



Proposed Final Agenda

Wednesday • February 13, 2012 • 1:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Department of Health

Point Plaza East, Rooms 152/153, 310 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 1:10 p.m. CALL TO ORDER | | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair |
| 1:15 p.m. | 1. Approval of Agenda
—Action | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair |
| 1:20 p.m. | 2. Approval of December 6, 2012 Minutes
—Action | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair |
| 1:25 p.m. | 3. Announcements and Council Business | Christy Hoff, Council Staff |
| 1:35 p.m. | 4. 2012 State Policy Action Plan: Updates on Distribution and Implementation | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair
Christy Hoff, Council Staff |
| 2:20 p.m. | 5. Implementation of Environmental Exposures and Hazards Recommendations: Introduction to Global Reporting Initiative | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair
Millie Piazza, Council Member
Linda Glasier, Department of Ecology |
| 2:45 p.m. | 6. State System and Health Disparities Workgroup Briefing | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair
Frankie Manning, Council Vice Chair
Gail Brandt, Council Member
Christy Hoff, Council Staff |
| 3:00 p.m. BREAK | | |
| 3:10 p.m. | 7. Public Comment | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair |
| 3:30 p.m. | 8. Council Member Announcements | Emma Medicine White Crow, Council Chair |
| 4:00 p.m. ADJOURNMENT | | |

PLEASE NOTE: Times above are estimates only. The Council reserves the right to alter the order of the agenda. For information regarding testimony, handouts, other questions, or for people needing special accommodation, please contact Desiree Day Robinson at the Board office at (360) 236-4110 by February 6, 2013. This meeting site is barrier free. Emergency contact number during the meeting is (360) 701-2398.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

Washington State Board of Health

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

December 20, 2012

RFA-HL-13-013 Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Underserved Rural Communities (R01)

Dear Dr. Xue-Qiao Zhao:

On behalf of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities, I want to offer my support for the University of Washington's research proposal in partnership with the Yakima Heart Center and Wenatchee Valley Medical Center aimed at building the evidence base and accelerating the implementation and translation of evidence-based interventions into practice in rural communities. We believe your research project, "Rural Population Multiple Atherosclerosis Risk Intervention Study" (RUPMARS) is thoughtful, realistic, and fills a need that has not been attempted before. We appreciate your plans to partner with local clinicians who know the community and the barriers they face.

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities is dedicated to eliminating health disparities by race/ethnicity and gender in Washington State. The Council works collaboratively with public, private, and community organizations, as well as trusted community leaders, to assess and recommend policy strategies to address disparities and the determinants of health that result in health inequities.

Recently, the Council convened an advisory committee to identify strategies to reduce poverty and to support families in poverty in order to reduce health disparities. The committee chose rural healthcare as one of its three areas of focus because rural communities in the state tend to have higher rates of poverty and to face a complex set of health issues, including higher rates of obesity and smoking; lower rates of health insurance and access to a personal provider; an increased chance of being hospitalized or delaying a medical visit due to cost; and a decreased likelihood of receiving preventive screenings.

We believe the RUPMARS project's specific aims to identify appropriate cardiovascular disease risk assessment and to test evidence-based therapies in high-risk rural populations are greatly needed in order to promote the health of Washington's rural communities.

We look forward to offering support and guidance to the project team and know that the findings will help to inform the Council's future work.

Sincerely,

Emma R. Medicine White Crow

Emma Medicine White Crow, Chair



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

Washington State Board of Health

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

January 7, 2013

Dedra Buchwald, MD
Partnerships for Native Health, University of Washington

Ron Whitener, JD
Native American Law Center, University of Washington

Jae Kennedy, PhD
Health Policy and Administration, Washington State University

Dear Dr. Buchwald, Mr. Whitener, and Dr. Kennedy:

On behalf of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities, I want to offer my support for your proposed grant, the Native Consortium on Inequities in Health and Policy, being submitted to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The diversity in perspectives brought by the Partnerships for Native Health at the University of Washington School of Public Health, the Native American Law Center at the University of Washington School of Law, and the Department of Health Policy and Administration at Washington State University will be valuable in working to redress health disparities faced by Native people in our region.

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities is dedicated to eliminating health disparities by race/ethnicity and gender in Washington State, including disparities faced by American Indian and Alaska Native populations. The Council works collaboratively with public, private, and community organizations, as well as trusted community leaders, to assess and recommend policy strategies to address disparities and the determinants of health that result in health inequities. The Council values inclusion of those affected by health disparities in the policy making process and we are pleased to hear of your plans to work collaboratively with Tribes and Urban Indian organizations.

We look forward to offering support and guidance to the project team, including having a representative participate in your annual conference and assisting with dissemination of project findings, and know the results will help to inform the Council's future work.

Sincerely,

Emma R. Medicine White Crow

Emma Medicine White Crow, Chair



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

Washington State Board of Health

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

December 6, 2012

Dear Members of the Health Benefit Exchange Board,

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities is charged with identifying strategies to eliminate health disparities by race/ethnicity and gender. It also has the responsibility to recommend actions to improve access to health and healthcare services for individuals with limited-English proficiency. As such, we are writing now to strongly encourage the Exchange Board to provide leadership in ensuring meaningful access to the Washington Health Plan Finder and its services for all of Washington's diverse communities, including those with limited-English proficiency.

The Health Disparities Council understands that the Exchange has current plans to translate the Washington Health Plan Finder web portal into Spanish and to have a call center available to assist the public with interpreters for eight languages. We thank you for taking those initial, very important steps.

We also understand that you have included in your mission the values of integrity, respect, equity, and transparency. We applaud you for including equity among your key values and encourage you to take additional steps to achieve equity and meaningful language access to the Exchange. Such steps could include having access to telephonic interpreting for all languages through your call center, informing individuals of the availability of language access services such as through the use of taglines in non-English languages, and adopting a comprehensive language access policy and procedure that includes criteria for deciding when to translate the web portal into additional languages (such as the more common Asian languages spoken in our State). Moreover, we ask you to ensure that culturally and linguistically competent community-based organizations, Tribes, and urban Indian health organizations are eligible to serve as navigators and be compensated for providing outreach to diverse communities in order to increase enrollment in plans offered through the Exchange.

