



# Transforming Lives

## Washington Statewide Refugee Advisory Council Quarterly Public Forum

March 2022

DSHS Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

# What am I going to discuss

- Operation Allies Welcome – Afghan Arrivals
- Overall Refugee Resettlement
- Ukrainian arrivals
- What's next for the Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance

# Washington State Operation Allies Welcome Afghan Arrivals – Oct. 2021 to Feb. 2022

Washington welcome 3,205 Afghan arrivals.



County	Total Number
Benton-Franklin	82
Clark	148
Jefferson	>10
King, Pierce, Snohomish	2,583
Spokane	353
Walla Walla	>10
Whatcom	30

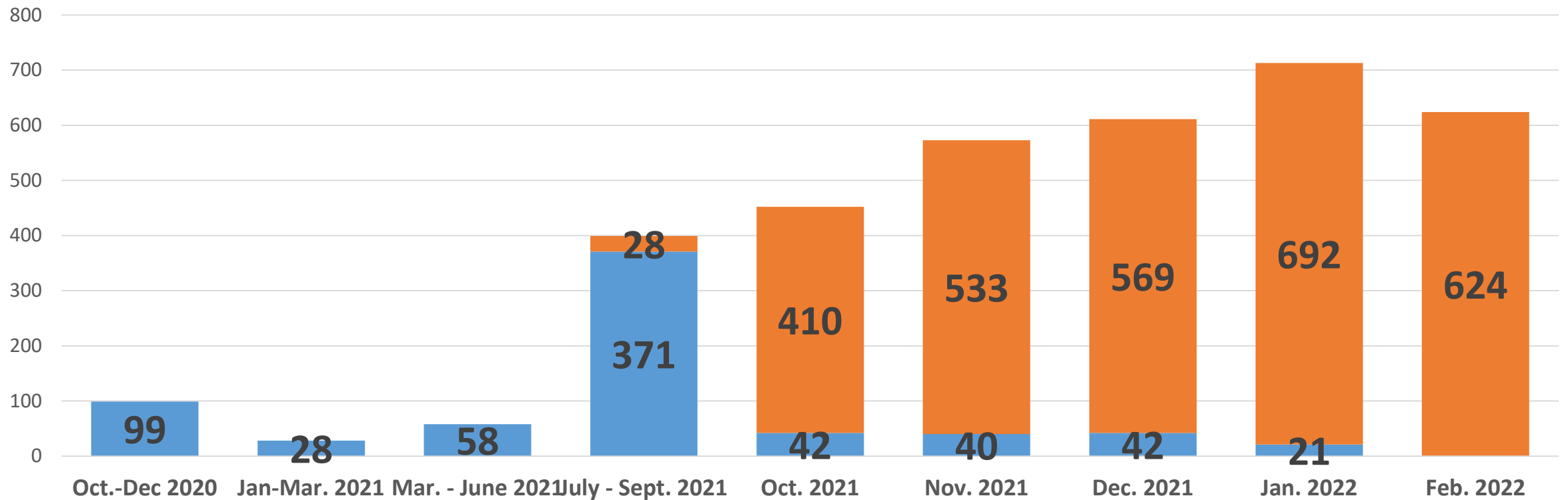
Data retrieved from the Refugee Arrivals Data System, Hummingbird Data, March 2022.

