

CYBHWG School-based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention (SBBHSP) subgroup

Date: 6/25/2025

Time: 3-4:30pm

Leads: Representative My-Linh Thai
Christian Stark, OSPI

Professional Members					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brook Vejo Carelton Behavioral Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Georgianna Akers WA Association of School Social Workers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rafaela Steen UW Forefront Suicide Prevention
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chetan Soni WA Youth Alliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gina Cabiddu Kids Mental Health WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rayann Silva [Alternate: Eric Bruns] UW SMART Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Smith Community Health Plan of WA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jill Patnode Kaiser Permanente	<input type="checkbox"/>	Renee' Schoening Whitworth University
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Crump Spokane Public Schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jodie DesBiens NWESD 189	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sinunon Hem Asia Pacific Cultural Center
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delaney Knottnerus King County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Neigel Monroe School District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Peng-Cowan Behavioral Health Navigator, ESD 112
<input type="checkbox"/>	Devyna Aguon Renton School District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mabel Thackeray North Thurston Public Schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tabby Stokes Vancouver Public Schools
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Pendzick WA State PTA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michelle Sorensen Richland School District	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin Drury WA School-based Health Alliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nolita Reynolds Catholic Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Youth Members					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cara Lynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hanna Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kei Gregson (Lead)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pradyu Kandala	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taanvi Arekapudi		

Parent/Guardian/Family Members					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Byron Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Megan Reibel	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richelle Madigan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brandi Kingston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peggy Dolane	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shawnda Hicks (Lead)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marcella Taylor				

Staff: Nic Reed

Agenda Items	Lead
Welcome	Representative My-Linh Thai , 41 st Legislative District Christian Stark , OSPI
Brief School Medicaid Project Update <u>Presentation Notes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finishing year 1 of a 3-year Federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) grant• Waiting for 2nd year grant funding notification• Current, HCA supports three billing pathways for schools<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fee for service billing for services within an IEP or ISFP○ Administrative claiming for administrative activities pursuant to the state Medicaid plan○ Contracting with Managed Care Organizations to bill for Medicaid-covered services to any student• Schools struggle to seek reimbursement under the current billing program options• The purpose of the grant work is to create more comprehensive Medicaid billing options for schools• Will review recommendations that resulted from the first year of grant work in detail at the August SBBHSP meeting. <u>Discussion/Questions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are Federal funding cuts a threat to this CMS grant funding?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No evidence will be affected thus far. The funding was authorized by Congress through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (2022)• Curious what you all have learned thus far around the most promising potential policies or strategies WA might enact to expand school-based health services through Medicaid?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Exploring moving to a cost reimbursement model that uses a Random Moment Time Study to reimburse for direct services to students in schools billable under	Todd Slettvet , Health Care Authority (HCA) Manager, Community Services

Medicaid. Intended to reduce the administrative burden for schools and would not require state match funds to implement

- Exploring adding staff with education-specific credentials as eligible providers of Medicaid-covered services

Links/Resources/Upcoming Opportunities:

Presenter Contact Information:

- For SBS questions, you can contact Todd at Todd.Slettvet@HCA.wa.gov, or the HCA School-based Services team at hcasbs@hca.wa.gov.

WA Thriving Content/Breakouts

Full Group Discussion: *(see accompanying updated topic matrices for more detail)*

Screening:

- Screening **AND** follow up – we have to follow up if we screen
- Data privacy, specifically in terms of current climate
- Need for consistency across state – need for guidance on FERPA & HIPPA, data governance, best practices, etc.