We know that the Exchange, its services, and its policies and procedures are all being created under a tight timeline. The good news is that there are a multitude of language access resources currently available and we highlight just a few here:

- The Department of Health and Human Services LEP policy guidance for recipients of federal financial assistance is an excellent resource on establishing a language access policy and identifying criteria for when and how to provide interpretation and translation services. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2003-08-08/pdf/03-20179.pdf>.
- The LEP.gov Web site is a good, general resource for providing meaningful language access: <http://www.lep.gov/index.htm>.
- The Washington State Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA) serves as an excellent resource here in our own state: <http://www.wascla.org/>.

In addition, the Health Disparities Council offers the assistance of its members and staff. If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Christy Hoff, Health Policy Advisor for the Council, at 360-236-4108 or Christy.Hoff@sboh.wa.gov.

We thank you for your dedication and continued work to promote health equity in Washington State.

Sincerely,

Emma R. Medicine White Crow

Emma Medicine White Crow
Chair

Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities Policy & Procedure

Policy Number:	2009-02
Subject:	COMMUNICATING WITH THE LEGISLATURE
Adopted:	February 5, 2009

Policy Statement:

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities (Council) was created to help Washington become the healthiest state in the nation by striving to eliminate health disparities by race/ethnicity and gender. Toward this end, the Council is charged with:

- creating a state policy action plan to eliminate health disparities;
- promoting and facilitating communication, coordination, and collaboration among state agencies, the private sector, and communities of color to address health disparities;
- developing recommendations for improving the availability of culturally and linguistically appropriate health literature and interpretive services; and
- gathering information to understand how the actions of state government ameliorate or contribute to health disparities.

In some instances, the Council's responsibilities may be served through identifying, monitoring, and communicating with the Legislature about proposed legislation relevant to the Council. This policy and procedure provides guidance to assist the Council in its decisions whether to provide written or oral testimony or otherwise communicate with the Legislature about proposed legislation.

Procedure:

Recognizing that decisions about whether to communicate with the Legislature about proposed legislation need to occur in a very short timeframe, the Council authorizes the Chair to make these decisions on behalf of the Council. The Chair may, however, at his or her discretion, consult with individual Council members in making a decision.

During session, Council staff will routinely monitor legislative bill introductions, committee agendas, and other legislative matters to identify bills that may warrant attention by the Council. Council staff shall consider the following guidance when deciding whether to bring a legislative proposal to the attention of the Council Chair:

- The policy or budgetary proposal has a direct impact on the Council's statutory powers and duties or it is directly related to policy recommendations supported by the Council in its state action plan or any interim document approved by the Council, and
- communicating to the Legislature about the policy or budgetary proposal does not run counter to any policy, guidance, or other activity of the Governor or any agency, board, or commission with representation on the Council.

In addition to responding to bills or budget proposals that warrant the Council's attention, the Chair may work with staff and individual Council members to respond to inquiries from members of the Legislature or to provide information about Council priorities and activities to legislators or staff at a legislator's request.

The Council Chair or his or her designee must approve correspondence with legislative staff or members. Such correspondence should routinely be copied and sent to the Department of Health

Office of the Secretary – Policy, Legislative, and Constituent Relations, as consistent with the Board of Health's policy and procedure on communicating with the Legislature (Policy Number 2001-004).

An individual Council member may speak or write to the Legislature on proposed legislation or other matters. In such cases, the speaker should clarify that such communications are from a single Council member and do not necessarily reflect the views of the entire Council.

Any Council member or Council staff member who addresses comments to the Legislature or its staff on proposed legislation relating to the Council must report such activity to the Executive Director of the State Board of Health who must prepare a consolidated quarterly report on such activity as required by the Public Disclosure Commission according to 42.17.190 RCW.



DATE: February 13, 2012

TO: Members of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities

FROM: Emma Medicine White Crow, Chair

SUBJECT: 2012 STATE POLICY ACTION PLAN: UPDATES ON DISTRIBUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Background and Summary:

At our December 6, 2012 meeting the Council passed a motion approving draft text of the *2012 State Policy Action Plan to Eliminate Health Disparities* and authorizing the Chair to submit the final plan to Governor Gregoire and members of the Legislature. Council members agreed that the June 2013 action plan update would focus on progress toward implementing the 2012 recommendations and suggested creating a tool to track implementation progress.

Today, I have asked staff to provide an update on the distribution of the 2012 action plan. Following that update, I ask Council members to share and discuss progress on implementing recommendations to date. In addition, Council Member Millie Piazza has invited her colleague Linda Glasier from the Department of Ecology to provide a briefing on Global Reporting Initiative as it relates to the implementation and tracking of the Council's environmental exposures and hazards recommendations.

Recommended Council Action:

No recommended action at this time.

**Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities
2012 Action Plan—Implementation Status
February 13, 2013**

Recommendation ¹	Status
<p>BH²—Workforce Development Assist students from diverse communities to prepare for careers in health professions. Improve recruitment from communities of color into health programs.</p>	<p>Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) hired staff to take the lead on this work.</p>
<p>BH—Workforce Credentialing Ensure input from affected communities to any credentialing or scope of practice changes regarding agency affiliated counselors.</p>	<p>Status update pending.</p>
<p>BH—Workforce Training Improve access to cultural competency training for continuing education hours for behavioral health professionals.</p>	<p>Status update pending.</p>
<p>BH—Data Ensure behavioral health data are disaggregated to the finest subpopulation level possible.</p>	<p>Status update pending.</p>
<p>BH—Qualified Health Homes Ensure Tribal, urban Indian, and community-based organizations can be part of qualified health homes.</p>	<p>Status update pending.</p>
<p>BH—Culturally Competent Care Incentivize culturally competent care coordination and other supports and services that promote engagement and positive health.</p>	<p>Status update pending.</p>
<p>BH—Access and Engagement Ensure Tribal, urban Indian, and community-based organizations can serve as navigators. Ensuring any mandated evidence-based practices allow for flexibility and adaptation.</p>	<p>The Health Disparities Council submitted a letter to the Health Benefits Exchange Board encouraging the Board to ensure meaningful language access to the Exchange and its services. The letter also asked the Board to ensure community-based organizations, Tribes, and urban Indian health organizations are eligible to serve as navigators.</p> <p>The Health Disparities Council received an update on the implementation of HB 2536 on December 6, 2012. Members provided guidance on the need to ensure promising practices be considered and that practices allow for flexibility and cultural adaptation.</p>

**Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities
2012 Action Plan—Implementation Status
February 13, 2013**

Recommendation ¹	Status
<p>EEH³—EJ⁴ Institutional Awareness and Diversity Ensure agency staff diversity and cultural competency.</p>	<p>Department of Ecology is planning to convene an interagency environmental justice network – planning for Spring 2013. The agency is considering whether the interagency environmental justice network could serve as the appropriate forum for promoting best practices and training – currently under consideration.</p>
<p>EEH—EJ Service Equity, Accountability, and Metrics Ensure equity is considered in the delivery of services, agency plans, programs, policies, and budget decisions. Ensure data are collected to track disparities. Formalize processes for investigating environmental justice issues. Reconvene an environmental justice workgroup.</p>	<p>Department of Ecology is partnering with the US Environmental Protection Agency to add language in their performance partnership agreement (intergovernmental memorandum of understanding) regarding the following (currently under consideration):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convening the interagency environmental justice network. • Identifying appropriate measures and baseline indicators for tracking disparate impacts and progress towards reducing disparities. • Providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to high risk and overburdened communities (e.g., information about environmental justice, grant writing, data access and analysis, and community mobilization and advocacy).
<p>EEH—Community Capacity Building and Involvement Provide community outreach, training, technical assistance. Ensure community engagement in agency decision making. Strengthen Tribal consultation. Dedicate funds to assist communities with environmental justice concerns.</p>	<p>Department of Ecology is planning to partner with US Environmental Protection Agency to develop a map of high impact communities – planning for Fall 2013.</p> <p>Department of Ecology is in the process of developing guidance for assessing alternatives to chemicals of concern. The purpose of the guidance is to give Ecology better tools to help businesses, especially small and medium sized businesses, make better informed choices about the chemicals they use in their products and manufacturing processes – currently under development.</p>
<p>EEH—Precautionary Approach Ensure a precautionary, prevention-oriented approach to environmental contaminants. Take actions and set tangible goals for reducing harmful environmental exposures. Prioritize children’s health and development.</p>	<p>Department of Ecology is participating in the Global Reporting Initiative to measure and report their economic, environmental, and social performance. A number of the indicators used in the GRI align closely with the Council’s environmental exposures and hazards recommendations.</p>

**Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities
2012 Action Plan—Implementation Status
February 13, 2013**

Recommendation ¹	Status
<p>Poverty—Early Learning Create capacity for bilingual/bicultural early learning programs. Promote cultural competency training for early learning professionals.</p>	<p>To date, the Department of Early Learning has provided 34 cultural competency trainings statewide, reaching an estimated 500 early learning professionals. To date, 304 state-approved trainers have access to cultural competency training, focused on creating training that is culturally responsive and facilitating training to meet the needs of all participants.</p>
<p>Poverty – Rural Healthcare Support the strategies in the 2012 Rural Health Care Strategic Plan for Washington State.</p>	<p>Health Disparities Council’s action plan was disseminated to the Legislature on January 14, 2013. Council staff shared the recommendation with Department of Health Office of Rural Health program. Council staff met with Washington State Hospital Association staff involved in the strategic plan development to share information about the Council and its recommendation. WSHA staff will share implementation updates and possibly present on implementation in rural communities at the Council’s May 2013 meeting.</p>
<p>Poverty—Healthy Foods in Diverse Communities Convene the Food System Roundtable. Ensure diverse community input into the 25 year vision.</p>	<p>The Department of Health and the Department of Social and Health Services in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington State Conservation Commission convened the Food System Roundtable on January 8, 2013. At that meeting Roundtable participants identified the need to recruit members from the following groups to the Roundtable: consumers, ethnic and minority grocers, and vulnerable populations. Council staff met Department of Health representatives on the Roundtable to provide information on the Council and its recommendation and to obtain an update on the first meeting. Information on the Council and its recommendation was shared with Roundtable members on January 15, 2013.</p>

¹ Recommendations are abbreviated—for the full recommendations’ language, see the [2012 State Policy Action Plan to Eliminate Health Disparities](#).

² BH: Behavioral Health

³ EEH: Environmental Exposures and Hazards

⁴ EJ: Environmental Justice

Update from the Department of Early Learning (DEL) on work related to the 2012 State Policy Action Plan to Eliminate Health Disparities

Focal area: Poverty

Recommendation 1—Early Learning

Create capacity for bilingual/bicultural early learning programs. Promote cultural competency training for early learning professionals.

DEL is implementing Early Achievers, Washington’s Quality Rating and Improvement System. There are several components to this system including training, technical assistance and coaching.

The cultural competency training was developed by the state board of community and technical colleges and is delivered by state approved trainers free of charge to all Early Achievers facilities. To date, 34 trainings have been provided statewide, reaching an estimated 500 early learning professionals.

Also, DEL has created a cultural competency training specifically for state-approved trainers who work with early learning professionals. The training focuses on cultural considerations for trainers, including both creating training that is culturally responsive and facilitating training to meet the needs of all participants. To date, 304 trainers are approved and have access to the training.