# Afghan Arrivals in Washington 2021 – 2022

**Total Arrivals: 3,557 people**

**US Refugee Admissions Program (RAP) SIV Arrival  
Federal Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022**

**Operation Allies Welcome (OAW)  
Aug. 28, 2021 to Feb. 22, 2022**

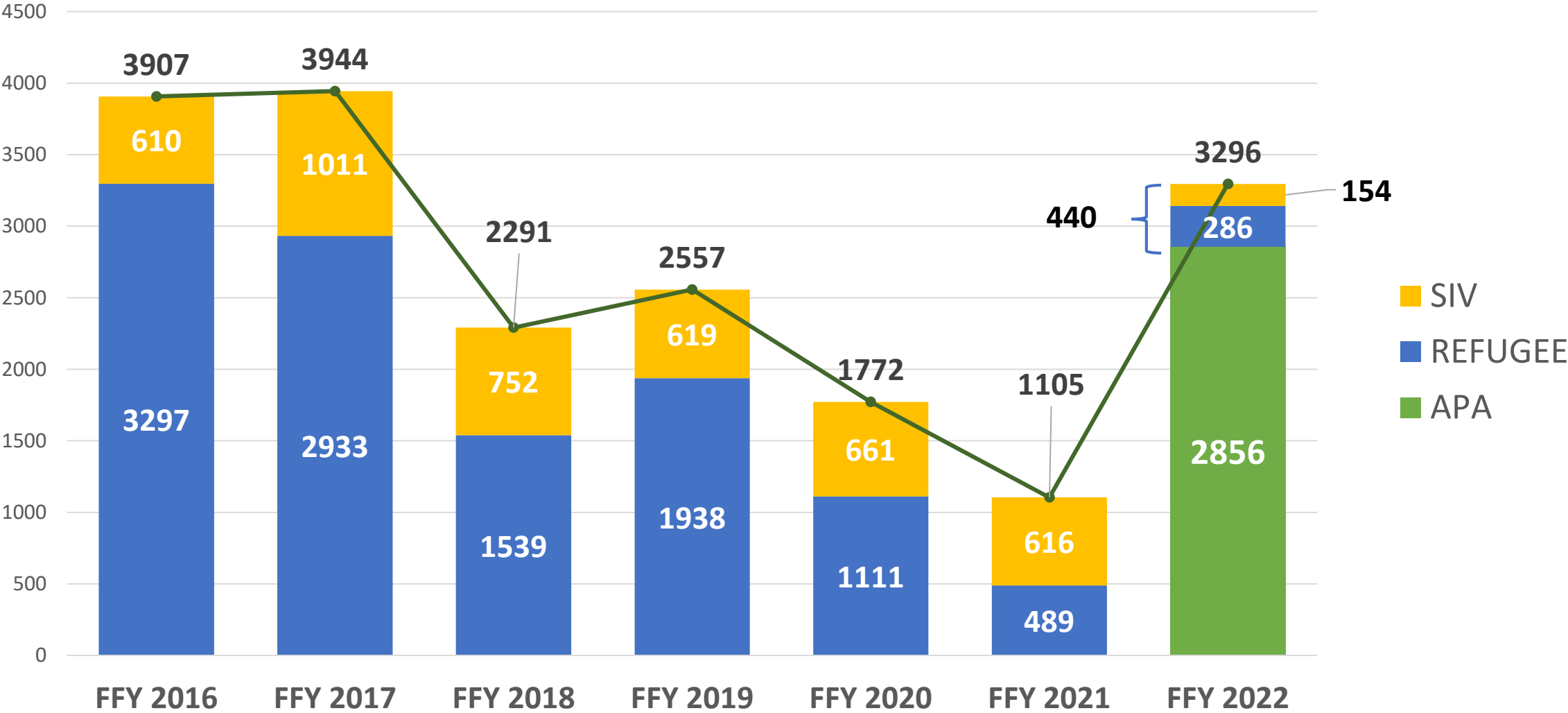


**Total US RAP Arrivals: 701 people**

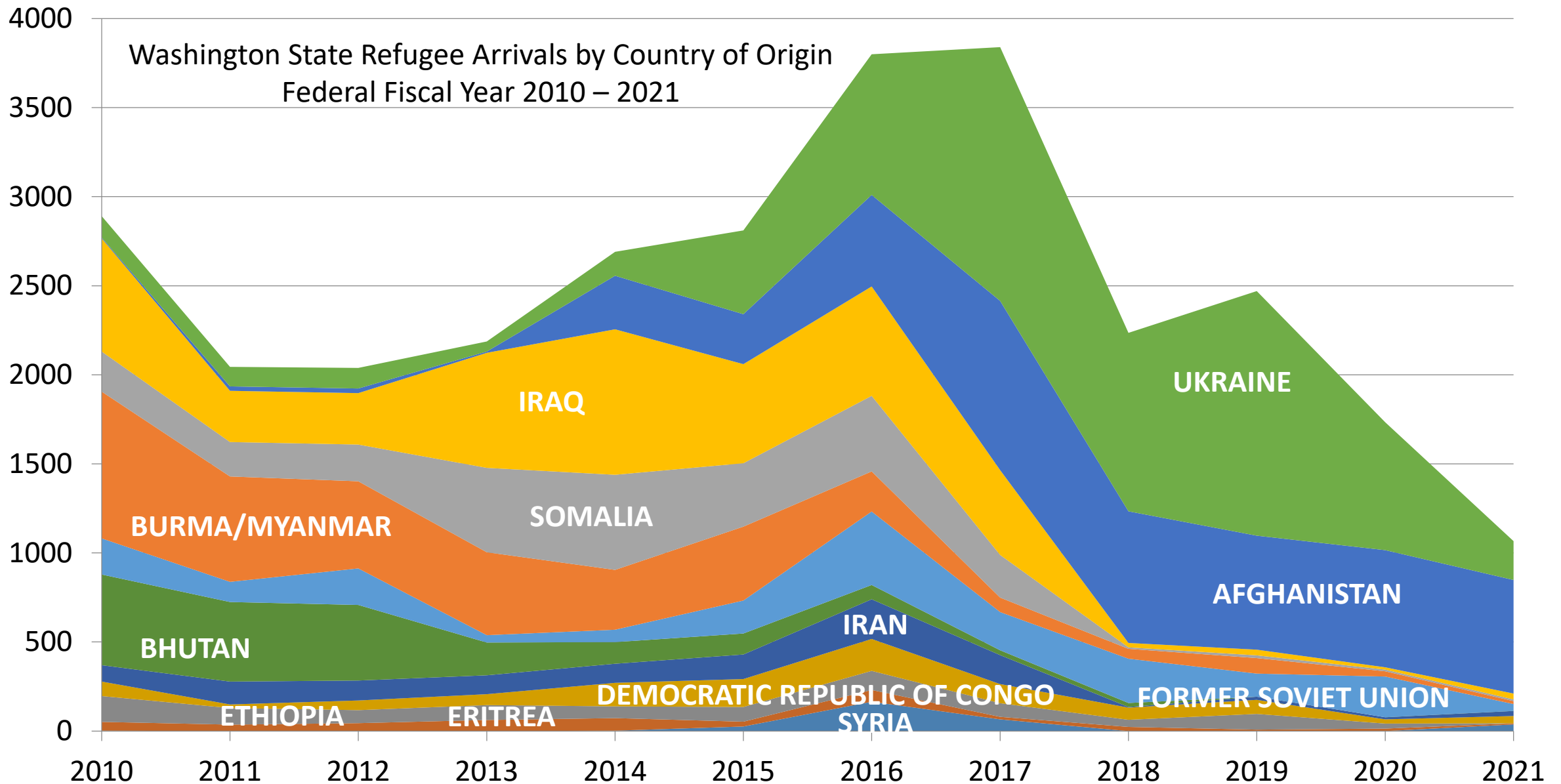
**Total OAW Arrivals: 2,856 people**

# Washington State Arrivals: Refugee, Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) and Afghan Placement and Assistance (APA) Arrivals

## FFY 2016 to FFY 2022 (Year to date)



# Washington welcomes more than 30 different nationalities annually.



Source: Data from the Department of State, Refugee Processing Center. [www.wrapsnet.org](http://www.wrapsnet.org)

# Ukrainian Resettlement in Washington

- Lautenberg Amendment
  - Certain members of Religious minority groups in Eurasia, including people from who are Jewish, Evangelical Christians and from Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox
  - Close Family Ties in the United States
  - Submit Affidavits of Relationship to the U.S. Department of State through a Refugee Resettlement Agency
  - Based on annual statutory renewal

Source: <https://2017-2021.state.gov/refugee-admissions/u-s-refugee-admissions-program-access-categories/index.html>



