

**RESOLUTION OF NORTHWEST YOUTH SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SUPPORTING HEALTHY CHILDREN'S FUND PROPOSITION**

Whereas, Whatcom County Council has placed a proposition on the Whatcom County 2022 General Election ballot that, if passed, would create a Healthy Children Fund supported by a new property tax of \$0.19 per \$1,000 assessed property value starting in 2023; and

Whereas, The Healthy Children's Fund fund will providing funding for evidence-based programs for vulnerable, at-risk, and homeless children including early parenting supports, housing stability, expanded mental and behavioral health services in neighborhoods and communities throughout Whatcom County; and

Whereas, Analysis of the Whatcom County budget shows that less than 2% of local dollars go to prevention efforts for children and families, and more than 50% is spent on crisis response, intervention, and public safety/criminal justice; and

Whereas, In Whatcom County just 46% of all children, and only 25% of children of color enter kindergarten ready to learn; and

Whereas, multiple studies have shown that for every dollar invested into early learning education, a community will see anywhere from a \$4-9 return on investment; and

Whereas, passage of this proposition would align with Northwest Youth Services mission of dismantling the systems of oppression that perpetuate youth homelessness.

Therefore;

1. *Be it resolved*; that the Northwest Youth Services Board of Directors endorse the Healthy Children's Fund.
2. *Be it resolved*; that the Board of Directors asks Northwest Youth Services' Executive Director to support the proposition in any manner they deem relevant and appropriate.

Approved and adopted this 29th day of August 2022 at a regular meeting of Northwest Youth Services Board of Directors and such decision is attested to by the following Board officers, signing below:



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