Although DEL has not started coaching rated facilities yet, one of the three pillars of the coaching model is cultural competency. The coaching model was developed by the University of Washington. Which is responsible for providing training and mentoring to all Early Achievers coaches. Cultural competency is purposefully woven into all coaching trainings and supports and coaches meet specific cultural competency standards of the Core Competencies and Early Learning Guidelines. Cultural competency is comprised of five dispositions and practices:

- Responsiveness and reciprocity
- Inclusiveness
- Extending leadership competence
- Representation and participation of diverse people
- Culturally and linguistically relevant materials and trainings

DEL currently has 10 coaches statewide who are employed by regional Child Care Aware WA offices.

For more information about Early Achievers, please go to www.del.wa.gov/care/gris/.

The Global Reporting Initiative

A globally recognized tool for measuring sustainability

4,972 Organizations

11,034 GRI Reports

In Washington State:

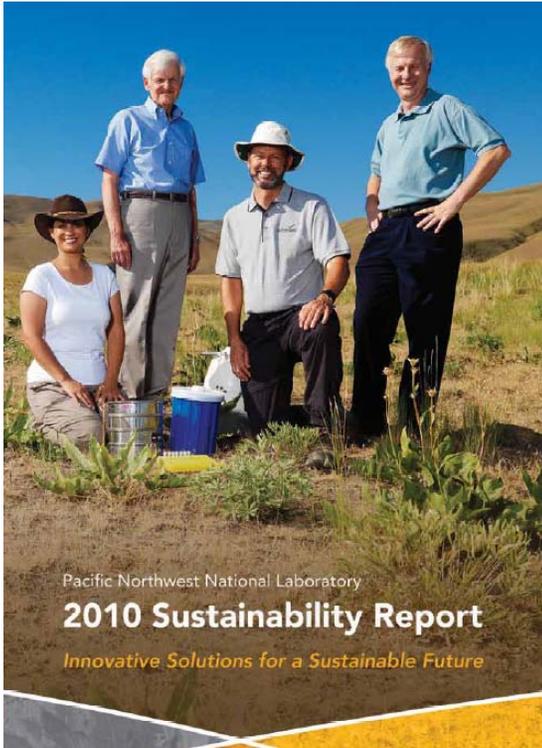


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Department of Ecology



The World Bank Home

About Countries Data & Research Learning News Projects & Operations

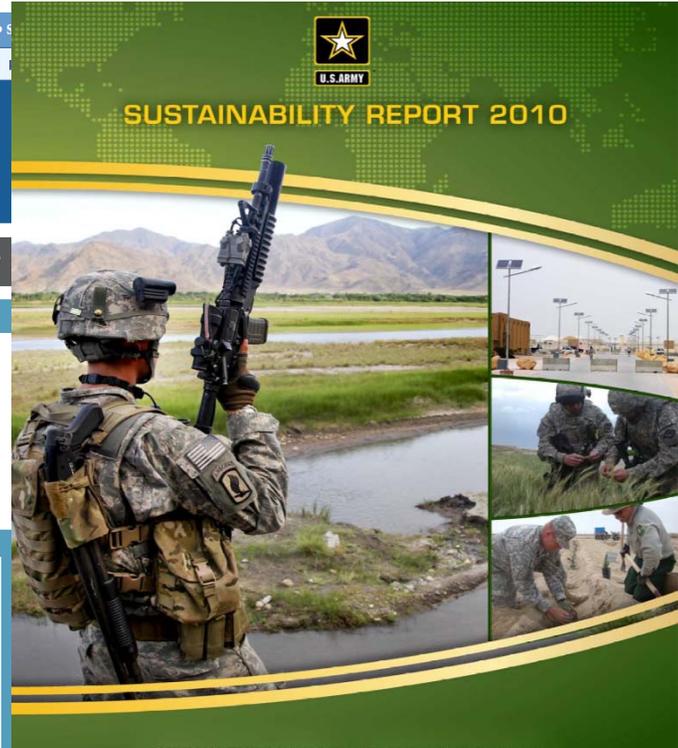
Corporate Responsibility

Home About CR Program Operational Responsibility Social Responsibility Environmental Responsibility

FY2011 GRI Index Previous Reports

The World Bank supports the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and is one of the GRI Chapter Group of founding members.

The response to the GRI Indicators present a glimpse into the World Bank's (also known as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or IBRD in the capital market) complex suite of activities. Links to further information in the Annual Report and throughout the Bank's website are also provided. Some GRI indicators are not applicable to our operations and have been noted as such. Questions or comments about the GRI Index should be addressed to envhelpdesk@worldbank.org.



CH2MHILL.

Sustainability Report 2012

Contents Introduction IRG Profile Products Operations Social Responsibility Employees & Stakeholders New Vision & Goals GRI Index 1 of 76

2011 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Commitment to Everyday Life

P&G

www.pg.com/sustainability

SUSTAINABILITY
PUTTING OUR STAMP ON
A GREENER TOMORROW

2011 REPORT

GO GREEN
reduce our environmental footprint usa
step by step

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ)

Among other things, [ECCJ](#) calls for better transparency and believes reporting should be mandated. Since there are not enough reporting rules, the information disclosed by companies is often misleading or incomplete. What are the impacts of a steel mill on neighboring farmland? How do suppliers of European fashion brands treat their workers? Mandatory disclosure of such information would allow affected and concerned people to hold companies to account.

GRI at the European Parliament subcommittee on Human Rights

On 6th December 2010 Ernst Ligteringen, Chief Executive of the Global Reporting Initiative, addressed the European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights ([video](#)) on the issue of Business and Human Rights, focusing on the importance of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting as a tool to improve the human rights impacts of business.



