



PHT Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2024
Skagit Station Meeting Room

Members: Claudia Avendaño-Ibarra, Dan Berard, Thomas Boucher, Patty Codd, Bill Henkel, John Leon, Chris Johnston, Linden Jordan, Julie Merriam, Kevin Murphy, Lilia Ortiz, Mario Paredes, Mo Pettitt, Margaret Rojas, Lyndie Simmonds, Dean Snider

Community Stakeholders: Marci Bloomquist, KaSandra Church, Polly Dubbel, Kristen Ekstran, Keith Higman, Jennifer Sass-Walton, Erin Von Fempé

Ex-Officio: Peter Browning, Howard Leibrand

Guests: Kelli Baker

Agenda and steering report:

Kristen reviewed the agenda for the day and invited Mo to give an overview of the last Steering Committee Meeting. Mo shared that Kas had given a report on the Food Policy Council (FPC) meetings and the role it can play in advocacy and education at a local level. Mo also said that the group had a brief discussion of the presentation given by Representative Shavers at the last PHT meeting. During the conversation, members expressed a desire to engage more with legislators at future meetings.

New member welcome:

Kristen welcomed several new members to the group. She then asked everyone to introduce themselves, their organization, as to share either, 1) what Recovery Plan theme are they most engaged in or 2) how their organization/sector has benefitted from the collective impact actions of the Trust.

Following introductions there was a brief update regarding the child care education/advocacy document and suggestions were made as to potential revisions. Kristen said that they would work on updating the document and then get it out to everyone so they could use it within their organizations.

Recovery Plan Evaluation Activity Part II:

Members were given instructions for the activity portion of the meeting, a review of the crossover and equity strategies in the COVID Recovery Plan. Through the activity, members were encouraged to evaluate the impact of PHT actions, assess the current environment in relation to the strategies, and to determine possible next steps. For strategies with little activation, members were encouraged to consider the relevance of the strategies given a changing environment.

Following small group conversations, a representative from each group shared highlights from their conversations. While some areas were more activated than others, members felt that all strategies were still relevant and important, though there were some suggestions for a possible rewriting or revisiting a few.

Updates:

Kas shared that the Food Policy Council has begun work on understanding systems that connect farmers to available land, exploring the concept of a shared kitchen between Meals on Wheels and Head Start and possible expansion of the Farm to School Program. The group will meet again in February.

Kristen asked members to look at the Trends website as part of the meeting in March will be a review of current indicators. She reminded members that planning for the October event, Powerful Partnerships, will begin soon. Lastly, she will be working on working on a progress report for the COVID Recovery Plan to be shared with the Board of Health later. Kristen then thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting.