Corps: an employment training and placement program that subsidizes the employment of young adults who need education and job training to enter the workforce. While in the program, these youth also receive counseling and life-planning skills training.

Food Stamps are available to individuals and families whose income, adjusted for housing costs, childcare costs, medical costs and some costs related to work and school, falls below certain levels. Food stamps are a coupon used by those who receive them to buy food and basic household items from private groceries.

Medicaid provides basic medical care and coverage of a limited set of pharmaceutical products to persons who qualify because of their eligibility for other public assistance programs or because their income is reduced through medical emergency. Typically, basic health care, emergency services and hospitalization are all covered through Medicaid. Since 1994, AFDC recipients receiving Medicaid have been enrolled in Healthy Choices, a managed care plan. In this plan, recipients are assigned or choose a managed care provider, who then is responsible for all health care of the recipient/family on a prepaid basis. SSI recipients will be enrolled in Healthy Choices in 1996.

Medicare is typically not considered a public assistance program, since it is usually linked to Social Security retirement and/or disability benefits - both of which are earned programs. However some recipients of Medicare receive their benefits when their disability has lasted 26 months, and is expected to continue - regardless of their source of income. Medicare continues to be provided both by individual providers on a fee-for-service basis, and by health maintenance organizations and managed care consortia.

Housing Assistance includes a number of programs ranging from public housing developments managed by local and regional housing authorities, to rent subsidy programs which support the cost of rent in private market housing for low income recipients. While subsidized housing is available in most counties statewide, its supply varies widely. King County communities have been successful in attracting public housing support and developing partnerships to make subsidized housing available. Housing assistance programs typically place rent at 30% of the household's income, with some adjustments for utility costs. Most permanent housing assistance programs are not time limited, though recipients may move on out of desire to own their own home, for larger living quarters, or to relocate to a new community. At the federal level, HUD is re-examining what policies it will adopt or allow localities to adopt in order to increase the integration of very low income and working poor families in public housing. These new policies may include time limits on residency.

Employment and Education Services

As noted above, the Washington State Employment Security Department provides job referrals, training in interviewing and job search basics, some pilot supports for small-scale entrepreneurs, and Job Corps, which targets under-employed and under-educated young adults.

The Private Industry Council offers an array of job placement, education, vocational training and employment preparation, job search/skills matching and work experience opportunities to people who are unemployed and/or who meet certain income criteria. In addition, they have a significant role in the funding, planning and coordination function related to delivery of job placement services.

WROC, or the Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition, works with recipients of public assistance both to increase the dignity and self-determination while they receive public assistance, and to find pathways to self support. "Up and Out of Poverty" is a 7 week class designed to help low income parents who want to return to school for additional education or training. Participants can be linked with working mentors, who help them develop the skills, confidence and contacts needed to become successful in their chosen work. Services concentrated around DSHS community service offices and in public housing communities.

Valley Literacy Council: Provides one on one literacy training for adults, English as a Second Language classes and remedial reading classes.

ANEW: Job training and apprenticeship preparation and placement for women entering non-traditional trades.

Washington Women's Employment and Education: Provides job readiness classes, computer training and individualized planning to help low income participants identify and overcome barriers to employment. Follow up and alumnae activities and support are provided to participants for a full year. Services available throughout the Network area.

Highline Community College and Green River Community College: both provide college level courses targeting AA degrees, technical education, and continuing education classes.

Renton Technical College: Vocational, technical and apprenticeship-related training and certification programs.

Pacific Associates/PACE: Basic skills, job training and placement for low income adults.

Center for Career Alternatives: Employment services for low income youth and adults. Provides basic skills education and vocational skills.

King County Work Training Program and YWCA Youth Options: Employment and training program for low income youth.

YMCA Homeless Employment Program: job training and placement for homeless job seekers.

Washington Works: Employment and Training Program for recipients of public assistance.

Child Development and Parenting Support Services

Programs described here are intended to meet the needs of children and families for healthy development and for support when they encounter difficulties.

Division of Children and Family Services of DSHS, includes a number of programs addressing the needs of children and families.

