



Washington State Commission On

African American Affairs



Commissioner Joseph Todd, Chair
Representing South King County

Commissioner Stacy Estes
Representing Central Washington

Commissioner Michael Bailey
Vice Chair
Representing King County

Commissioner LeRoy Laney III
Representing King County

Commissioner Zellynda Perkins
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Dr. Yolanda Geolingo
Representing Thurston County

Commissioner Sheila Stanton
Representing King County

Commissioner Lolinda Turner
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Corwin Scott
Representing Pierce County

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

Commission on African American Affairs Public Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 8, 2024 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 p.m. | In Person

100 Mill Ave. S, Renton, WA 98057 – Renton Library

Members present: Chair Kendricks, Vice Chair Todd, Bailey, Laney, Turner, Dr. Geolingo, Estes, Perkins, Stanton, Executive Director Edward Prince, Program Manager Charlotte Kerney, Executive Assistant Keahna Umpstead. Quorum established.

Absent: None

1:00pm – Meeting called to order by Chair Kendricks

1:02pm – Roll Call

1:03pm - Motion to approve meeting minutes by Commissioner Bailey – Motion seconded to correct and accept minutes by Commissioner Dr. Geolingo.

Chair Kendricks called for vote to accept September 2024 Meeting Minutes

Voice vote – no objections. Motion carried. September 2024 commission meeting minutes approved.

1:10pm – Executive Directors Report – CAAA Executive Director, Edward Prince

Discussion – Commissioners speak on the recent 2024 presidential election and their feelings and fears for the future of the African American community both professionally and personally given the incoming administration. Director Prince then updates the commission on the status of the Education and Opportunity gap study that is being conducted by CAAA and all other Ethnic Commissions and GOIA that will be finished and presented to the Legislature in 2025. Then offers the acknowledgment of Attorney General Elect Nick Brown the states first African American to be elected to a statewide position of office.

1:30pm – Financial Education Public-Private Partnership (FEPPP) – Miladys Garcia, Financial Education Special Populations Program Supervisor

Discussion – FEPPP was created by the WA State Legislature in 2004 as the Financial Literacy Public-Private Partnership (FLPPP) with the goal to bring together public and private stakeholders to promote K-12 financial education. In 2011 the Legislature encouraged the WA public school districts to adopt the National Jumpstart standards in personal finance.

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Then in 2016 FEPP in partnership with OSPI adopted the Washington State Financial Education Learning Standards, and in 2022 the State Legislature unanimously passed [SB 5720](#).

FEPPP Overview

- Administration located at the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).
- Works to provide professional development and instructional materials to the community and certified staff.

Discussion – The FEPPP Financial Education Special Populations Program focuses on the states students who are a part of the states 7,136 homeless and 1,887 unsheltered individuals in WA State. Along with Migrant/Bilingual, foster care, special education, and incarcerated youth students. Students of these groups are,

- 64% of un-homed youth are students of color.
- Often face barriers to access education and resources that other students access with ease leading to higher drop out rates within these communities.
 - Special Popultaion drop-out rates
 - Un-homed 25%
 - Native Ed. 21%
 - Foster Care youth 47%
 - Migrant/Bilingual 20%
 - Special Education 26%
 - Incarcerated Youth 95%
 - Drop out of school and completing less than a high school diploma can drastically impact a student's median weekly earnings as they enter the workforce.
 - Median weekly earnings by diploma
 - Less than a high school diploma \$700
 - High School diploma \$900
 - Associate's degree \$1,100
 - Certificate or License \$1,350
 - Bachelor's Degree \$1,500
 - Master's Degree \$1,700
- FEPPP teachings are taught through three categories, instructional materials, social emotional learning, and cultural relevance to cohesively touch on the factors that influence financial wellbeing with culturally relevant, inclusive education resources.

Research-based impact of financial education through FEPPP

- Delinquency rates fall, credit scores improve
- Borrowing methods within students shift from high to low-cost methods
- High cost borrowing such as payday loans declines
- Student loan repayment increases
- Subjective financial well-being improves
- Effects are biggest for students from low-income families.

2:00pm – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Gary D. Gant, Director of the Office of Field Policy and Management

Discussion – In 1965 the Housing and Urban Development Act was passed and made HUD a cabinet level agency with a mission to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is divided into 10 regions within Washington State with homebase residing in Seattle, WA. Four state field offices located in each state makes up the region including Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. With Washington's field office alone serving 39 counties throughout the state.

