



Pilot Project: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of the pilot project?

A: The Investing in Families Pilot Project is designed to test and optimize a high-performing system for serving families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Q: Which communities will be served during the pilot?

A: The two target communities for the pilot project are Everett and Sky Valley (east Monroe).

Q: Why is the pilot project not being promoted to the general public?

A: The pilot project has been designed to test system processes by serving 75 families. This number was chosen because it will not overload the new system while still being sufficient to test and ensure all processes work efficiently before expanding services countywide.

Q: Who is funding the project?

A: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is supporting the development of the Investing in Families infrastructure. Building Changes is investing funds from the Washington Families Fund, which it manages, into the pilot project's implementation. Snohomish County, Workforce Development Council Snohomish County, and Edmonds Community College are also investing in the launch of the pilot project.

Q: What is the goal of the project?

A: The goal of the pilot project is to develop a high-performing system for serving families at risk of and experiencing homelessness. After the pilot concludes and the system is implemented countywide, the goal is to reduce family homelessness 50 percent by 2016.

Q: How do families in need enter the project?

A: During the two-year pilot program period, families will be referred to the program by a group of community providers, such as shelters, schools, and healthcare providers based on a detailed referral plan.

Q: What services are included in the project?

A: In addition to a coordinated entry system, the pilot project will include access to the services needed to address families' needs in 11 separate life domains crucial to optimal self-sufficiency and stable, sustainable housing.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: You can read more about the project, including the three foundation documents, at wdcsc.org/initiatives/investinginamilies/ You may also contact Mary Jane Brell Vujovic, at Workforce Development Council Snohomish County, maryjane.brell@wdcsc.org.