



Snohomish
County Human
Services

**MEETING MINUTES
SNOHOMISH COUNTY
EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL**

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84858665081?pwd=LFOarVIsxgBsCelpOIKrGA1dmtKEaf.1>

Passcode: 936410

**Monday, June 23, 2025
1:30 – 2:30 PM**

Attending

- County Staff Present: Kristina Saunsaucie, Karen Matson, Mellissa Hiatt, Margarita Ferrel (providing interpretive services)
- Policy Council Members Present: Savannah DeMann, Feliciano Santos, Itzel Canseco, Esmeralda Carranza, Hilda Rodriguez, Jeniffer Sepulveda, Gladys (Marilu) Guerra, Anna Ritter

Called to Order

- Kristina Saunsaucie called the meeting to order at 1:41 PM.
- ☒ Quorum met ☐ Quorum not met

Approval of Minutes

- March 2025
 - Action: Motion to approve March minutes without concern Savannah DeMann; Second Hilda Rodriguez
 - Motion passed: Abstain Jennifer Supulveda
- April 2025
 - Action: Motion to approve April minutes without concern Savannah DeMann; Second Hilda Rodriguez
 - Motion passed: Abstain Jennifer Supulveda
- May 2025
 - Action: Motion to approve May minutes without concern Savannah DeMann; Second Hilda Rodriguez
 - Motion passed: Abstain Jennifer Supulveda

Program Financials

Snohomish County Human Services Admin/Finance Division ensures all EHS expenditures are consistent with and allowable under EHS Grant and EHS Performance Standards

Kristina presented the program financials and credit card reports.

- February, March, and April Financials

- Action: Motion to acknowledge receipt of February, March, and April Financials without concern Savannah DeMann, Second Hilda Rodreguez
- Motion passed with unanimous approval.
- January, February (revised), March and April 2025 credit card reports
 - Action: Motion to acknowledge receipt of January, February (revised), March, and April 2025 credit card reports without concern, Savannah DeMann, Second, Felicia Santos
 - Motion passed with unanimous approval.

Management Report

Kristina presented the Management report.

- Enrollment Update
 - Program is fully enrolled (82)
 - There have been no vacancies over 30 days.
- Staffing updates
 - Hired a temporary ITS in June and she is covering for two extended leaves with staff. She is bi-lingual (English/Spanish) and has over ten (10) years' experience.
- Selection Criteria Update
 - Propose changing "home language other than English" to "limited English proficiency" which then covers all languages and families building language skills.
 - Member asked, "What happens if a member does not approve criteria."
 - Kristina responded with a facilitated discussion would be scheduled to decide any other options and the group would problem solve.
 - Kristina shared that limited English is a risk factor and indicator for school readiness and success. Limited English-speaking students often score lower than English speaking peers in early elementary school years based on research. Long term studies show the benefits on brain development of being bi-lingual and it is our goal to encourage developing both languages for young children.
 - Action: Motion to approve changes to selection criteria without concern, Jennifer Sepúlveda; Second, Maritza Ortiz
 - Motion passed with unanimous approval.
- Program Information Data (see below)

This will be on the agenda each month. If there are questions, contact Kristina.
- Full Enrollment Initiative Update
 - Currently in month four of six.
 - Will not be monitoring enrollment in June, July, and August.
 - Monitoring will resume again in September and October (the last two months of monitoring).

Update – Office of Head Start

- Funding update
 - No update to share.

Continuation Grant Application Process

5-year grant award with annual continuation application with budget (2025-2029)

Kristina and Karen presented information about the Snohomish County EHS 2025 grant continuation application process.

- Report – Virtual meeting was held on June 5 from 12:00 pm- 3:00 pm.
 - Self-Assessment session was completed with EHS Families, Snohomish County staff, EHS staff, and members of the Advisory Board/committee. Attendees provided valuable feedback, including where the program is doing well and insight for improved services with a focus on School Readiness goals and the Strategic Plan
- Application and budget (June)
 - The application is currently in progress.
 - A consultant team was hired (same as last year) and will again compile data for reporting.
 - Policy Council will review and recommend approval/not approval (July)
 - The Governing Body – County Council – will review and approval/not approval (August)
 - Application to be submitted (September 30).

Parent/Caregiver Sharing

Purpose to share information from Parent Committee

- Savannah asked when next socialization is.
 - Kristina shared that the next socialization is June 27th from 10-12 in Marysville.
- Feliciana shared families are challenged in making difficult decisions around attending socializations, she will be unable to attend and will use alternative activities in partnership with her ITS
- Jeniffer suggested having a meeting for the program so parents can share thoughts about current climate.
- Savannah suggested families plan a socialization in the home.
 - Kristina said our program could not authorize due to liability insurance but parents could create a plan outside of the program.
- Feliciana shared there is a program in Lynwood called L.E.T.I. for connecting and offering zoom for easier access and security.

Announcements

- July 28, 2025, next meeting date (subject to change)
- Discuss summer schedule for PC meetings.
 - Savannah and Feliciana confirmed that 1:30 works.
 - Jenniffer shared she is okay with 1:30 but prefers morning and Savannah is willing to try mornings,
 - Kristina will send out a poll for best times and ITS will report to parents.
 - Monday morning not available so if moving to morning a new day would need to be chosen.

Meeting Adjourned

- Savannah DeMann adjourned meeting at 2:27 PM.

Note: If you have questions, please contact Kristina Saunsaucie at 425-388-6439 or Kristina.Saunsaucie@snoco.org

PROGRAM INFORMATION REPORT DATA – September 2024 thru April 2025

Program Enrollment and Attendance

Early Head Start program enrollment as of April 30, 2025

Total Cumulative Enrollment: 125

- Total Current Enrollment: 82
- Under 100% FPL: 18%
- Public Assistance: 56%
- Foster Care: 4%
- Homeless Families: 15%
- % of Over-Income Families (100-130% FPL): 1%
- % of Over-Income Families (> 130% FPL): 6%
- % of Children with an IFSP: 18%
- Current Waiting List: 8
- % of Completed Home Visits 77%
- Vacancies over 30 Days: 0

Demographics and Health Data

- Pregnant People: 3
 - Children Under 1 Year: 16
- Children 1 – 2 Years: 33
- Children 2 – 3 Years: 30
- Families with home language other than English: 56%
- Children with a medical home: 100%
- Children with a dental home: 100%