Community Partnerships:

- School staff engagement – support for engagement on who to engage with
- Funding services will change with BECCA Law changes
- Guidance on HIPPA/FERPA – navigating between community partners and schools
- Guidance for collaborating with other agencies that have services
- Youth talking to someone they know is a mandatory reporter – barrier to engagement

Prevention:

- There is an assumption that prevention is taught – but supports are still usually reactive
- Prevention is still usually at the bottom of the priority list

- May be a need for home-level support to addressing underlying needs causing behavioral challenges in school
- Students/Families may not know about services outside of schools.
- Rural areas lack services and awareness of services.
- Peer-support such as Natural Helpers, Hope Squad
- HCA has funding for Prevention. Licensed staff required.
- Need for information on best practices, consistent training for staff and ongoing PD.
- Standards for ratios of Education Staff Associates to students

Workforce & Staffing:

- Need for more flexible funding – prototypical school funding formula increase in 2022 supported ESAs, but that funding is rigid and not always responsive to district need
- Also, there is no mechanism for funding MH counseling in the school funding formulas
- The school budget year does not align with provider graduation times.
- Discussed increases in Bachelor level clinicians who also serve the highest need students
- FERPA vs. HIPPA – agencies talk about we and you (school) but not us, bringing health, state, and school language together
- Need for better partnerships with community partners to support school staff

Project AWARE Update

Presentation Notes:

See accompanying slide deck

Discussion/Questions:

- How many districts in the state are Project AWARE grantees?
 - Six districts and three Educational Service Districts (ESDs) are currently Project AWARE grantees
- Why are we sunseting these programs?
 - These are Federal grant funded programs, grant duration is either 4 or 5 years, the Fiscal Year 2020 grant (supporting Sunnyside, Wahluke, and Yakima

Brisa Sánchez Cornejo, OSPI
Program Supervisor, Substance Use/Misuse
Prevention & Intervention

<p>school districts & ESD 105) is sunsetting on Sept. 30th; there is no state allocation to continue funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medicaid expansion in schools is also connected and learning from these AWARE sites• As a "teacher" for over 50 years, when did I accept the modification of my school-based role as a "Subject Matter Expert" to - a relatively untrained (in many cases - unmotivated) screener/therapist/counselor/IEP implementer/cultural connector/behavior modifier...? Has a 20-year or 10-year teacher been better equipped...? Are the new teachers better equipped...? <p><u>Links/Resources/Upcoming Opportunities:</u></p> <p><u>Presenter Contact Information:</u> brisa.sanchezcornejo@k12.wa.us</p>	
<p>Upcoming Meetings & Announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday, July 23rd 3-4:30pm on Zoom• Wednesday, August 27th 3-4:30pm on Zoom <p>Ongoing Collaborative Efforts [on WA Thriving work]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants would like to collaborate/comment on draft ideas• Office Hours for people to join and further discuss these topics• More direct questions/prompts would be helpful• Padlet for logging feedback <p>Meeting Feedback Survey: Feedback survey for today's meeting: https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8281458/2025-SBBHSP-Subcommittee-Feedback-Survey</p>	

Attendees:

State Agency & CYBHWG Staff:

Aubrie Nettle, HCA

Brisa Sanchez Cornejo, OSPI

Christine Mickelson, HCA

Cynthia Wiek, HCA

DeeSha Connor, DOH

Ellen McGuire, HCA
Heather Rees, OSPI
Jennifer Price, HCA
Katherine Switz, BH Catalyst
Meghan Hopkins, DSHS DDA (now DDOS)
Reilly Fairbrother, HCA
Renee Fullerton, Workforce Board
Sonya "Sunny" Salazar, HCA/DBHR

State Legislators & Staff:

Representative Lauren Davis, 32nd District

Public Attendees:

Ellie Bridge Jayaram
Esperanza Ocegueda, Seneca
Esther Taylor
Jeanette Haynes, SCRBH (ASO)
Marissa Ingalls, Coordinated Care
Meredith Piehowski, YARP

School-based Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Subcommittee

Of the Child and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group

June Meeting – 06.25.2025



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A background image showing a group of diverse young children in a classroom setting. A girl in the foreground is looking towards the camera, while other children are visible behind her. The image has a warm, yellowish tint.

Vision

All students prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement.

Mission

Transform K–12 education to a system that is centered on closing opportunity gaps and is characterized by high expectations for all students and educators. We achieve this by developing equity-based policies and supports that empower educators, families, and communities.

