

The Snohomish County Children's Commission

The Snohomish County Children's Commission was created to link research with practice; to help identify the priorities of the county's residents regarding our children; to provide a clearer picture of existing gaps and needs; and to track federal, state, and local programs and activities relating to children. Over the past 15 years, the Children's Commission has sponsored many forums, reports, campaigns, projects, and legislative advocacy activities as well as initiated many successful programs alive and well in our county today.

Twenty-five Snohomish County residents representing the geographic, professional and community diversity of our area serve on the Commission. The Commission meets every month and works to respond to the mandates of the county Council and the needs of our children and youth.

Purpose: The Snohomish County Children's Commission is a group of twenty-five men and women appointed by Snohomish County government to provide advice on the health, safety, and welfare of children. As defined by county ordinance, members represent diverse geographical divisions as well as health and human services, law and justice, education, business and labor, children and youth, concerned citizens, minorities, elected officials, and the Department of Social and Health Services. In order to respond effectively to the mandates of the county and the needs of infants, young children and youth, the Commission meets at least once monthly in public session for discussion of crucial issues. Its research and development work is conducted through forums, public hearings, and a strong committee structure that includes several hundred community members addressing issues of child care, economics, education, health, personal safety, and quality of life. The Commission speaks on behalf of children in many arenas, supporting its positions through publications, legislative efforts, and active involvement in state and local issue resolution.

Values Statement: We value each child. It is our responsibility to make decisions that ensure...

- Each child or youth has the presence of at least one competent and caring adult in their life who loves, supports, and cares for them;
- Each child or youth lives in a community that tangibly demonstrates their positive valuing of children and families;
- Each child or youth lives in a safe environment with their basic needs met;
- Each child or youth has opportunities to develop their full potential;
- Each child or youth has opportunities to be capable and significant, to contribute to their community, and to develop positive social relationships;
- Each child or youth is treated with dignity and with respect for their individuality.

These values are how we determine the rightness of our actions. It is incumbent upon each of us, individually and as part of any group, to consider them when making decisions that may affect children and youth in Snohomish County.

Would you like to become a Children's Commissioner for Snohomish County? Call (425) 388-7390 for more information.

Children's Commission Meeting Schedule

The Commission meets on the LAST Wednesday of the following months: January, February, March, April. In May the Commission holds an Annual Dinner. In June they have their Annual Retreat. LAST Wednesdays of the following months they meet again on a regular basis: July, August, September, October. There is no meeting in the month of November. The December meeting occurs on the FIRST Wednesday of the month.

For meeting location and other questions please call (425) 388-7390.