**VISION**

Together families, youth, systems, and communities will address the barriers to and equity for all individuals, including Black, Indigenous, Persons of Color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, two-spirited, queer, questioning, intersex, and/or asexual individuals. We support opportunities to improve the resilience and recovery of children, youth, and families with physical, emotional or behavioral health challenges.

**Mission**

Our mission is to strengthen and sustain community resources that effectively address the individual and their systems. We are allies in the support of equity for all; including Black, Indigenous, Persons of Color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, two-spirited, queer, questioning, intersex, and/or asexual communities on multiple levels. We look to support our communities around physical health, behavioral health, social connection, practical aspects and spirituality when applicable. We extend goodwill to all individuals as we work together in a safe and supportive environment to together build a stronger King County.

As a Council of leaders of family and youth-led organizations serving families and youth with emotional and behavioral health challenges, we will represent the voices of King County families and youth at State and County policy and program decision making bodies.

**HISTORY**

The concept of organizing FYSPRTs – Family Youth and System Partners Round Table – came out the principles of systems of care, which include being community based, family driven and youth guided, and culturally and linguistically competent. The first FYSPRT for King County was implemented in 2011 and convened by Sound Mental Health as the Northwest Regional FYSPRT. It served a region of multiple counties.

The FYSPRT structure was later adopted as part of the T.R. et al v. Kevin Quigley and Dorothy Teeter Settlement Agreement’s Children’s Mental Health Governance Structure. This Governance Structure consists of an Executive Leadership Team of state agency administrators, the Statewide, Regional and Local FYSPRTs as well as an advisory team and various policy workgroups. The Regional FYSPRT for King County is the King County Family and Youth Council.

**AUTHORITY**

The State of Washington has contracted with the King County Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) to create the King County Family and Youth Council (operating as the Regional FYSPRT). The Council will carry out its work under the auspices of King County.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Council Members are leaders within family-led and youth-guided organizations or programs representing or serving different constituencies and communities and systems leaders from our child serving system. Over time non-affiliated family and youth with deep experience in multiple systems and a desire to learn more about leadership and advocacy will be added to the Council.

To assure a diverse constituency and range of needs are represented the Council will have between 17 – 23 members.

**LEADERSHIP**

The Council will be led by Tri-Chairs:

* A family member
* A transition age youth or youth partner
* A system partner representative

The system partner is designated as the BHO Parent Support Specialist. The youth and family Tri- Chairs will be initially appointed by King County, but after the initial six months they will be elected by the Council. Going forward the Council. Family and Youth Tri-chairs are to serve a two year term renewable for a second term.

**RELATIONSHIP TO STATE FYSPRT AND OTHER GROUPS**

Figure 1 illustrates the relationship between the King County Family and Youth Council and other entities. As a Regional FYSPRT the Council is a part of the overall governance structure of the Children’s Behavioral Health services. The Tri-Chairs of the King County Family and Youth Council sit on the State FYSPRT.

The Council provides recommendations and information to Uniting for Youth, King County’s partnership of youth serving systems. The Council’s Tri-Chairs sit on the Executive Committee of Uniting for Youth and Council members may participate in sub-committees. The Council will have working connections with WISe, as well as other initiatives such as the Recovery and Resiliency Plan for Behavioral Health Services and the Youth Action Plan.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND DELIVERABLES**

The responsibilities of the Family and Youth Council include:

* Allocating time at two meetings annually to plan, review and interpret local data on strengths and needs of the regional delivery system for children, youth and families.
* Allocating time at two meetings annually to review quality assurance reports provided by DSHS/DBHR regarding regional service processes.
* Submitting to King County annually a:
  + Regional needs assessment
  + Updated strategic plan for the region
  + Council work plan describing the actions the Council will take to address their five priorities
  + Up to date membership rosters
* Submitting to King County quarterly:
  + Reports of progress on the Council’s annual work plan
  + Feedback on trends, relevant strengths and areas for improvements, system barriers, system challenges and local service needs for youth and families.
* Helping resolve issues by taking action at a regional or local level, or elevating them to Uniting for Youth or the Statewide FYSPRT.
* Responding to requests for feedback from higher level entities such as the Statewide FYSPRT, state agencies, King County, and DSHS’s cross-system Executive Team.
* Building quality assurance into meetings by using the Narrative Team Effectiveness Questionnaire and the FYSPRT Evaluation Tool on at least a quarterly basis.

**Figure 1**