2011 Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Report



Publication No. 12-04-034

October 2012

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Report

2011 GRI REPORT

- Our Strategy
- Ecology Overview
- Our Report
- Governance
- Stakeholders
- Environmental Performance
- Our Workforce
- Social Impact
- Economic Impact
- Conclusions

- Contact Us
- G3 Guidelines
- References
- Index

Our sustainable
practices protect
Washington's air,
land and water
for future
generations

Introduction

Our state has a long history of protecting its environment and quality of life. Governor Dan Evans called a special session of the Legislature to establish the Department of Ecology in 1970. It was the first agency of its kind in the United States, even preceding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In establishing a modern environmental agency from many parts, the Legislature declared that "it is a fundamental and inalienable right of the people of the state of Washington to live in a healthful and pleasant environment and to benefit from the proper development and use of its natural resources".

Remarks by Ted Sturdevant, Director

Sustainability reporting is a process for publicly disclosing an organization's economic, environmental, and social performance.

NEWS RELEASE

[Ecology publishes sustainability report](#)

Washington State Department of Ecology



Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive
PO Box 47600
Olympia WA 98504-7600

GRI

[2.1](#)

[2.2](#)

[2.3](#)

[2.4](#)

[2.5](#)

[2.6](#)

[2.7](#)

[2.8](#)

[2.9](#)

[2.10](#)

Ecology is Washington's principal environmental management agency and was created in 1970 by the Washington State Legislature. The Legislature gave Ecology authorization to adopt rules and regulations to fulfill the mandates of other environmental laws (Chapter 43.21A Revised Code of Washington (RCW)).

Ecology's mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance Washington's environment, and promote the wise management of our air, land, and water for the benefit of current and future generations. To fulfill our mission and move Washington forward in a global economy, Ecology has three goals:

1. Prevent pollution
2. Clean up pollution
3. Support sustainable communities and natural resources

Ecology employs 1,550 staff and carries out its mission and goals through the work of ten [environmental programs](#), which include:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ❖ Air Quality | ❖ Spills |
| ❖ Environmental Assessment | ❖ Toxics Cleanup |
| ❖ Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction | ❖ Waste 2 Resources |
| ❖ Nuclear Waste | ❖ Water Quality |
| ❖ Shorelands and Environmental Assistance | ❖ Water Resources |

Design Planning and Considerations

- We wanted it to be very easy to move through.
- We put in hyperlinks that would take you all over.
- Both inside the report and to most parts of our agency.



Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Report

2011 GRI REPORT

- Our Strategy
- Ecology Overview
- Our Report
- Governance
- Stakeholders
- Environmental Performance
- Our Workforce
- Social Impact
- Economic Impact
- Conclusions

- Contact Us
- G3 Guidelines
- References

[2011 GRI Report](#) > [Contact Us](#)

Contact Us

Ecology's GRI Report Team includes staff from the environmental and administrative programs of the Department of Ecology across Washington State.

A copy of the report in ADOBE Portable Document Format (PDF) is [available online](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1204034.html) (<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1204034.html>).

We welcome all questions, comments, and feedback regarding this report. Please email the GRI Report Team at gri@ecy.wa.gov. Don't forget to include your contact information if you request a reply.



Sustainability reporting at Ecology required cross-program participation, collaboration, and joint planning for shared sustainable outcomes...all based upon fundamental sustainability principles.

NEWS RELEASE
[Ecology publishes sustainability report based on global](#)

ECY RE GRI Report Feedback

- Deleted Items
- Drafts
- Inbox
- Junk E-Mail
- Outbox
- Sent Items
- Search Folders



Statement GRI Application Level Check

GRI hereby states that **Washington State Department of Ecology** has presented its report "Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Report - 2011" to GRI's Report Services which have concluded that the report fulfills the requirement of Application Level C.

GRI Application Levels communicate the extent to which the content of the G3.1 Guidelines has been used in the submitted sustainability reporting. The Check confirms that the required set and number of disclosures for that Application Level have been addressed in the reporting and that the GRI Content Index demonstrates a valid representation of the required disclosures, as described in the GRI G3.1 Guidelines.

Application Levels do not provide an opinion on the sustainability performance of the reporter nor the quality of the information in the report.

Amsterdam, 21 December 2012

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nelmara Arbex".

Nelmara Arbex
Deputy Chief Executive
Global Reporting Initiative



The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a network-based organization that has pioneered the development of the world's most widely used sustainability reporting framework and is committed to its continuous improvement and application worldwide. The GRI Guidelines set out the principles and indicators that organizations can use to measure and report their economic, environmental, and social performance. www.globalreporting.org

Disclaimer: Where the relevant sustainability reporting includes external links, including to audio visual material, this statement only concerns material submitted to GRI at the time of the Check on 13 December 2012. GRI explicitly excludes the statement being applied to any later changes to such material.



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WA Dept of Ecology's Sustainability Report is a First for GRI



By [Gina-Marie Cheeseman](#) | November 6th, 2012 [1 Comment](#)

[Like](#) 23 [+1](#) 0 [Tweet](#) 20 [Share](#) 3

Last chance for 2012! Consider a [GRI certified sustainability reporter training](#) with TriplePundit and ISOSGroup. Sign-ups now open for [Chicago](#) or [Portland, OR](#).