Washington State  
Department of Social  
& Health Services

*Transforming lives*

# New Programs and Services for FY 2022 – FY 2023

- Afghan Refugee Support Services Supplement ([ORR DCL 22-03](#))
  - Emergency, Transitional, and Permanent Housing
  - Some Legal Assistance to Afghans
  - Additional Support Services (employment, ESL, case management, etc.)
- Afghan Refugee School Impact Program ([ORR DCL 22-04](#))
- Afghan Refugee Health Promotion Program ([ORR DCL 22-05](#))
- Refugee Mental Health Program ([ORR DCL 22-08](#))
- State Afghan Placement and Assistance Program
- General State Funding to provide refugee resettlement Services



# Thank you!

Welcoming Afghans to Washington State



For more information, check out our [website](#) and the recent Washington to Washington [episode](#) on TVW.

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HEALTH UPDATES  
REFUGEE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Washington State Department of Health

# Agenda

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- COVID-19 updates
- Language Testing and Certification
- Psychological first aid webinar
- Refugee Health Screening and Primary Care

## Worried about the BA.2 variant?

Here are some tips on how to stay safe

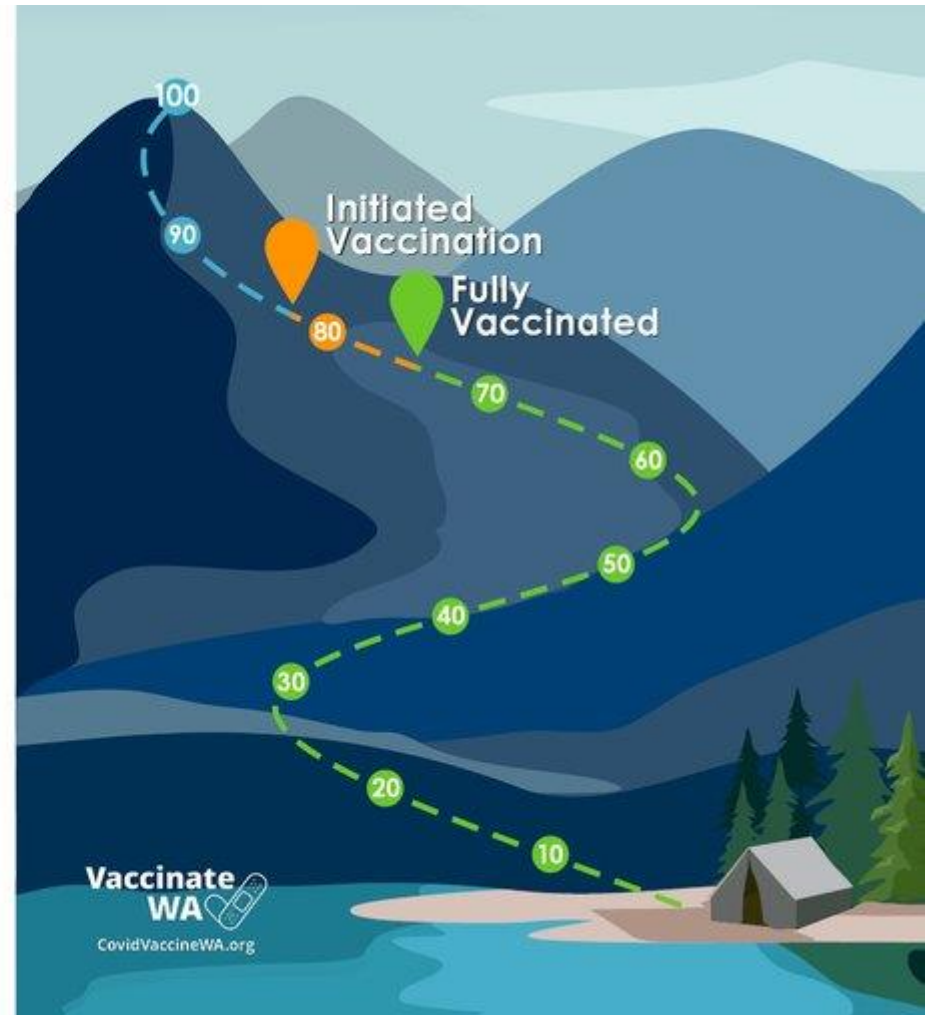
- Get vaccinated and stay up to date on boosters
- Wear a mask and avoid poorly ventilated areas
- Have a plan for rapid testing and access to treatment
- Know how and when to isolate



# COVID-19 Vaccination Update

As of March 22,  
**81.2%\***  
of the population  
5 and up has  
**received at least one dose**  
and  
**73.7%\***  
is **fully vaccinated.**

\*This percent includes aggregate data from the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs and is higher than the DOH data dashboard.





