

Rising Strong Western Washington

2023-25 Decision Package

Capital funding request for the development of a Rising Strong program in Western Washington. Rising Strong is a family-centered drug treatment and housing program focused on serving families while they recover from addiction, heal from trauma, and rebuild their lives. The Rising Strong West Project is modeled after Rising Strong Spokane.



OVERVIEW

Program Focuses Include:

- ✓ Reunification and preservation for families involved in the child welfare system.
- ✓ Whole person, wrap-around care for all family members (not just mothers).
- ✓ Housing for families experiencing housing insecurity.
- ✓ Culturally responsive care for the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community.

Need for Rising Strong West:

- ✓ Western Washington lacks a program to provide family-centered, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment that allows families to stay together, but the need is high.
- ✓ Neglect and parent substance use is a top contributing factor for child removal. Statewide, more than 1,664 (43%) of children entering out-of-home care (OOHC) experienced parental substance use in 2021.
- ✓ Young children are the most impacted by parental SUD. In 2020, 68% of infants entering OOHC had parental SUD as a contributing factor. That year, 585 newborns were placed in their first 30 days due to parental substance use, 47% of which were in King, Pierce, and Spokane Counties.

PROJECT HISTORY & FUNDING

- ✓ The Rising Strong West project is funded by a budget proviso designating funds to Catholic Community Services/Catholic Housing Services to conduct the master planning process.
- ✓ If funded, the Rising Strong West facility construction will be subject to a Commerce RFP process. Operational funding aims to blend DCYF and Health Care Authority (HCA) sources with a value-based model, demonstrating cross-sector collaboration to address a difficult social problem with long-term generational impacts.

DCYF Strategic Priority Alignment

- Safely reduce the number/rate of children in out-of-home care

COST:

2023-25 BIENNIUM – \$13.4M

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