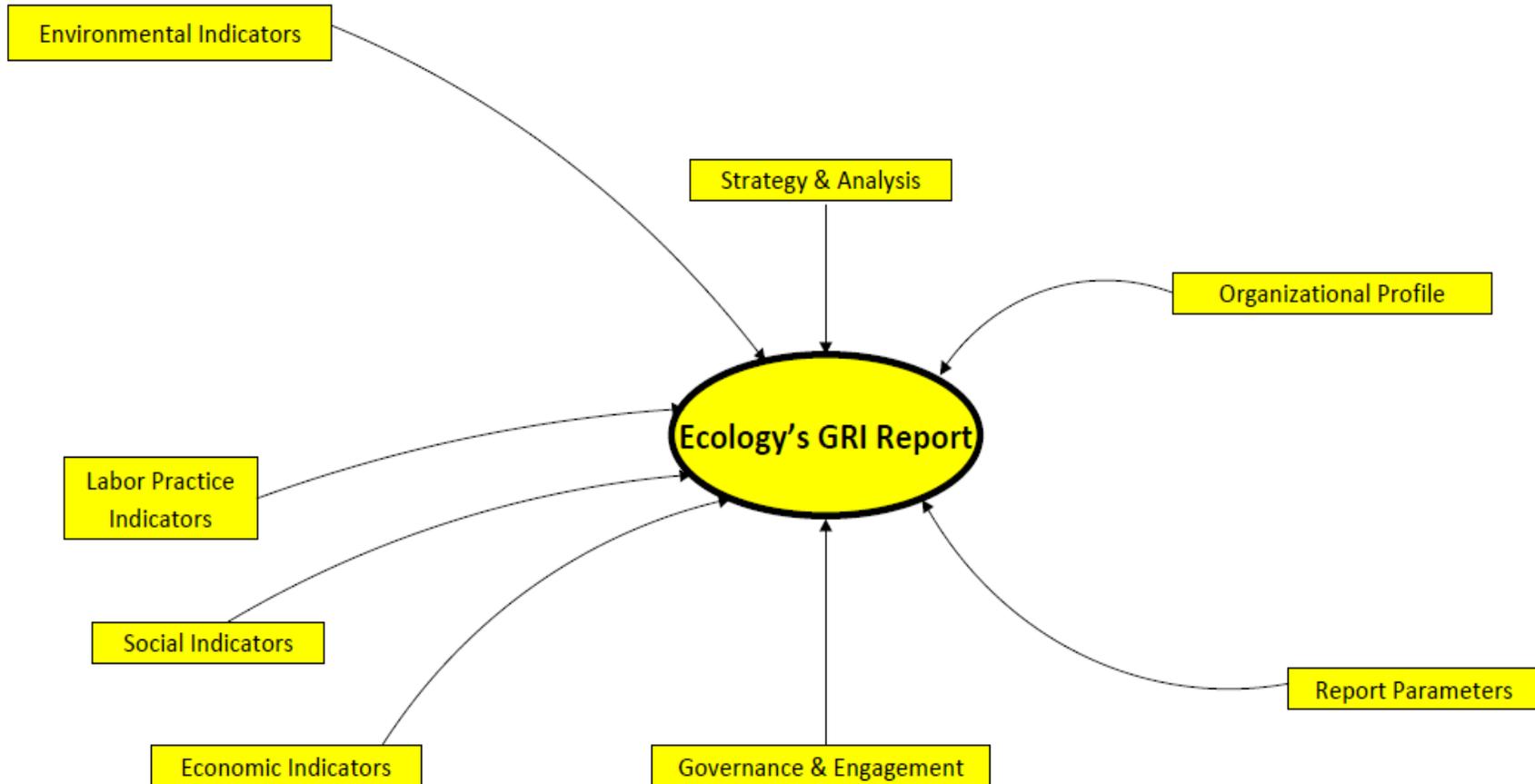
The state of Washington's Department of Ecology is the first environmental agency in North America to release a Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) report. The recently released [report](#) highlights what the agency has done to reduce energy, fuel use, and greenhouse gas emissions, plus engage stakeholders and employees.



Our organization has a few silo issues.



Components of Ecology's GRI Report



Major Categories of GRI - Level C

Social Impact (SO)

In this section:

◆ Ethics and Expectations

SO 3



Communities: 3

Corruption: 3

Public Policy: 3

Anti-Competitive Beha

Compliance: 1

Communities: SO 9

- Degree of physical or economic isolation of the local community.
- Level of socio-economic development
- State of infrastructure (health, education).
- Identify higher than average use of or impact on shared resources.
- Use of hazardous substances that impact on the environment and human health.

Percentage of employees trained in organization's anti-corruption policies and procedures.

<https://www.globalreporting.org/resource/library/G3.1-Society-Indicator-Protocol.pdf>

Labor Practices (LA)

(2)

In this section:

Ecology's Workforce



Human Rights (HR)

0

Human Rights under GRI (11)

- Investment and Procurement Practices
- Non-discrimination
- Freedom of Assoc Collective Bargaining
- Child Labor
- Forced and Compulsory Labor
- Security Practices
- Indigenous Rights
- Assessment
- Remediation to Grievances

NEXT STEPS:



- 🌟 SHARING INFORMATION
- 🌟 TALK TO BUSINESS- STATE AGENCIES
- 🌟 NEW PROPOSAL to MGMT
- 🌟 BRIEFING NEW DIRECTOR
- 🌟 REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2013

Thank you for your interest and efforts for their futures!



Linda Glasier: (360) 407-7355 or lgla461@ecy.wa.gov



DATE: February 13, 2012

TO: Members of the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities

FROM: Emma Medicine White Crow, Chair

SUBJECT: STATE SYSTEM AND HEALTH DISPARITIES WORKGROUP BRIEFING

Background and Summary:

One of the Council's current priorities is the state system and its potential effects on health disparities. To address this issue, we formed an ad hoc workgroup of Council members to work toward the development of recommendations for the full Council's consideration. Workgroup members include Gail Brandt from the Department of Health, Kendee Yamaguchi from the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, Vice Chair Frankie Manning, and I.

As a reminder, the workgroup decided it wanted to focus on improving language access to state services, but we were not ready to propose recommendations for inclusion in the Council's 2012 action plan.

Today, I ask members of the workgroup to provide an update on current progress. Time for discussion among the full Council will be available.

Recommended Council Action:

No recommended action at this time.



January 2013

Director's Note

By Director Bette Hyde

The 2013 legislative session begins on Jan. 14, and lasts 105 days. This is the long, state budget-writing session that happens every other year.

We are fortunate to live in a state where policymakers understand and embrace the importance of high-quality early learning opportunities. They know that what happens to a child in the first years of life has a tremendous impact on the rest of her life. This was demonstrated most recently when Gov. Chris Gregoire in her 2013-15 budget proposed a significant expansion to state-funded preschool:



Serving more than 5,000 more children in the coming years.