# Care-a-Van – Mobile COVID-19 vaccination



# Free COVID-19 Home Tests



The advertisement features a dark background with a pattern of small white dots. On the left is a stylized illustration of a COVID-19 home test kit. To its right, the text "SAY YES!" is in white, with "YES!" in red. Below this, "COVID TEST™" is in white, with a red gear-like icon replacing the "O" in "COVID". The main headline "Now Available **Monthly!**" is in white, with "Monthly!" in a larger, bold, italicized font. Below the headline, the text "Each household can now order **twice** per month, while supplies last." is in white. At the bottom left, the website "SayYesCovidHomeTest.org" is written in red. At the bottom right is the Washington State Department of Health logo, which includes a stylized leaf and the text "Washington State Department of Health".

**SAY YES!**  
**COVID TEST™**

Now Available **Monthly!**

Each household can now order **twice**  
per month, while supplies last.

**SayYesCovidHomeTest.org**

Washington State Department of  
**Health**

<http://SayYesCovidHomeTest.org>

# WHERE IS A MASK STILL REQUIRED?

- Health care settings
- Transportation hubs such as the airport or train stations
- Public transportation
- Individual businesses that choose to require masks

**BE KIND AND RESPECTFUL**





# Need Help While You Isolate or Quarantine at Home?

**Care Connect**  
Washington

Supporting the people who stay home to stop COVID-19

1 (800) 525-0127

## How does it work?

1 Get Tested



2 Stay Home



3 Call for help



4 Get Help



Groceries, Supplies, Finances

You qualify for Care Connect Washington assistance if:

☒ You tested positive for COVID-19 and are actively isolating

Or

☒ You were exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and are actively quarantining

Translated resources: <https://waportal.org/partners/home/care-connect/graphics#printables>

# Language Testing and Certification

## Latest News

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**LTC will resume limited testing of public candidates in Olympia and Yakima in April 2022.** LTC will open schedules on:

- **March 15:** 50 test spots in April
- **April 5:** 200 test spots in May
- **May 3:** 200 test spots in June

Note: Test dates will be posted prior to schedule openings.

Regular openings will continue after these initial three months.

**Test spots are open only to those who fall into the following categories:**

1. Candidates with current credentials that expired between January 2020 and May 2022
2. Candidates with credentials that are due to expire on or before December 31, 2022
3. Candidates who have passed the written test between January 2018 and March 2020 may schedule an oral test
4. Candidates with a passing oral test for a yet unearned credential may schedule a written test
5. Upon request, candidates who work for other state agencies
6. Upon request, candidates who want to test for a certain rare or high demand language

Source: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/office-of-the-secretary/language-testing-and-certification-program>

# Professional Healthcare Interpreter Certificate



**HC** Continuing Education  
HIGHLINE COLLEGE

PROFESSIONAL HEALTHCARE INTERPRETER CERTIFICATE  
Highline College

Professional Healthcare Interpreter Certificate  
for Dari and Pashto speakers

## Registration Process

To begin the registration process, please use the following link:  
[Interest in Interpreter Training \(smartsheet.com\)](https://smartsheet.com)

# Webinar Recording: Psychological First Aid to Support Clients Affected by the Crisis in Ukraine

## **What does this webinar cover?**

Given the recent tragic events in Ukraine, Switchboard will be hosting a refresher course on Psychological First Aid to aid staff in supporting distressed clients. This webinar will be facilitated by Andrew Kritovich, LMHC from the Ukrainian Community Center and Beth Farmer, LCSW from International Rescue Committee. Attendees will increase their awareness of cultural and contextual factors related to Ukraine, as well as learn the fundamentals of Psychological First Aid.

