

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES LOCALLY

Bremerton Community Goals

Developed 9/28/20, reviewed 10/12/20

Services

- Eliminate the need for Child Welfare
- Reduce the rates of mental health disorders in children and adults and increase the use of therapeutic services before big behaviors show up.
- Support creative and respectful services that impact families.
- Partner with organizations to provide preventative therapy at no cost to clients.

Systems

- Connect with partners more effectively to create better services for families. Reduce “siloes” systems in the community.
- Advocate within state systems to change practices to be more trauma-informed and healing centered and aligned with science.
- Advocate for funding for “science-informed” practices, rather than solely funding “evidence-based practices”¹
- Expanded definition of what is a “therapeutic” service to align with neuroscience, and advocate for funding for effective therapies
- Build political will to pass something like “Best Starts for Kids” in King County, which is a housing levy directed at family supports
- Develop a “strategic prevention plan” that will help with funding strategies and collaboration in the future
- Identify policy and legislative barriers to achieving local goals and build relationships with local and state-level leadership that can help remove barriers to effective family-level services

¹ “Evidence-Based Practice” refers to an intervention that has been shown to be effective in a controlled research setting. Terms including “research-based”, “evidence-informed”, and “science-informed” refer to practices with a solid grounding in science, but which may not be easily studied in a scientific setting; for example, systems-level or individualized interventions. For more information, see Woodbury and Kuhnke, 2014, “Evidence-based Practice vs. Evidence-informed Practice: What’s the difference?” <https://www.woundscanada.ca/docman/public/wound-care-canada-magazine/2014-vol-12-no-1/510-wcc-spring-2014-v12n1-research-101/file>



Knowledge

- Increase community awareness of equity issues, maltreatment rates, and the importance of social supports for families (e.g. peer support, coaching)
- Develop life skills and child development education for parents, youth, and community members with innovative strategies
- Increase the number/percentage of organizations engaged in active efforts to become trauma-informed through networking and supporting existing efforts
- Support child welfare staff and supervisors to receive NEAR/TIC training and support
- More effectively utilize science/evidence to support families to stabilize themselves and build skills so children have more connected, stable experiences