



Commission on African American Affairs Public Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 29, 2023 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 p.m. |

3002 Wetmore Ave. Everett, WA 98201 – Everett City Council Chambers

Commissioner Walter Kendricks, Chair
Representing Eastern Washington

Commissioner Joseph Todd, Vice Chair
Representing South King County

Commissioner Andrea Caupain
Representing King County

Commissioner Michael Bailey
Representing Snohomish County

Commissioner LeRoy Laney III
Representing King County

Commissioner Dorian Waller
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Zellynda Perkins
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Dr. Yolanda Geolingo
Representing Thurston County

Commissioner Sheila Stanton
Representing King County

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

Members present: Vice-chair Todd, Bailey, Laney, Geolingo, Stanton, Estes Executive Director Edward Prince, Program Manager Charlotte Kerney, Executive Assistant Keahna Umpstead. Quorum established.

Absent: Caupain-Sanderson, Perkins

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

1:02pm – Roll Call

1:05 pm – Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Vice Chair Todd
Point of order by Commissioner Laney - Motion seconded to correct and accept minutes by Vice Chair Todd.

Vice Chair Todd called for vote - no objections. Motion carried. May 2023 commission meeting minutes approved.

1:10pm – Executive Director, Ed Prince – Directors Report

Beginning legislative meetings in the run up to 2024 Legislative session

- Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal
- Washington Chapters of the NAACP

Transition planning for Governor Inslee Departure

1:15pm – Executive Director Jason Clark, Project Manager Khalia William-O’Neal, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Johny Cheng, Support Project Manager Demetria Hawkins – Presenting on Northwest Credible Messenger (NWCM)

Created in response to juvenile homicides in 2016 NWCM set out to form a community-based approach with a focus on cultivating racial justice by producing equitable access to treatment and opportunities that young people may have not seen as an option in the past. Operating out of a positive youth justice methodology where relationships produce results.

Mission:

to empower new and emerging Black and Brown community leaders, returning citizens and community-rooted organizations through Capacity Building – teaching the tools to build a seat at the table, Policy Advocacy – building acumen for lasting transformative change, and Positive Youth Justice – investing in the next generation of Black and Brown leadership.

Vision:

grounded in the principles of Healing Centered Engagement and Positive Youth Justice. Operating with the methodology that relationships produce results we expand our capacity to support youth and community leaders in their transformation journey.

Approach:

- Groups of 12 for a 6–12 week period
- Group sessions twice per week
- 1:1 mentor session weekly
- Fieldtrips monthly
- Trainings: Require all consortium partners to become certified Credible messengers, healing centered engagement practitioners, and certified peer counselors.
 - Credible Messenger Training
 - 35-hour certification
 - Healing Centered Engagement
 - 35-hour training
 - Certified Peer Counselor
 - 36-hour certification

NWCM Programs

- Gang Intervention and Prevention – partnering with DCYF expanded original program from one juvenile court program in King County to a statewide program.
 - Since 2019 trained 11 organizations in 7 regions around Washington.
 - Trained over 100 Credible Messengers
 - Supported over 200 BIPOC communities.
- Capacity Building – support the development of black and brown community leaders.
 - Supported 13 community leaders to become business owners.
 - Supported overall capacity building for 27 black and brown led organizations since 2019.
- Supportive Re-entry – focus on building up the existing skills and resources of individuals returning from incarceration.
 - Successfully reintegrated 50 participants
- Youth Young Adult – focusing on healing and wellness for BIPOC youth by providing culturally responsive behavioral health supports.
 - Still within first year of implementation currently providing support to 10 participants.
- Kitsap Credible Messenger – Provides gang intervention, drug diversion activities, and assists in relationship building with youth and families through mentorship.
 - In first year of implementation
- Champions Corner – Providing experimental connections to resources, supports, and leadership in the Spokane area.

- Within first year of implementation currently 5 high risk youth being supported
- Echo Glen Children’s Center – Promoting strength and pro-social development to youth currently residing in Echo Glen Children’s Center through violence reduction and prevention services.
 - Within first year of implementation, providing services to 12 residents housed in the maximum-security cottage.
- Healthy Masculinity – focus on assessing sociocultural factors that impacts that could be causing an increase in aggression and domestic violence and then providing socially responsive resources and tools to the youth to help them navigate their pressures.
 - Created in response to increase in domestic violence amongst youth.
 - Share with 17 jurisdictions nationwide through partnership with Prosecutions Beyond Big Cities: Institute for Innovation in Prosecution and facilitated by 20 young people.
- Politicizing our Youth - Project began in 2018 to connect youth with community leaders to foster civic engagement.
 - Actively engaged 75 youth over the past year
 - Participants took part in workshops such as, policy 101, knowing your rights, policy advocacy efforts, and took part in the programs first youth accountability board training.
- Federal Way Open Doors Truman Campus – Aimed at reducing violence, increasing school success, and intervening in incidents of violence that lead to prosecutions by the AG’s office and hospital admissions.
 - Between 2016-2018 the number of referrals to the justice system by the Federal Way School District had dropped by 43% percent.

The Future of NWCM – working to become a recognized behavioral health agency to increase services statewide to underserved communities by 2024. NWCM has also worked to successfully secure 1,000,000 in funding for their politicizing youth campaign that will assist in helping to provide resources over the next two years in multiple regions throughout the state. Helping to create a hub of providers in Kitsap County, WA, and work to provide capacity building to 1-3 organizations over the next two biennium (2023-24 and 2024-25).

2:30pm - Senior Data Governance Specialist, Dr. Bonnie Nelson – Presentation on Student data over time and across education systems – Education Research & Data Center (ERDC)

Created by the Washington State Legislature in 2007 used to conduct collaborative analysis of early learning, K-12, and higher education programs across the P-20 system. The ERDC houses the State’s longitudinal, and the cross-sector warehouse (P20W Warehouse). Data is collected from education source data such as public CTC’s, workforce, k-12, public 4-year institutions, etc. and then created into a linked data product that is requested by and shared to state agency partners, academic researchers, the State Legislature and many more.

- What does the ERDC do?
 - Create dashboards.

- Write Cross-sector Reports.
 - Provide datasets to outside organizations through data requests.
- Detailed/Disaggregated Race Data that is now collected within the new school race expanded categorizations that went from 5 to 229 race options and from 11 to 30 ethnicity options allowing for ERDC to do detailed race analysis that could not be done before. Allowing for a fuller cultural and social picture when providing data to cross-sector questions. Helps to allow organizations to better begin to understand the input of this data rather than just the output.
 - This data finally began being collected across WA public school districts in the 2022-2023 school year.

Discussion – Commissioners and Specialist Nelson discuss concerns with the possibilities of suppressed student data and representation now that race data is even farther broken out and is any category that has less than 10 individuals is suppressed. How does this affect funding and advocacy for students and larger ethnic groups in the future? Also discuss the possible need to across the board guidelines when it comes to reporting and interpreting this data.

3:47pm – Public Comment – No Public Comment

3:50pm – Meeting Adjournment

4:00pm – Meeting Adjourned