Child Protective Services (CPS) provides both intervention and support to families where children are abused or neglected. Case workers investigate allegations of abuse, work with families to identify the services they need to improve parenting or reduce conflict with their children, and where necessary, remove children and place them in foster care or group home settings for their safety.

Family Reconciliation Services provides assessment, in-home services and counseling to youth and families who are experiencing difficulties in their relationships and who can benefit from skills training, support and communication enhancement. The goal is to stabilize the family and prevent out of home placements.

Home-Based Services provides individualized services to families at risk of having a child placed out of the home. The array of services can include both basic material support and counseling/parent aide services.

Foster Care services provides residential placement and supportive services to children in need of short-term or temporary stay because they are abused, neglected, involved in family conflict, or because a significant disruption affects their family's ability to care for them.

Adoption and adoption support services are provided to children who are in need of permanent home placement. Post-adoption support also seeks to lower the financial and practical barriers to the adoption of children who are hard to place due to physical, emotional, or medical needs.

Employment and training child care support allows parents with very low incomes to receive subsidies for their child care costs so that employment and training can be pursued.

Therapeutic child care provides for the special emotional needs of children at risk of abuse and/or neglect and children whose parents are in need of respite care for their children.

Family Support Services of the Division of Development Disabilities: Administered by the Department of Social and Health Services, case management, child and youth development education, and home-based parenting training and support services, including limited respite care and specialized education services, are provided to families with children who have developmental disabilities.

Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, Seattle/King County Department of Public Health:

- Parenting for Prevention parenting classes in community sites throughout the network area - these classes include curricula that are culturally appropriate for specific ethnic minority community members.
- MOMS Project: Case management, life skills education, parent education, self-esteem and social development activities and training linked to comprehensive treatment and medical care services for substance abusing pregnant and parenting women.

Parent-Child Health Administration, SKC Department of Public Health: Offers a variety of primary care and support services to families and children throughout the Network area. These include:

- First Steps: early parenting support
- Maternity Screening Services: prenatal and postnatal screening care
- Immunization clinics
- Child dental services
- Family Planning Services
- WIC (Women, Infant and Children's) Services and Nutrition Services: supplements to ensure that children receive appropriate nutrition, and nutrition education to parents.
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Project: public education about FAS/FAE, screening and support services
- Homeless Families Project: case management and public health nursing care to homeless families in shelters and transitional housing
- Northwest Family Center: primary care, case management, home nurse outreach, and social services for women with HIV and their children.

Not all services are available at each site - some services, for example the Northwest Family Center and the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Project, are at centralized sites. Others provide nursing services on site in the home or in community settings.

Headstart and Early Childhood Education Assistance Programs: Headstart and Early Childhood Educational Assistance Programs provide pre-school to 3 and 4 year-olds. In addition, they typically provide information and referral, support groups and on-site parenting training to parents of the children enrolled in the project. Some also provide practical support such as food, clothing and medical screening on-site to families participating in the program.

Puget Sound Educational Service District: The Educational Service District provides a wide variety of programs in schools throughout its area (King and Pierce County school districts). Some of these include: early childhood and youth development education for parents, home-based family support, parenting education classes, child care services, and gang prevention/intervention services. The Educational Service District serves as a centralized resource to develop, purchase and provide programs that benefit more than one school district, and to allow smaller school districts to purchase the services they need.

Homebuilders/Behavioral Sciences Institute: provides intensive, home-based family assessment, family life education, and parenting supports to families with children at risk of out-of-home placement due to neglect or abuse. Treatment includes case management, anger management and substance abuse prevention/treatment as needed.

Alternative Response System: parenting education and support, case management, home-based family support and family counseling as well as respite child-care, pre-school and therapeutic child-care services. Families served are at risk of child abuse and neglect, but not eligible for services through Child Protective Services. This is an early intervention program.

Childhaven: Provides an array of services to children who have been abused and/or neglected, and to their families to increase their ability to parent effectively.