Values

- Ensuring Equity
- Collaboration and Service
- Achieving Excellence through Continuous Improvement
- Focus on the Whole Child



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Equity Statement

Each student, family, and community possesses strengths and cultural knowledge that benefits their peers, educators, and schools.

Ensuring educational equity:

- Goes beyond equality; it requires education leaders to examine the ways current policies and practices result in disparate outcomes for our students of color, students living in poverty, students receiving special education and English Learner services, students who identify as LGBTQ+, and highly mobile student populations.
- Requires education leaders to develop an understanding of historical contexts; engage students, families, and community representatives as partners in decision-making; and actively dismantle systemic barriers, replacing them with policies and practices that ensure all students have access to the instruction and support they need to succeed in our schools.



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Tribal Land Acknowledgment



ONE Logo
by Roger Fernandes
(Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe)

We start today with a land, water, and people acknowledgement. OSPI is here in Olympia, on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish people, specifically the Squaxin Island peoples. We say their name out loud because they are still here today despite the attempted erasure of their language, culture, and bodies. We, as OSPI and the SBBHSP Subcommittee, honor the past, present and future caretakers of these lands and dedicate our work to honor this place they call home. We strive to do so by respecting and affirming tribal sovereignty and culture, working with our tribal governments through the state in government-to-government partnership, and lifting tribal voice in the work of supporting student physical, social, and emotional well-being.



Group Agreements

Share airtime; make
sure all voices have the
opportunity to be
heard

Stay engaged

Speak your truth

Expect and accept
non-closure

Listen with the intent
to learn and
understand

Assume positive
intentions

Disagree respectfully

Clarify and define
acronyms

Take care of yourself
and take care of others

Ask for clarification

Listen harder when you
disagree

Avoid using the phrase
"committed suicide,"
instead refer to it as a
cause of death

Person first language

Respect, but don't
expect, the sharing of
lived experience



Agenda: June 25th, 2025

#	Agenda Items	Time	Lead
1.	Welcome	3:00 PM	Christian Stark, OSPI
2.	Brief School Medicaid Project Update	3:10 PM	Todd Slettvet, Health Care Authority (HCA) Manager, Community Services Medicaid Program Division
3.	WA Thriving Content/Breakouts	3:20 PM	Breakout Discussions & Full Group Share out
4.	Project AWARE Update	4:05 PM	Brisa Sánchez Cornejo, OSPI Program Supervisor, Substance Use/Misuse Prevention & Intervention
5.	Public Comment	4:20 PM	
6.	Other Updates & Closing Reminders	4:25 PM	Christian Stark, OSPI
7.	Meeting Adjourned	4:30 PM	



Welcome Members and Guests

SBBHSP Members

Members w/ Lived Experience

Bryon Smith Parent/Guardian/Family	Hanna Baker Youth/Young Adult
Keira Gregson Youth/Young Adult	Marcella Taylor Parent/Guardian/Family
Megan Reibel Parent/Guardian/Family	Peggy Dolane Parent/Guardian/Family
Pradyu Kandala Youth/Young Adult	Richelle Madigan Parent/Guardian/Family
Shawnda Hicks Parent/Guardian/Family	Taanvi Arekapudi Youth/Young Adult

School, District, & Educational Service District Staff

David Crump Spokane Public Schools	Mabel Thackeray North Thurston Public Schools
Devyna Aguon Renton School District	Michelle Sorensen Richland School District
Jodie DesBiens Northwest ESD 189	Susan Peng-Cowan Behavioral Health Navigator Rep
Joe Neigel Monroe School District	Tabby Stokes Vancouver Public Schools

Co-Chairs

Representative My-Linh Thai

Christian Stark, OSPI

Providers & Community-based Organizations

Brook Vejo Carelton Bx Health	Nolita Reynolds Catholic Community Services	Sinuon Hem Asia Pacific Cultural Center
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Advocacy & Other Professional Staff

Chetan Soni WA Youth Alliance	Jill Patnode Kaiser Permanente
Erin Dury WA School-Based Health Alliance	Rafaela Steen UW Forefront Suicide Prev
Georgianna Akers WA Association of School Social Workers	Rayann Silva UW SMART Center
Gwen Loosmore WA State PTA	

Local Govt/Coalition, Managed Care, and Higher Ed

Daniel Smith Community Health Plan of WA	Gina Cabiddu Kids Mental Health Washington
Delaney Knottnerus King Co., Bx Health & Recovery	Renee' Schoening Whitworth University

State Agency Staff Supporting the Subcommittee

Office of
Superintendent of
Public Instruction
(OSPI)

Health Care
Authority (HCA)

Office of the
Insurance
Commissioner
(OIC)

Department of
Health (DOH)

Department of
Children, Youth, &
Families (DCYF)

Department of
Social & Health
Services (DSHS)

WA State School
Directors'
Association
(WSSDA)



Participating Today

For organization, attendance, and breakout sessions please change your name in Zoom:

Members: M – First & Last Name, Organization (if applicable)

State Agency Staff: S – First & Last Name, Organization/Role

Public Attendee: P – First & Last Name, Organization (if applicable)

Example: S – Christian Stark, OSPI



How to change your name in Zoom:

Click on the "Participants" button at the top of the Zoom window

Hover your mouse over your name in the "Participants" list on the right side of the Zoom window. Click on "Rename"

Enter the name you'd like to appear in the Zoom meeting and click on "OK"



WA Thriving Overview

Creating a Strategic Plan for Washington

- Washington Thriving is a strategic initiative to improve behavioral health for children and youth, from prenatal to age 25, in Washington State.
- WA Thriving aims to affect transformational change across the system by:
 - Providing an **actionable roadmap** to ensure equitable access at every stage of development to high-quality, developmentally-appropriate and culturally-attuned supports and services
 - **Outlining a vision** for how this array of supports and services can be accessed in or through a range of settings including clinics, schools, and community settings
- To be successful, WA Thriving must address the most significant and systemic gaps in our behavioral health system, as well as in the intersecting systems, and other social factors that impact behavioral health (e.g. education, justice, child welfare, housing, disability, employment, crisis response, etc.).

SBBHSP's input to WA Thriving is due at the end of July



SBBHSP Input to WA Thriving

Documents that includes information on:

1. Current RCW requirements for schools related to BH
2. Goals for effective statewide guidance & direction on school-based behavioral health
3. Core components of school behavioral health (i.e. what can schools be well-positioned to do?)
4. What additional system supports are most needed to enable effective implementation; including topic specific issue briefs:
 - Screening
 - Community partnerships
 - Prevention
 - Workforce & staff
5. Providing intensive supports in-state – describing the following:
 - Primary gaps driving children to out of state therapeutic education placements
 - How the state might begin to fill those gaps (specifically from the education context)



Breakout topics

(i.e. specific topics we want to speak to in the context of the strategic plan)



SCREENING



COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS



PREVENTION



WORKFORCE &
STAFFING



Each Matrix Includes

- Primary **barriers**
- What is necessary to enable effective implementation in schools across the state?
 - **Guidance & direction** from state-level (including resources)
 - **Implementation support** (i.e. training, technical assistance, navigation support)
 - Funding & program supports
 - Other types of support
- What considerations are necessary to adapting services in **rural, remote, or small schools**?