This session, much of the conversation will be around funding basic education as a result of the 2012 McCleary decision, in which the state Supreme Court upheld a decision asserting the state was not meeting its constitutional obligation to amply fund basic education for



Washington students. Clearly, high-quality early learning experiences have a significant role to play in helping ensure children are ready to succeed when they reach the K-12 system.

We will keep you updated on the legislative session in this newsletter, and under the Government Relations tab on our website: www.del.wa.gov/government/legislature. We also will post DEL's 2013 legislative agenda there when it is finalized.

Early Achievers expands into 7 Washington counties

Starting Jan. 1, licensed child care providers in seven more Washington counties may participate in Early Achievers, the state's voluntary quality rating and improvement system.



Early Achievers offers child care providers and their staff access to coaching, professional development, cash incentives, and other resources that support high-quality child care at no cost to providers or families.

Starting Jan. 1, more than 800 licensed child care providers in the following counties may participate in Early Achievers:

- Grays Harbor
- Mason
- Thurston
- Lewis
- Pacific
- Benton
- Franklin

The statewide roll-out kicked off in July 2012 in 23 Washington counties, serving roughly 66 percent—more than 4,000—of licensed and

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Do you know a parent or caregiver who is an unsung hero?

February is Parent Recognition Month in Washington. What better way to recognize a parent, grandparent, foster or adoptive parent or other caregiver than by acknowledging the things they do

to strengthen their family and those around them in the community?

DEL is accepting nominations to recognize 28 parents, primary caregivers or adoptive Washington

parents with an Unsung Hero Award, one each day in February. Tell us what you think is so remarkable about this Washington parent or caregiver by **completing a nomination form** by Jan. 25.



UNsung HEROES!

Send Your Nomination to:
strengtheningfamilies@del.wa.gov

Nominations are due by:
January 25, 2013

February is Parent Recognition Month — celebrated in Washington this year through the Annual Unsung Heroes Awards.

What better way to recognize a parent, grandparent, foster or adoptive parent than by acknowledging all the wonderful things they do to strengthen their families and communities.

Join us in identifying the 28 Unsung Heroes that will be recognized in February — one special parent/caregiver for each day of the month.

This event is brought to you by:
strengthening families
Washington State Department of Early Learning

Early Achievers

Continued from page 1

certified child care programs in the state. With this phase of the statewide roll-out, nearly 5,200 out of approximately 6,300 licensed child care programs in Washington may participate.

From July through December 2012, more than 800 child care providers opted to join Early Achievers, serving more than 19,000 children in 23 counties.

Child care providers in the remaining counties will be able to join Early Achievers in July 2013, representing more than 1,300 licensed child care

Read about Early Achievers efforts with child care providers in Central Washington on page 4.



programs. **Read more about the statewide roll-out plan.**

Early Achievers connects parents and families to child care and early learning programs through an easy-to-understand rating system. Families can see whether licensed and certified child care providers are participating in Early Achievers on **Child Care Check**, DEL's online

licensed child care information system. Ratings will be available in 2013.

DEL developed a 30-second public service announcement about Early Achievers. **Listen to the PSA.**

Read more about Early Achievers at www.del.wa.gov/care/qris.

New crib rules for child care providers take effect in United States

Starting last month, all child care centers and homes must comply with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) new crib rules.

More than 11 million cribs have been recalled because of safety hazards in the United States since 2007. The CPSC changed federal manufacturing standards for cribs in June 2011. The new rules, which apply to full-size and non-full-size cribs: prohibit the manufacture or sale of traditional drop-side rail cribs; strengthen crib slats and mattress supports; improve the quality of hardware; and require more rigorous testing. [Read more about the details of the crib manufacturing rules.](#)

All cribs in use in child care centers, family homes and places of public accommodation must comply with the June 2011 crib safety standards.

More information

- [Child care provider guide to new crib standards](#)
- [Enforcement guidance for child care providers](#)
- [New crib standards questions and answers](#)
- [CPSC crib information center](#)

How can I tell if my crib complies with the new standards?

You cannot tell from looking at a crib whether it meets the new standards. If you purchased a crib before July 2011, it is not likely that it meets the new federal standard. You can check the crib itself for the manufacturing date. If it's after June 28, 2011, the crib meets the standard.

The CPSC recently published guidance on which cribs meet the requirements

and how providers can determine if their cribs comply.

[Read the guidance on CPSC's cribs webpage.](#)

How will DEL enforce the new standards?

DEL has incorporated the CPSC crib rules into our [child care center](#) and [family home](#) licensing rules. The rules require licensees to keep a log that shows each crib in use meets the CPSC crib requirements. Child care licensors may ask to see the log at any time, including during monitoring visits.

Updated rules in effect for school-age child care programs

Updated rules for [licensed school-age child care](#) took effect last month. The revised rules pertain to the 450 licensed school-age programs around the state, which serve up to 20,000 children ages 5 through 12 with before- and after-school care. The rules were last updated in 2001.

The rules are better aligned with DEL's other child care licensing rules and reflect more recent research. Key changes include:

- Updates to water safety requirements, including adding a requirement of minimum staff-to-child ratio of 1:10 during water activities.
- More information about guidance and discipline,

including ways recognize and prevent bullying.

- Allowing use of public transportation, as long as children are supervised at all times and required staff-to-child ratios are maintained.
- Updates to lighting safety requirements, including adding a requirement for either shatter-resistant light bulbs or shatter-resistant light coverings on ceiling-mounted light fixtures.
- Requiring licensees to share more information with families about the program's program philosophy (view of child learning and development).
- Information about use of private wells for water.

- Limiting smoking in or near the licensed space.
- Updated information about first-aid kits.
- Requiring ground cover in fall zones near swings and play equipment.
- Limitations to screen time.
- New rules regarding satellite kitchens.
- Increasing education requirements for program directors.