- Therapeutic Child and Day Treatment Program: provides treatment for children who have been the victims of abuse and neglect, and parenting training for parents of the children in order to allow safe family continuity.
- Crisis Nursery: Provides respite care for children at risk due to parenting stress, illness or hospitalization of parents, domestic violence, substance abuse or homelessness.
- Drug Affected Infant Program: provides day care for children of parents who are drug-involved, linked to parent support groups, parenting education, and case management for families who are involved in drug treatment and/or aftercare.

Ruth Dykeman Children's Center: Residential treatment for youth at risk of out-of-home placement or at risk of abuse. Parenting classes and family counseling services are linked to the residential treatment.

Ryther Child Center: Residential treatment for emotionally disturbed children aged 6 to 18. Individual, family and group therapy is provided for residents and their families.

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center: Medical and psychosocial evaluation and treatment for child victims of sexual assault. Family education and counseling for families of sexual assault victims. Also counseling services to adults who have been sexually assaulted.

Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound: The Mother Mentor Project: Pairs new mothers with experienced mothers in order to provide education on appropriate child development, support in weathering the stress of early parenting, and role modeling. Services are available to mothers regardless of Group Health enrollee status.

Child Care Resources: Provides direct referrals to licensed and inspected child care providers for families throughout the County. Also contracts to provide child care referrals and matching to families as an employee benefit to some local corporations. Provides training, curriculum development and consultation to child-care providers in order to increase the quality of child care available in the community.

APPLE Parenting Services: Home based services and parenting classes provided throughout South King County as part of the continuum of care project.

Parents Anonymous: Parent education and support groups for parents experiencing difficulty in their role, and concerned about the quality of their parenting. Also provide a Family Help Line for crisis intervention.

Domestic Violence Services

Domestic Abuse Women's Network: Provides crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter and transitional housing for women seeking to leave abusive relationships. Also provides a children's program for children in residence dealing with the effects of domestic violence.

DAWN is linked to a network of shelter programs throughout King County and statewide which allows women in severe danger to be relocated.

Family Services Domestic Violence Treatment Program offers a certified anger management and domestic violence treatment program lasting a year and providing follow up for court-mandated treatment. Services are available for both male and female perpetrators. The Family Services Parent Anger Management Program is a separate program addressing the specific anger management issues related to parenting and child abuse/neglect.

Substance Abuse Treatment Services

Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, Seattle/King County Department of Public Health: Together provide alcohol and substance abuse treatment and prevention services in varied sites.

- Treatment services (including family treatment) include outpatient and inpatient treatment for persons who are indigent or low income. Aftercare services are included for persons who qualify.
- MOMS Project: Case management, life skills education, parent education, self-esteem and social development activities and training linked to comprehensive treatment and medical care services for substance abusing pregnant and parenting women.

South King County Drug and Alcohol Recovery Program is the County-funded provider of chemical dependency recovery services serving the South King County Area. Its programs include outpatient treatment, case management for chronic substance abusers, treatment for family members of chemically dependent individuals, supportive housing for individuals in recovery, including homeless persons, and community education/outreach. Services are primarily available at this site for adults.

AA/NA/Alanon/Alateen/NarAnon: A network of so called "12 step" programs that support persons in recovery from substance abuse and also their family and associates. These are self-help models, with generally an established structure for meetings, and a mechanism for developing sponsors who can help the individual in recovery to maintain that recovery and develop healthy living and relationship skills. The central contact point for information on these groups in King County is the Alcohol and Drug 24 Hour Helpline.

Alcohol and Drug 24 Hour Helpline: A phone counseling, information and referral line for persons experiencing difficult with alcohol and other drug abuse which also acts as a referral to inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment services. Accessible toll free from throughout the County. Both adult and specialized teen information and support lines are offered.

Counseling and Family Life Education Services

A number of agencies provide sliding fee scale individual, marriage and family counseling in sites throughout the county. These are good alternatives for families who lack insurance coverage and who find the fees of private therapists beyond their means. Agencies providing these services include:

- Family Services of King County
- Lutheran Social Services of Washington

- Presbyterian Counseling Services
- Christa Counseling Services
- Divorce Lifeline
- WICS: Widowed Information and Consultation Services

Planned Parenthood of Seattle-King County: Offers child and youth development education, parent education classes, and family planning services. Develops Teen Councils aimed at delaying/preventing teen pregnancy.