Community Partnerships

Primary Barriers	What is necessary to enable effective implementation in schools across the state?	Considerations for adapting services in rural, remote, or small schools?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misaligned/inflexible community partnerships • Difficult to support students in integrating back into school <u>setting</u> after receiving community-based services • Many districts in one region, providers need to build relationships, and establish MOUs with each of them individually • School districts interpret FERPA differently • Lack of consistency on how behavioral health is measured/defined – don't want students referred to community BH services that <u>really just</u> need support • Lack of strong connections between schools and clinical treatment providers, especially with crisis services • Time and transportation are significant barriers to connecting students with community-based therapy • Crisis teams want to help schools but there are many barriers in getting into <u>schools</u>. • Lack of system of coordination between 	<p>Guidance & direction from state-level (including resources):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards for care coordination roles and responsibilities • Minimum expectations for joint case management or team-based care • Support flexible service delivery models aligned with school calendars and schedules • Models for behavior intervention plans to support re-entry for students during/after receiving community care and to effectively support students w/ IDD in general • Standard guidance for schools about HIPPA/FERPA and parental consent • Consistent screening and needs assessment tools in schools to support appropriate/effective referral <p>Implementation support (i.e. training, technical assistance, navigation support):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for school staff on when/what type of referrals are appropriate • Training for community providers on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fear of diagnoses or being seen visiting a clinic is common in small, tight-knit communities. • Many districts, especially those in rural and remote communities, are in resource deserts. •

Breakout prompts

For each topic:

- What's missing?
- What needs to be edited/refined/updated?
- What ideas in the middle column resonate most?

After the breakouts:

- What topics are missing?

We'd love your feedback!

Link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8281458/2025-SBBHSP-Subcommittee-Feedback-Survey>

The survey is anonymous, and you are welcome to answer as many, or as few, questions as you'd like

- Responses welcome from members, state agency reps, and public participants!



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2025 SBBHSP Timeline

2025 Monthly Meeting Dates:

- Wednesday, April 23rd
- Wednesday, May 28th
- Wednesday, June 25th
- Wednesday, July 23rd [**Next meeting**]
- Wednesday, August 27th
- Wednesday, September 24th
- October – No Meeting
- Wednesday, November 5th
- Wednesday, December 17th



Next meeting

Wednesday, July 23rd

3-4:30pm





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OSPI Project AWARE

June 25, 2025



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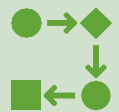
Brisa Sanchez Cornejo

- Served schools in one capacity or another for 13 years.
 - Involved with youth substance use prevention programs since 2018. Certified Prevention Professional since 2021.
 - Joined the OSPI Mental Health Systems Team in March 2024 as Program Supervisor for Substance Use & Misuse Prevention/Intervention
- Honored to be in this space and continue to gain insight from your voices.

SBBHSP & AWARE Advisory



Share up to 4 times a year and take comments back to our annual reporting measures



