

# STRENGTHEN FAMILIES LOCALLY



## Community Prevention Plan Brief – Ferry and Stevens Counties

### About this Strong Community Network:

The Ferry/Stevens SFL network has been meeting since August of 2020, with a transition to local facilitation from [Spokane Tribal Network](#) since August of 2021. The network meets monthly and includes local parents, volunteers, and community agencies. (For a full list of partners, see the [SFL Website](#)). The community network has incorporated outreach to families and community partners via Zoom and through Community Cafes/listening sessions with families at family events and food banks in several communities across Ferry and Stevens counties, outreach to families and staff at schools, and a Facebook page. The network has also overlapped with the Healthy Ferry County Coalition as an outreach method.

### Community Needs Identified:

- Lack of access to food/food security, especially during COVID pandemic; lack of access to or knowledge about existing food resources; lack of knowledge of how to make food budgets stretch
- Lack of transportation to access community resources
- Disproportionality for native families in child welfare and disproportionate outcomes for native women giving birth – mothers not being heard in the hospital, racist implementation where Indigenous mothers are targeted for removals; SUD in indigenous communities

### Priority Strategies:

#### Food knowledge and security programs

1. Family Gardening: provide gardening classes with supplies needed to grow their garden
2. Shopping knowledge: provide shopping classes with handouts on what aisles to avoid & label reading
3. Cooking classes: provide nutritional information, how to cook on a budget
4. Bringing families and providers together around food access questions - networking between social service and food access agencies

#### Transportation access

5. Connect with local resources and networks that already exist to help spread knowledge of resources – local governments, TEDD, rural resources
6. Create a resource document that can be shared with all cities in both counties available at school functions, community cafes, locally departments, etc.

#### Indigenous Birth Justice

7. Doula trainings in Ferry and Stevens and for Indigenous community members
8. Align DCYF funding with existing IBJ Network work – home visiting program for new Indigenous families



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

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Prevention and Client Service Division, Family Support Programs

<https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/child-development-supports/sfwa/sf-locally>