WA Association Concerned with School Aged Parents: Develops young parent support groups, as well as programs to support young women in avoiding early pregnancy.

University of Washington School of Nursing: Parenting Clinic: A research based program offering parenting training and intensive supports to families at risk of child abuse and neglect. This is a research program, serves a very limited base of clients (40 annually) and does serve a limited number of South King County residents.

Counseling and Family Supports Targeted to Ethnic Minority Community Members

Asian Counseling and Referral Services provides counseling, parenting education, case management and information and referral for Asian and Pacific Islander immigrants, refugees and for persons of Asian/Pacific Islander background seeking culturally appropriate services. Service site is located in Seattle's International District. Consultation to service providers countywide for development of culturally appropriate services and client plans.

Chinese Information and Service Center provides counseling, case management and a youth leadership program to persons of Chinese descent throughout King County. Approximately 50 South King County residents received services from the agency in 1995. Services are sited in Seattle.

Consejo: Offers mental health services, counseling, substance abuse and anger management treatment for persons of Hispanic origin. Some case management services available in the community. Service site in South Seattle. Consultation to service providers countywide for development of culturally appropriate services and client plans.

El Centro de la Raza: provides case management and basic supports for individuals and families of Hispanic origin. Case management is provided in the community throughout King County, with a concentration on low income housing development residents. Parenting education, child care and youth activities available at El Centro de la Raza site on Beacon Hill in Seattle. Some transportation to services available.

Refugee Women's Alliance: offers parenting education and family life education to women who are primarily SE Asian refugees, although increasingly the alliance is serving women from Africa and from Eastern European countries. Some domestic violence education for women. Services located in Seattle, open to all County residents.

United Indians of All Tribes Foundations: Ina Maka Family Program: offers family activities, home-based family supports and parenting education, stress and anger management treatment, substance abuse prevention and treatment referrals. Services target Native American/Alaska Native community members. Services are located in Discovery Park in Seattle. Transportation for children attending Headstart program is available.

Refugee Federation Service Center provides case management, family counseling, parent education and youth diversion/gang prevention services. Sites are located in Seattle and White Center. Services

are available in an array of languages, including those appropriate to recent immigrant groups from Eastern Europe and Africa.

UJIMA provides services to youth from diverse cultures in King County schools, with an emphasis on developing peer support groups and healthy activities. Some linkages to adult mentors is also provided.

Seattle Indian Health Board integrates individual, group and family counseling with comprehensive physical and mental health services. Psychological assessments, medication monitoring, and case management are available for persons with mental health concerns.

Youth Development Services

A wide variety of youth development programs are available throughout King County. Youth services are frequently community-specific, but there are a core of services that are county-wide in scope.

School Based Programs

The most widely available programs for youth development are those sited in the schools. A nearly confusing array of services are school-based - although they may well be less confusing to youth, who will have to pick only from those programs available in their assigned district and school. Most schools include not only academic instruction, but also organized sports, opportunities to learn a variety of non-academic skills such as music, art, theater, shop, and computer skills. In addition to these skill building and socialization opportunities, most schools offer some mix of counseling, substance abuse and gang prevention activities and classes, and peer support programs. The availability of these programs varies from school to school, and from year to year, depending on budget availability, the interests of particular schools, and policies within each district.

Parks and Recreation Programs

Parks and recreation programs were some of the most frequently mentioned positive community resources for youth in community meetings held by the Network during this planning process. In virtually every community, recreational and educational programs offered by Parks and Recreation services were considered valuable community assets. Typically these programs include organized sports, competition athletics, safety instruction, and an increasing number of late-night recreation programs. Communities with evening or late night recreation programs sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department include Tukwila, Highline/Burien, Kent, Renton and Federal Way. In other communities, late night recreation programs are offered by community based agencies.