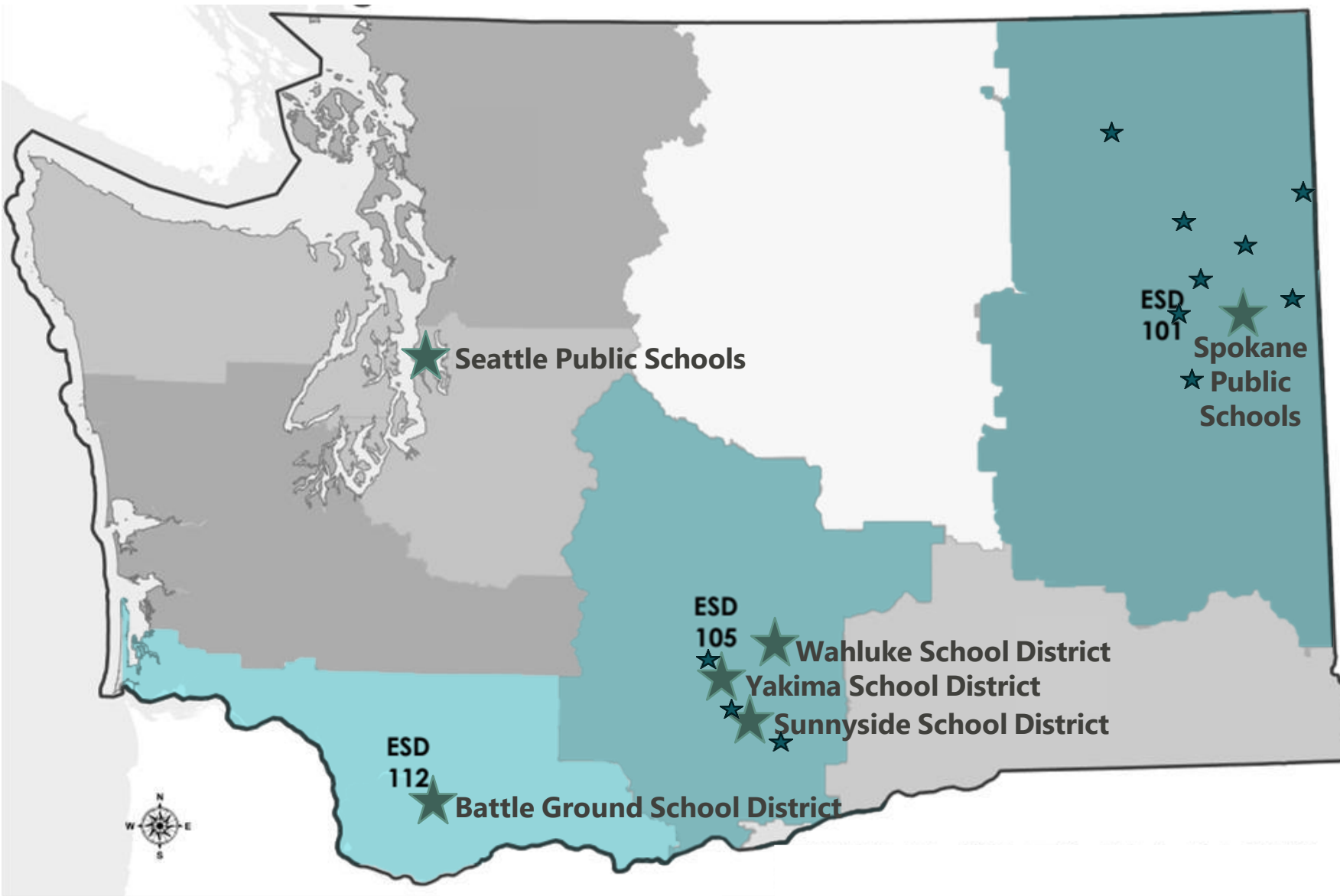
Share problems of practice and get advice, feedback and resources to include in our regular planning cycles



Share Project AWARE innovations, positive impacts and barriers to inform policy.



Project AWARE across WA



AWARE FY20 OSPI Subgrantees

- Sunnyside SD
- Wahluke SD
- Yakima SD
- ESD 105 (capacity building focus)