Washington State Field Office Current Programs

- [Black Homeownership Initiative](#)
 - In WA State about 42% of black households have zero net worth which is a stark contrast to the 14% of white households.
- Developers of Color Forum
 - With less than 1% of real estate development companies in the US owned by people of color the forum focused on creating pathways for developers of color to thrive and access capital.
- Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
- Property Appraisal and Evaluation Equity (PAVE)
 - The PAVE action plan published to the public in March 2022 reflected the following six themes
 - Making the appraisal industry more accountable
 - Empowering consumers with information and assistance
 - Ensuring technology-based alternatives to in person appraisal do not perpetuate bias
 - Cultivating a well-trained appraiser profession that looks like the communities they serve.
 - Coordinating enforcements to keep the industry accountable.
 - Leveraging federal data to inform policy, practice and research on appraisal bias.
- Annual New Home Homeownership Resource Fair
 - In collaboration with Seattle Housing Alliance HUD helps connect prospective homeowners and renters with community organizations to learn more about resources related to Affordable Housing, downpayment assistance, the fair housing act, the covenant homeownership act, HUD certified housing counselors and one on one sessions with lenders.
- [Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity](#)
 - The right of all people to not experience discrimination in the rental, sale or financing of housing.
- Community Planning and Development to assist partners in providing communities and expanding economic opportunity.
 - HUD's Four major areas of assistance
 - Community Development
 - Economic Development
 - Affordable Housing
 - Special Needs Assistance
- [Community Development Block Program](#) (CDBG)

- Primary objective is to develop viable communities through decent housing, suitable living environment, and expanding economic community.
- Eligible Activities
 - Acquisition of real property
 - Construction of Public Facilities and Improvements
 - Rehab of Residential and Non-residential Structures
 - Public Services
 - Relocation and Demolition Housing Services
 - Special Economic development Activities
 - Planning and Administration
- \$57,215,544 allocated to WA Jurisdictions
 - CBDG Allocations in WA range from
 - \$106,79 Anacortes
 - \$9,054,023 Seattle
 - \$13,105,608 remaining of WA State
- Multifamily Housing Programs Project Based Rental Assistance
- [Office of Native American Programs and Office of Public and Indian Housing](#)

2:30pm – Mary’s Place – Dominique Alex, Chief Executive Officer

Discussion – The mission at Mary’s Place is to ensure that no child sleeps outside by creating programs that center equity and opportunity for women and families. With a vision to create a community where all families have safety, stability, and housing.

- Demographics of who Mary’s Place serves
 - 15% White
 - 82% people of color
 - 41% African American/African Decent
 - 15% White (Not Hispanic)
 - 1% Asian
 - 20% Hispanic/Latino
 - 9% multi-racial
 - 2% Native American/Alaska Native
 - 7% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - 2% Other
 - 3% Unknown
- FY 2024 Community Impact
 - Provided 272,194 individuals with beds each night
 - 816,582 meals served
 - 50+ daily visits to the [Women’s Day Center](#)
 - 3,841 children served
 - 183 [Popsicle Place](#) families served
 - 661 families moved to stable housing
 - 556 families supported to keep their homes
 - 1,919 total families served

- Three-pronged Approach to services
 - Emergency Shelter – includes a network of three family shelters with a total of 650 beds for households with children. Provides a solution for families with significant barriers to housing.
 - FY 2024 Outcomes
 - 475 families enrolled including 969 children
 - 192 families secured stable living solutions
 - Length of stay was an average of 202 days
 - Average cost per household \$35,420
 - Mobile Outreach – boots to the ground outreach and support that meet families where they are to assist in transitioning families to permanent housing.
 - FY 2024 Outcomes
 - 877 families enrolled including 1,695 children
 - 529 secured stable living situations
 - Length of Stay 68 days
 - Average cost per household \$4,412
 - Homelessness Prevention – serves families who are currently housed but are at risk of eviction and homelessness. Often including rental assistance and system navigation.
 - FY 2024 Outcomes
 - 56 families enrolled including 1,175 children
 - 527 families exited the program with 99% having immediate rental crisis resolution.
 - Average cost per household \$7642
- Services and Partnerships
 - Ayan Maternity Healthcare Support
 - Family Ways Maternity Support
 - Harriet Tubman
 - Immigrant and Refugee Services NW
 - Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA)
 - Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle Construction Trades program & Youth Maritime Career Launch program, Youth Web Design program
 - JUMA
- Mary's Place Programs
 - Allen Center
 - Drop-in services and resources for families
 - Kids Club
 - Age-appropriate activities and outings
 - Homework help
 - Transportation to schools
 - Scouts and clubs
 - Trauma reduction
 - Popsicle Place
 - Assist families with medically fragile children
 - Direct hospital outreach to prevent discharges to homelessness.

- Baby's Best Start
 - Assists pregnant women, moms and newborns
 - Connects families to Public Health visiting nurses
 - Parent education

3:00pm – Executive Ed Prince opens the floor to begin the election of CAAA officers for the year of 2025.

Discussion – Commissioner Kendricks speaks on his time on the Commission and his fond memories, the work accomplished, and the connections made. Members share their respects and shared memories of the Chairs time on the Commission and begin discussing the possible new chair and vice chair selections.

3:10pm – Commissioner Todd elected commission Chairperson in voice vote. No objections or abstentions

3:20pm – Commissioner Bailey elected commission Vice-Chair by voice vote. No objections or abstentions

3:30pm – Public Comment – No public comment

4:00pm – Meeting Adjourned