Scouting and Recreational/Social Programs

Scouting-type programs typically incorporate programs that address many risk factors and in particular programs that address increasing protective or resiliency factors. They are largely organized around the purpose of increasing youth competence, encouraging youth bonding to adults with healthy and productive behaviors, and ensuring the opportunity for youth to build, practice and be recognized for their skills. In addition to scouting programs, local Boys and Girls Clubs offer similar programs, using facility based sites. Some examples of community based scouting and boys/girls club programs include:

- Boys Scouts, Chief Sealth Council
- Girls Scouts, Totem Lake Council
- Camp Fire Boys and Girls Clubs
- Boys and Girls Clubs of King County

In addition to secular programs such as scouting and youth center programs, a number of churches sponsor youth development programs as well. Like their secular counterparts, these programs frequently include elements of recreation, socialization, skill development/testing, and community service.

Youth and Family Service Bureau Network

Youth and Family Service programs are present in each of the school districts within the South King County Network. Specific programs offered vary between programs, but typically individual and group counseling, family counseling, substance abuse prevention and (in some cases) outpatient youth treatment services, and limited case management for high risk youth are available. Most programs also offer some array of recreational activities for youth, and are involved in collaborative efforts serving the social and recreational needs of youth in the community. YFSN programs in South King County include:

- Auburn Youth Resources
- Enumclaw Youth Center (a program of AYR)
- Federal Way Youth and Family Services
- Kent Youth and Family Services
- Renton Area Youth and Family Services
- Southwest Youth and Family Services
- Ruth Dykeman Youth and Family Services
- Tukwila Youth and Family Services
- Maple Valley Community Center

Big Brothers of King County: Matches youth who lack a consistent father figure in the home with adult volunteer mentors for support, appropriate role modeling, and youth development.

Big Sisters of King County: Matches youth who lack a consistent adult female figure in the home with adult volunteer mentors for support, appropriate role modeling, and youth development.

Phone Friend: Phone support, problem-solving and check in line for youth at home after school alone.

5.2 Services targeting risk and protective factors

Determining which services target the risk and protective factors established as priorities by the Network is challenging for two reasons.

- Most services, especially those outside the areas of substance abuse and violence prevention, are not organized to respond to risk and protective factor theory. Typically, services are designed to target a community problem. While the approach may indeed incorporate methods to address the factors that place individuals or families at risk of specific problems, the service target is generally not described in this way.
- In addition, the risk and protective factor theory adopted by the Family Policy Council is better developed for both substance abuse and violence prevention strategies, and less so for domestic violence and child abuse/neglect prevention/intervention strategies.

To understand how community services and resources in South King County address the risk and protective factors prioritized by the South King County Network, we identified approximately 80 agencies and groups providing services locally to prevent Youth Substance Abuse, Youth Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Domestic Violence. We asked each of these agencies to participate in an interview designed to examine the services they provide, the groups they target, their incorporation of evaluation strategies in their work, and the gaps/barriers they see in providing services. We were able to complete interviews with approximately 30 of these agencies. The results of these interviews are summarized in this section of the Comprehensive Plan. In addition, we drew on published materials from an additional 40 agencies/groups. This is still not a complete inventory of resources in the South

King County area. In particular, less formally organized services - such as those offered through churches, service clubs or parks and recreation services - are generally not represented here. Barriers to understanding the full scope of services are discussed below in section 5.5.

The organizations are represented in groups organized by the Network-prioritized problem behavior they are designed to address: Youth Substance Abuse, Youth Violence/Delinquency, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Domestic Violence.

Some summary tables are presented where this makes the information more accessible. These tables focus on geographic location of services, which risk and protective factors services address, and what level of evaluation is conducted for the services.

Physical location of domestic violence services is not identified because the location of these services is confidential.

Services addressing youth violence are not tabulated, in part because their development in South King County is still fairly new - and many of these services are currently co-located with youth services addressing substance abuse, which are tabulated.