AWARE FY22 OSPI Subgrantees

- ESD 105
- ESD 112
- Spokane PS

AWARE FY22 Grantees

- ESD 101
- Seattle PS

AWARE FY23 Grantees

- Battle Ground SD
- ESD 105

Themes from our quantitative and qualitative data collection and review

2021-2022

2023-2024

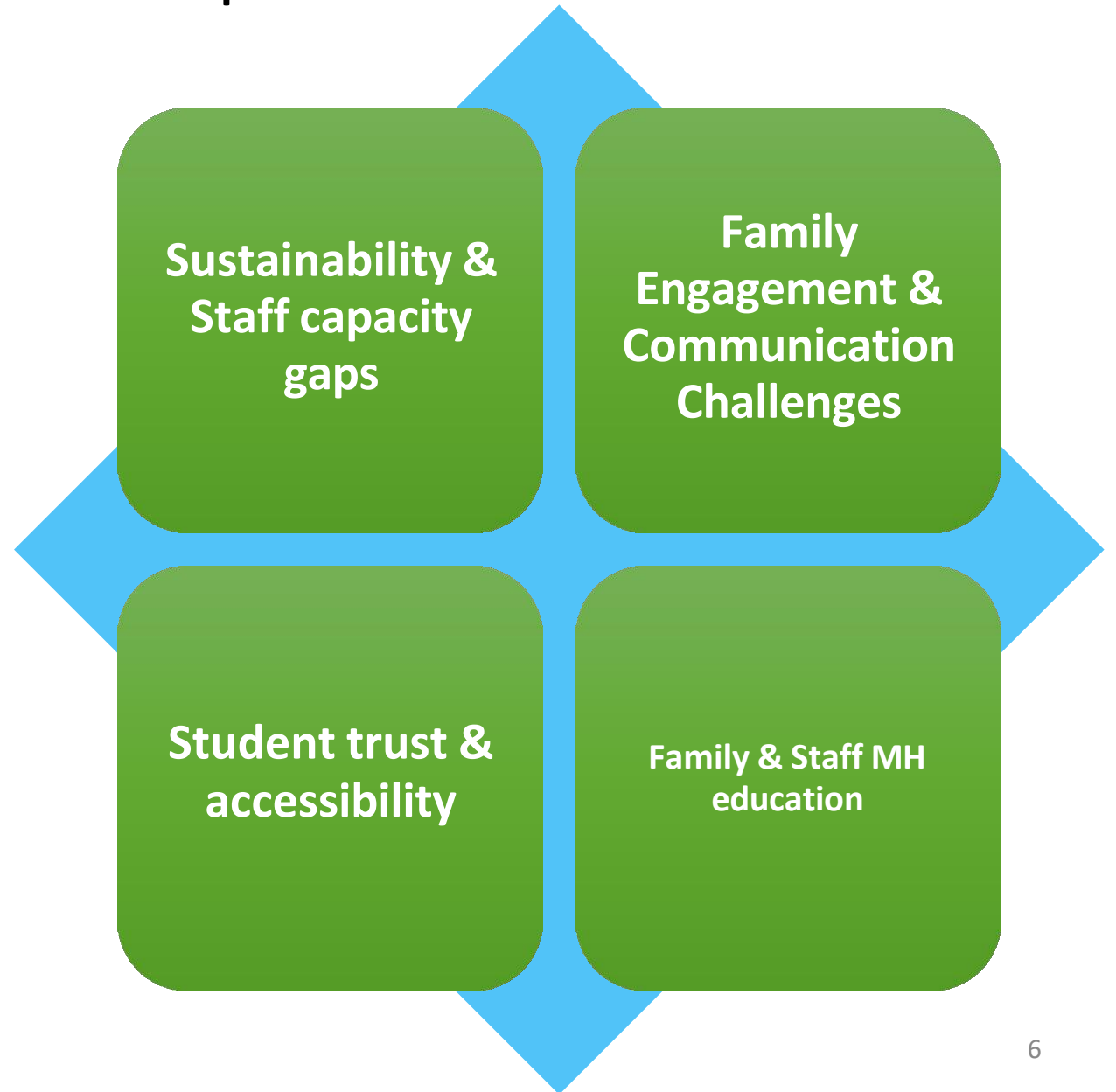


I think the school is making an incredible effort, but there are ***so many students with needs***. I feel we would benefit from another mental health counselor on campus because the one we currently have already has a full case load. There is clearly a need, ***we just need more resources***. – Staff member (2024)



Themes from our quantitative and qualitative data collection and review 2024-2025

Unfortunately, the ***changes have not kept up*** with the rate of change of ***needs*** to support student mental health, ***both in number and severity***. – Staff member



Successes and Challenges

The biggest thing is that there are ***more resources available in our community instead of our families having to drive*** out of town. Tools are being given to parents to support students' mental health at home. Supports are more streamlined and feel more ***intentional***. – Staff member (2025) rural community

Expanded MH
Services in Schools
& MTSS Integration

Stigma Reduction &
MH Awareness

Family & Youth
Engagement

Systemic Barriers &
Strategic Needs

"Check in."

Was the single most repeated recommendation from students across all three districts.

Potential Strategic Next Steps

**Formalize youth
feedback** loops

Create
**multilingual,
visual family**
education

Expand youth-
informed **mental
health** campaigns

Build **sustainable
funding**
(**Medicaid,
partnerships**, etc)

Equip staff for
prevention **and**
trauma-informed
supports



Brisa.sanchezcornejo@k12.wa.us

Thank you!