



Parents for Parents Program

If the Parents for Parents program is going to go statewide and have fidelity to the evaluated model, the program will need \$200,000 in the 2020 budget to fund the remaining five counties in the state, which were not included in last year's legislative ask. This is in addition to the current biennial amount and will provide oversight, coordination, technical assistance and quality monitoring to all sites across the state.

Key Facts:

Through the passage of SB 5486 in the regular 2015 session, the Washington State Legislature directed the Parents for Parents Program (P4P) to be replicated statewide by the end of the 19/21 biennium and for the program to be evaluated. At the time, P4P was operating in nine counties and, to date, both required evaluations have been completed with positive results.

During the 2019 legislative session, \$532,000 was appropriated to take P4P statewide, expanding the program into 22 counties and implementing a more robust model in four existing sites to help keep families engaged throughout the dependency process.

Thanks to funding from the state legislature in 19/21:

- ❖ The program is currently active in: Whatcom, Clallam, Snohomish, King, Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Pierce, Grays Harbor, Pacific, Kitsap, Spokane, Clark, Walla Walla, and Benton/Franklin Counties.
- ❖ Start-up work is currently underway in: Skagit, Island, San Juan, Kittitas, Lincoln, and Adams Counties.
- ❖ New Parents for Parents sites to begin start-up on or around March 1, 2020 include: Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, Whitman, Douglas, Yakima, Klickitat, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Ferry, Wahkiakum, and Skamania Counties.

In an effort to conserve state resources, the 2019 P4P legislative ask was based on the assumption that funding from a federal permanency grant awarded to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families would be provided over a five-year period to begin programs in the remaining counties: **Cowlitz, Grant, Okanogan, Clallam and Jefferson counties** and to expand services in four existing counties. However, the direction of the grant shifted, as well as the counties that would receive funding, and unintentionally created a gap for those five counties.

We need your help to ensure families don't lose this incredible program! Grant funding for start-up in certain counties will run out and we need ongoing funding to sustain the program in those counties.

- ❖ To fill the gap created by the change in direction of the grant, and communities wanting to begin P4P as soon as possible to ensure families have the support they need within an overburdened system, time-limited Court Improvement Program funds have been used to begin Grant County and efforts are currently underway to begin Cowlitz, Okanogan, Jefferson and Chelan Counties.
- ❖ CIP funding cannot provide continued funding to maintain these programs. **If the legislative funding request is unsuccessful and Jefferson, Cowlitz, Okanogan, Grant and Chelan Counties do not receive ongoing funding, these program doors will close, families will lose this support, and we will not be statewide per SB 5486.**