Organization/Service	Services. Travel	Auburn	Enum-claw	Federal Way	High-line	Kent	Renton	South Central	Tahoma/Maple Valley	Seattle Based
Chinese Information and Service Center	X									
Camp Fire Boys and Girls Club		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Birth to Three Project	X									X
Apple Parenting		X	X	X		X	X			
United Grandparents Raising Children							X			
PEPS: Program for Early Parenting Support				X	X					
Parents Anonymous		X				X				
Mother Mentor Project	X									
Parents Anger Management Group						X				
Family Support Network	X									
Even Start							X			
Family Support Workers in Schools				X		X		X		
Primary Intervention Program				X		X		X		
Child Care Resources						X				

Highline Community College, Parent Education					X					
Highline Community Midwifery Services: First Steps Prenatal Program					X					
Children's Hospital and Medical Center: Children's Protection Program										X
Committee for Children	X									
Behavioral Sciences Institute/ Homebuilders	X									

Organization/Service	Reduce Sense of Isolation	Reduce Connection to Peers who have Unhealthy/Harmful Behaviors	Increase Effective Parenting and Communication Skills	Increase Youth Bonding to Adults with Healthy Behaviors	Increase Youth Learning and Applying Skills	Increase Likelihood Youth Are Appropriately Recognized
Chinese Information and Service Center	F	F	F	F	F	F
Camp Fire Boys and Girls Club	E	F	F	F	F	F
Birth to Three	F	E	F	E	N	N
Apple Parenting	E	N	F	I	N	E
United Grandparents Raising Children	F	N	E	F	N	N
PEPS: Program for Early Parenting Support	F	N	F	E	F	F
Parents Anonymous	F	E	F	F	N	F
Mother Mentor Project	F	F	F	F	F	F
Parents Anger Management Group	E	I	F	I	I	F
Family Support Network	F	E	F	F	I	F
Even Start	E	N	F	E	I	N
Family Support	N	F	F	F	F	N

Workers in Schs						
Primary Intervention Program	N	F	N	F	F	N
Child Care Resources	N	E	E	E	I	N
Highline Community College, Parent Education	E	N	F	F	N	N
Highline Community Midwifery Services: First Steps Prenatal Program	I	E	E	E	N	N
Children's Hospital and Medical Center: Children's Protection Program	N	N	E	N	N	N
Committee for Children	N	F	E	E	F	N
Behavioral Sciences Institute/ Homebuilders	F	E	F	F	E	E

Organization/Service	Formal outcome evaluation	Process evaluation	Client satisfaction	Informal Feedback	Service based on evaluated model
Chinese Information and Service Center			Y		
Camp Fire Boys and Girls Club - Parenting Svs			Y		
Birth to Three Project	Y				Y
Apple Parenting	Y		Y		
United Grandparents Raising Children				Y	
PEPS: Program for Early Parenting Support		Y	Y		
Parents Anonymous	Y				
Mother Mentor Project	Y		Y		
Parents Anger Management Group	Y		Y		Y
Family Support Network		Y			
Even Start					Y
Family Support Workers in	Y (New)	Y			

Schools					
Primary Intervention Program	Y				Y
Child Care Resources					
Highline Community College, Parent Education		Y	Y		
Highline Community Midwifery Services: First Steps Prenatal Program					
Children's Hospital and Medical Center: Children's Protection Program					
Committee for Children	Y				Y
Behavioral Sciences Institute/Homebuilders	Y				Y

Organization/Service	Reduce Sense of Isolation	Reduce Connection to Peers who have Unhealthy/Harmful Behaviors	Increase Effective Parenting and Communication Skills	Increase Youth Bonding to Adults with Healthy Behaviors	Increase Youth Learning and Applying Skills	Increase Likelihood Youth Are Appropriately Recognized
DAWN – Domestic Abuse Women's Network	E		F	E	E	E
YWCA of Seattle/King County	E		F	E	E	E
Family Services Parent Anger Management Treatment	F		F	E		
South King County Recovery Center	E		F	E		

Organization/Service	Formal outcome evaluation	Process evaluation	Client satisfaction	Informal Feedback	Service based on evaluated model
DAWN - Domestic Abuse Women's Network		X	X	X	
YWCA of Seattle/King County		X	X	X	
Family Services Parent Anger Management		X	X	X	X