DEL began the process of updating these rules in 2009. You can view a [comparison of the old rules and the updated rules](#) on DEL's website. School-age providers who have questions should [contact their licensor](#).

Early Achievers work in Central Washington

Early Achievers is a voluntary program that gives participating child care providers training, coaching and scholarships to help them provide high-quality child care. Later this year, families will be able to use the ratings that providers earn as a tool for selecting care for their children.

DEL partners with Child Care Aware of Washington to work with child care providers who wish to participate in Early Achievers, Washington's quality rating and improvement system. This month, we hear from Child Care Aware of Central Washington, which is working with child care providers in that area of the state.

In the Central Washington Region, we are working hard to meet our providers where they are and provide various options of support to enable their success within Early Achievers. We have found success using a cohort model in working with providers through pre-enrollment activities such as MERIT Facility Registration and Level Two Activities.

There is a high population in this region of monolingual Spanish-speaking providers. These providers often come together as a team to attend trainings, share resources, and be a support to one another. To build on this strength, Technical Assistance staff offer cohort training for entering facility registrations within MERIT as well as Level Two online trainings. This began with a group of 10 providers from this community who took online trainings together as a cohort community. Technical assistance staff set up computer labs at our Child Care Aware offices and other community locations to allow this cohort of providers to view the online trainings together,



Georgina Perez, family home child care provider from Sunnyside, participates in an online meeting in November 2012.

which allowed for group discussion. Providers who are more familiar with the concepts presented or whom have strengths in working with computers are emerging as group leaders, providing feedback and support to their peers. Providers have given feedback that this model supports their needs. They are able to discuss the concepts presented in the online modules and break them down to what the concepts mean to them as providers.

There are several rural communities in the Central Washington in which access to technology can be a barrier for providers. Child Care Aware of Central Washington

On the web

- [Preparing to participate in Early Achievers](#)
- [Information for families](#)



has developed partnerships with local school districts, libraries, and community colleges to host Early Achievers cohort groups. Without these partnerships, providers in remote areas would not be able to participate in Early Achievers because they would lack access to access MERIT, online trainings and other Level Two activities.

Success is not limited to current Early Achievers participants

Cohorts have been developed in Chelan and Douglas counties, which will have the opportunity to participate in Early Achievers in July 2013. These cohorts are giving an overview of Early Achievers and other training to inform and prepare providers about Early Achievers. One hour of technical assistance is built in, which allows providers to chose an area of focus and begin implementing concepts in their facilities and to allow a smooth transition into Early Achievers in July.

“This training offered a good birds-eye view of the different aspects of Early Achievers. I was able to have my questions answered and alleviate the fear of the unknown. Our center is preparing to move into a new building where I will be setting up new classrooms. Now I can use knowledge of ERS to set environments that will best meet Early Achievers quality standards.” —Leanna Fain, Director, St. Paul's Child Care Center, Wenatchee

News you can use for child care providers and families

Opportunity for family home providers in King, Pierce

Puget Sound Educational Service District Head Start is seeking family home child care providers in King County, outside City of Seattle limits and in Pierce County to provide Head Start services to eligible children ages birth to 5 years and their families. Providers must offer high-quality care in diverse communities and have few to no compliance concerns. Most sought are providers who have a history of serving low-income families, as well as a desire to learn and grow. Financial assistance is available to help providers complete their CDA within two years of contracting with Head Start.

If you are interested in participating, please contact:

Kathy Schirman, Family Educator
Puget Sound Educational Service
District Head Start
425-917-7762

kschirman@psesd.org

Focus on Children Conference

The 29th annual Focus on Children Conference will be held at Bellingham Technical College on Feb. 2.

The conference is sponsored by Bellingham Technical College and the Northwest Association for the Education of Young Children. [Learn more about the conference.](#)

Healthy Habits for Life webinar for child care providers

Child Care Aware USA is hosting a webinar about childhood wellness for child care providers in conjunction with Sesame Workshop on Jan. 29 at 4 p.m. PST. The hourlong webinar will provide multimedia resources to help child care providers integrate healthy

activities within their curriculum and engage young children in physical activity and movement. The webinar includes a [free Healthy Habits for Life Child Care Resource Kit](#) that providers can download. [Register for the webinar](#) online.

Immunization news from state Department of Health (DOH)

The [Winter 2012 newsletter](#) from the state DOH Immunization and Child Profile office is available on its website. The newsletter has information that may be of interest to child care providers and families.

Vacancies on State Interagency Coordinating Council

Applications are being sought to fill the following vacancies on the Washington State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities and Their Families:

- Parent
- Service Provider – Physician
- Service Provider – Public Health
- Service Provider – Head Start

SICC assists the Department of Early Learning (DEL), the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) in implementing the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program per the federal requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C. The SICC is mandated by IDEA, Part C and established through the Governor's Executive Order 01-04. The Governor appoints the members

of the Council.

Applications are available on [the Governor's website](#); click the "Apply to Serve on a Board or Commission" link.

Childhood obesity conference

Nutrition First is hosting Healthy Habits for Healthy Kids: Practical Approaches for Preventing Childhood Obesity conference on April 3, 2013 at the Seattle Center.

This conference provides practical tools and resources for those working with the preschool and early learning populations. Experts will address issues on establishing healthy eating habits and behaviors to help maintain a healthy weight. There are sessions focused on regulation and policy work as well as descriptions of community intervention programs to expand access to healthy foods and promote positive behavior change in Washington.

Participants may earn 6.5 hours of continuing education. Cost to attend is \$125 for Nutrition First members and \$145 for non-members (includes annual membership to Nutrition First).

For more information and registration, visit www.nutritionfirstwa.org/events.

Orientation schedule for 2013

If you are interested in becoming a licensed child care provider, view the [2013 licensing orientation schedule and instructions](#).

Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge updates

[Read the December 2012 newsletter](#) for the latest update on DEL's RTT-ELC work.