Webinar Recording: <https://bit.ly/3D0QBk5>

Webinar Slides: <https://bit.ly/34LeAH4>

Webinar Resources: <https://bit.ly/3ihq5sM>

# Refugee Health Screening

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**Thank You** ❤️  
**for patience & persistence**

**Vaccinate  
WA**   
[CovidVaccineWA.org](https://CovidVaccineWA.org)



Refugee and Immigrant Health Program  
Washington State Department of Health

206-418-5500

[refugeehealthprogram@doh.wa.gov](mailto:refugeehealthprogram@doh.wa.gov)

[www.doh.wa.gov/RefugeeHealth](http://www.doh.wa.gov/RefugeeHealth)



handle: WADeptHealth



# Statewide Refugee Advisory Council Public Form

## Fathering in Immigrant and Refugee Families

March 24, 2022

Anne Stone MA, MPA

Washington State Fatherhood Council  
Director



Fatherhood  
is  
Essential

Interagency  
Fatherhood  
Council  
Washington







# Why do we need to focus on Fathering why not just Parenting?

We  
know  
that:

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Child and family well-being improve when fathers are positively engaged in their children's lives.

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Fathers play a unique and important role in children's development.

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Fathers should have support and resources to become the fathers they aspire to be.

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**Interagency  
Fatherhood  
Council**  
*Washington*





## Washington State Fatherhood Council

**Vision** | Fathers and father figures in Washington become the parents they aspire to be for their children and families.

**Mission** | We amplify the voices of fathers and father figures in Washington State to promote fatherhood inclusion, equity, diversity and research activity that strengthens families and maximizes children's potential.



Interagency  
Fatherhood  
Council  
Washington



# What we Value

- **Diversity** – we understand and value the varied cultures and experiences fathers and father figures have while raising children
- **Inclusion** – we appreciate the diverse spectrum of races, cultures, and experiences of fathers and father figures on the council and in the design of father friendly services in Washington
- **Equity** – we recognize the need to transform family support service systems, improve access to opportunities and resources, and dismantle barriers for all fathers and father figures.
- **Belonging** – we connect people, build safe relationships, and co-create possibilities with fathers and father figures to foster a better tomorrow for their families
- **Education** – using the power of fathers' stories and research activity that together reshape the fatherhood narrative, we strive to compel to action community members, public and private service providers, and elected officials in the achievement of our state's collective long term goals.
- **Partnering** – we recognize it will take a broad spectrum of fathers and father figures, community members, public and non-profit service providers, academics, and national thought leaders to achieve our collective goals.
- **Leadership** – we understand that leaders exist in all roles and that it is essential to leverage lived experience to advance transformational change in policies, practices, and programs for families.



# The Fatherhood Narrative is Changing

- Biological
- Stepfather
- Father figure

In many family constellations married, blended, cohabiting, single parent, and re-combined families.

The Washington Interagency Fatherhood Council - big tent where all families fit & realizes the unique needs of marginalized dads and families.





# Better Outcomes for Child Wellbeing

Presence at birth is a key predictor for maternal and child wellbeing

- Provides encouragement and support for maternal breastfeeding,
- Associated with a reduction in the negative effects of maternal depressive behaviors on children

Father involvement affects nearly every measure of child wellbeing:

- Cognitive Development
- Academic Achievement
- Self-Esteem
- Pro-Social Behavior







Children with fathers who are nurturing and engaged achieve better life outcomes<sup>2</sup>



Overall  
health



Academic  
success



Engaged  
as parents



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Washington



Facts compiled by the Department of Justice

63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes

90% of all homeless and runaway youths are from fatherless homes.

85% of children who exhibit behavioral disorders are from fatherless homes.

71% of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes.

70% of youths in State institutions are from fatherless homes.

75% of adolescent patients in substance abuse centers are from fatherless homes.