Treatment					
South King County Recovery Center					

Organization/Service	Services. Travel	Auburn	Enum-claw	Federal Way	Highline	Kent	Renton	South Central	Tahoma/Maple Valley	Seattle Based
Auburn School District		X								
Auburn Youth Resources		X								
Enumclaw School District			X							
Enumclaw Youth Center			X							
Federal Way School District				X						
Federal Way Youth And Family Services				X						
Highline School District					X					
Kent School District/East Hill Elementary						X				
Kent Youth and Family Services						X				
Renton Area Youth and Family Services							X			
Renton School District							X			
Ruth Dykeman Youth and Family Services					X					
Maple Valley Community Center									X	
Seattle Indian Health Board										X
South Central School District								X		

Organization/Service	Reduce Sense of Isolation	Reduce Connection to Peers who have Unhealthy/Harmful Behaviors	Increase Effective Parenting and Communication Skills	Increase Youth Bonding to Adults with	Increase Youth Learning and Applying	Increase Likelihood Youth Are Appropriately Recognized

				Healthy Behaviors	Skills	
Auburn School District	F	F		F	F	F
Auburn Youth Resources	F	F	F	F	F	F
Enumclaw School District	F	F		F	F	F
Enumclaw Youth Center	F	F		F	F	F
Federal Way School District	F	F		F	F	F
Federal Way Youth And Family Services	F	F	F	F	F	F
Highline School District	F	F		F	F	F
Kent School District/East Hill Elementary	F	F		F	F	F
Kent Youth and Family Services	F	F	F	F	F	F
Renton Area Youth and Family Services	F	F	F	F	F	F
Renton School District	F	F		F	F	F
Ruth Dykeman Youth and Family Services	F	F		F	F	F
Maple Valley Youth and Family Services/Community Cente	F	F	F	F	F	F
Seattle Indian Health Board	F	F		F	F	F
South Central School District	F	F		F	F	F
South King County Drug/Alcohol Recovery Center	F	F	F	F		
Stonewall Recovery Services	F	F		F	F	F
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation	F	F	F	F	F	F
Washington Asian and Pacific Islander	F	F	F	F	F	F

Families Against Substance Abuse						
YMCA of Greater Seattle (Metro Center)	F	F		F	F	F
El Centro de la Raza	F	F	F	F		
Alcohol/Drug 24 Hr Helpline/ Teenline	F	F				

Organization/Service	Formal outcome evaluation	Process evaluation	Client Satisfaction	Informal Feedback	Service based on evaluated model
Auburn School District	X	X			
Auburn Youth Resources		X			X
Enumclaw School District	X	X			
Enumclaw Youth Center					
Federal Way School District	X	X			
Federal Way Youth And Family Services		X			X
Highline School District	X	X			
Kent School District/East Hill Elementary	X	X			
Kent Youth and Family Services		X			X
Renton Area Youth and Family Services		X			X
Renton School District	X	X			
Ruth Dykeman Youth and Family Services		X			
Maple Valley Community Center		X			
Tahoma School District	X	X			
Seattle Indian Health Board		X			X
South Central School District	X	X			
South King County Drug/Alcohol Recovery		X			

Center					
Stonewall Recovery Services		X			X
United Indians of All Tribes Foundation		X			X
Washington Asian and Pacific Islander Families Against Substance Abuse		X			X
YMCA of Greater Seattle (Metro Center)		X			
El Centro de la Raza		X			
Alcohol/Drug 24 Hr Helpline/ Teenline		X			

Summary 4: Gaps in Service and Barriers to Service

Several themes emerge from discussions about the gaps in service and barriers to meeting the need of children, youth and families. Some have to do with service-specific issues. Others reflect on basic service or community infrastructure.

Service Specific Issues

Lack of adequate youth services/activities

- Youth lack adequate places in the community to get together, build their own leadership and communication skills, and work together on community projects.
- Youth lack positive and safe places to gather and recreate.
- The community lacks intergenerational programs that will link youth and adults in healthy ways.

It was interesting to find this gap cited repeatedly among providers addressing child abuse and neglect - as well as among youth services providers. In commenting on the relationship between parents and teens, however, this was a consistent theme. At the critical point of adolescence, parents and families cannot provide all of the distractions and learning experiences needed by youth. Professional counseling is not readily available to low income individuals and families.

For families whose problems cannot be addressed within the scope of skill-building classes, affordable professional counseling is in short supply. As a result, wait lists are in place for most subsidized counseling, and some families in trouble will not be able to tolerate the wait. This can contribute to family dissolution, and to families failing to address their problems at the point they are most motivated to seek help.

Lack of adequate funding

Virtually all programs reported that the demand for their services outstrips their ability to provide service. Several providers report that they are beginning to feel the effects of reduced funding. One example is Parents' Anonymous. For a number of years, PA has been able to rely on trained counselors to provide facilitation of these groups on release time where they are "loaned" by their employing agencies to PA. PA is finding over the past year that staff are not being lent for programs because agencies are cutting back to their core services. They are now exploring partnerships with businesses to support PA groups in the workplace, and increasing their ability to pay facilitators for the groups.

Limited Inter-Agency Communication

One provider directly reported, and several demonstrated during the course of interviews, that lack of communication about programs in the community is a barrier to providing full services to their clients.

Difficulty reaching and engaging those most in need of services.

Particularly in the area of child abuse and neglect, but also in the area of youth substance abuse and youth violence services, respondents frequently reported that reaching those most in need of services is a challenge. Those most likely to take parenting classes, stress and anger management classes, or to absorb information and strategies on substance abuse prevention - are often those for whom these problems are not creating day to day problems in their lives and relationships. Engaging those who most need support remains an area that needs further development.

Lack of adequate day care

- Day care for infants and children up to the age of 2 is lacking, and what is available carries a significant price premium.
- Day care outside the traditional 7 A.M. to 6 P.M. weekday slots is hard to find and is expensive.
- Drop-in day care is lacking.
- Sick child care is lacking and expensive when it is available.
- There is a significant gap in the available of quality child care vs. the availability of child care subsidies for low income parents.

Lack of adequate child care was cited repeatedly in these interviews - not only by child care providers but by service providers in general, as it affects parental participation in parenting programs, drug treatment/recovery, and other programs to enhance parent and family self-sufficiency.

Community Infrastructure Issues

Lack of affordable, safe housing for lower income families.

Limitations on affordable housing were repeatedly cited as barriers to stability, particularly for families headed by young parents.

Lack of adequate income.

Economic stress and demands of multiple jobs were noted as having impact on the ability of families and parents to spend time together, have quality interactions, and support each other in their interests and aspirations. Especially for young people, loss of a sense of hope for the future and confidence in their ability to find and keep jobs paying living wages is a significant issue.

Transportation barriers.

Cost of transportation, lack of frequent and flexible bus routes, and lack of safety when combining busing and walking were all noted as barriers to low income persons being able to access needed services.

Negative community attitudes towards people needing services.

Particularly noted were negative attitudes towards people trying to recover from drug addiction, and negative attitudes towards youth and particularly towards teen mothers. These attitudes were identified as affecting the adequacy of community response to people in need in three ways:

- Hostility towards some people in need affects the community's willingness to fund/support needed services;
- Poor attitudes towards some people in need affects the willingness of service providers to design services that are appropriate to client needs, which are seen as dysfunctional; and

- Hostility/judgment towards people in need affects their comfort in community settings and their ability to engage in community events and activities in a healthy and positive way.

Summary 5: Environmental Changes Anticipated by Community Services Program

The single most common theme expressed by providers when asked about environmental changes they expect over the next two years was their anxiety about changing funding patterns. These include not only concerns about loss of funding, but concerns about reorganization of funding and how that may affect the delivery of services. Particularly in health, mental health and substance abuse treatment services, the rapid reorganization of services to function as managed care systems has introduced a high level of anxiety and uncertainty for providers.

Some concern was also noted about the potential impact of non-funding political changes - especially shifts related to funding for teen programs, the possible impact of English-only language legislation and denial of public benefits to undocumented immigrants. These political changes may affect populations that are economically distressed and at high risk of child abuse and neglect, substance abuse, and domestic violence due to isolation, lack of experience with social supports and structures in the community.