

## Partners for Young Children Island County 2025-26 Goals & Priorities

**Background:** PYC conducted surveys and workshopped with partners to identify key areas of Washington’s Early Learning Coordination Plan (ELCP) to emphasize for the 2025-26 season. The partners identified three main goals and the following strategies to achieve as a county coalition.

### **ELCP Goal: Powerful Communities and a Responsive Early Learning System:**

*Island County Goal: To strengthen the bridge between early learning systems and Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten programs through data collection, collaboration, community education, and professional support.*

#### **PYC Role:**

- Support Pre-Kindergarten to Kindergarten transitions
  - Investigate status of Pre-K/K Transition Report usage and application across different providers/districts of Island County
- Facilitate collaboration on shared language of Kindergarten Readiness as defined by WA Kids between early learning providers and Pre-K/K teachers
- Expand upon bridge between early learning providers and Pre-K/K teachers
- Host “Dinner Dialogues” in regional school districts to help align goals
- Seek funding in professional development for early learning providers

### **ELCP Goal: Strong, Stable, Nurturing, Safe & Supported Families**

*Island County Goal: To coordinate community events and programs designed to bring resources and education to families that are relevant and accessible.*

#### **PYC Role:**

- Collaborate and facilitate Community Resource Fair Events
- Coordinate accessible “Lunch & Learns” for families with young children to provide community support & educational opportunities.
  - Create opportunities for resource partners to provide leadership on education and training
- Distribute Newborn Outreach Bags to local birthing hospitals to provide information on local resources for new families
- Continue to develop and expand PYC’s existing programs:
  - Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, Lantern, & Vroom
  - Newborn Outreach

### **ELCP Goal: A Strong & Supported Early Learning Workforce**

*Island County Goal: To provide advocacy and workforce support for early learning providers as well as those seeking degrees in early learning.*

#### **PYC Role:**

- Provide advocacy for the early learning workforce and degree-seeking individuals in areas such as living wage provisions and professional development opportunities.
- Provide Support for sustainability and growth in early learning programs through grant-writing and bridge loan programs for new in-home providers