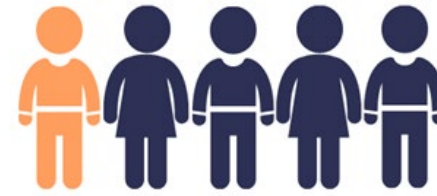
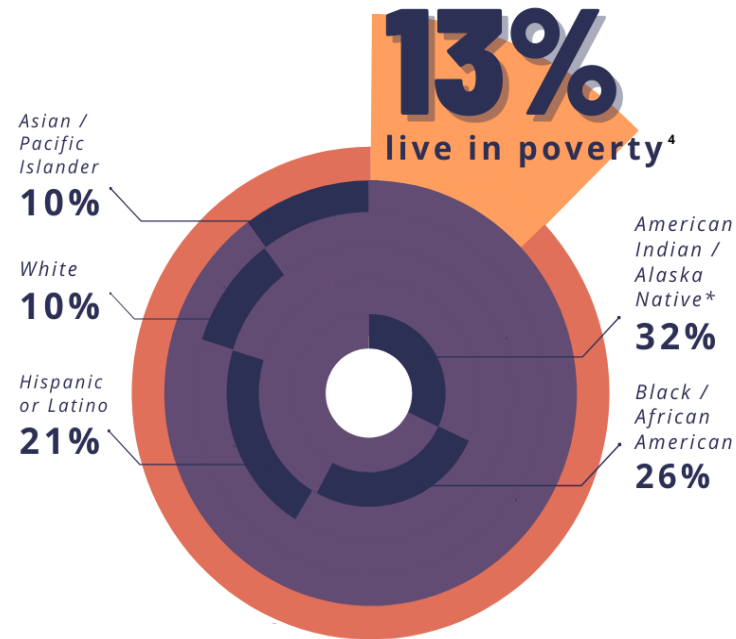
Photo by [Laura Nyhuis](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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## Children in Washington State...



**1 in 5 children**  
live without a father  
in the home in WA<sup>5</sup>



“Fathers’ involvement is associated with improved child well-being and lower levels of child behavior problems, and children with involved fathers are less likely to re-enter the child welfare system.”

*Washington State Dependency Best Practice Report, Commissioned by the Washington Supreme Court Commission on Child Welfare*

Economic Services Administration. (2019). *ESA Briefing Book*. Retrieved from <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/manuals/briefing-book>

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*Moving from a “we” culture to an “I” culture is very hard for fathers and families.*



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Council**  
Washington



# Pre and Post Migration Factors for Fathers

Potential changes in gender roles post migration can be particularly stressful:

- lessening of responsibility and power differentials in relation to their wives,
- feelings of disappointment (e.g., depression and low self esteem),
- limited work opportunities (e.g., exclusion from professional employment, lack of achievement), and
- discrimination and social exclusion

# Father Inclusive Culturally Sensitive Practice

- (1) services are aligned to always include father,
- (2) Notice structural and cultural barriers that impede fathers from participating or seeking support,
- (3) Cultural safety and the creation of a safe space,
- (4) Pay attention to psychological stressors related to the different phases of migration affect mental health,
- (5) Notice that fathers parent differently from mothers and have their of their unique coping style,
- (6) Understand men's history of pre-migratory trauma and the losses unique to men,
- (7) Understanding of masculine expressions of distress where emotional vulnerability may be hidden or presented as resistance, and
- (8) Recognize strengths and resilience of the immigration and adaptation!



# What are Fathers looking for?

Accessible information from credible sources

Father-focused resources

- Guidance about how to be a supportive partner to an expectant / new mother

Information about development

- How to engage with young children to promote healthy development
- Age expectations and behavior management

Ways to access services that are non-stigmatizing and focused upon their unique needs

Normalize the frustrations of parenting

Lee, Walsh, et al., 2013; ; Lee, Walsh, et al., Under Review; Walsh et al., 2014; Walsh, 2020



# 2019 WA Survey of Father's Greatest Needs

## 5 Greatest Challenges

**(1)** Custody and parenting time agreements

**(2)** No services available for fathers

**(3)** Social stigmas about fatherhood

**(4)** Issues related to child support

**(5)** Financial insecurity

“Allowing fatherhood to be an admirable position in the family”

Survey respondent

“Transforming systems through fathers voices” Washington Fatherhood Council Survey 2019

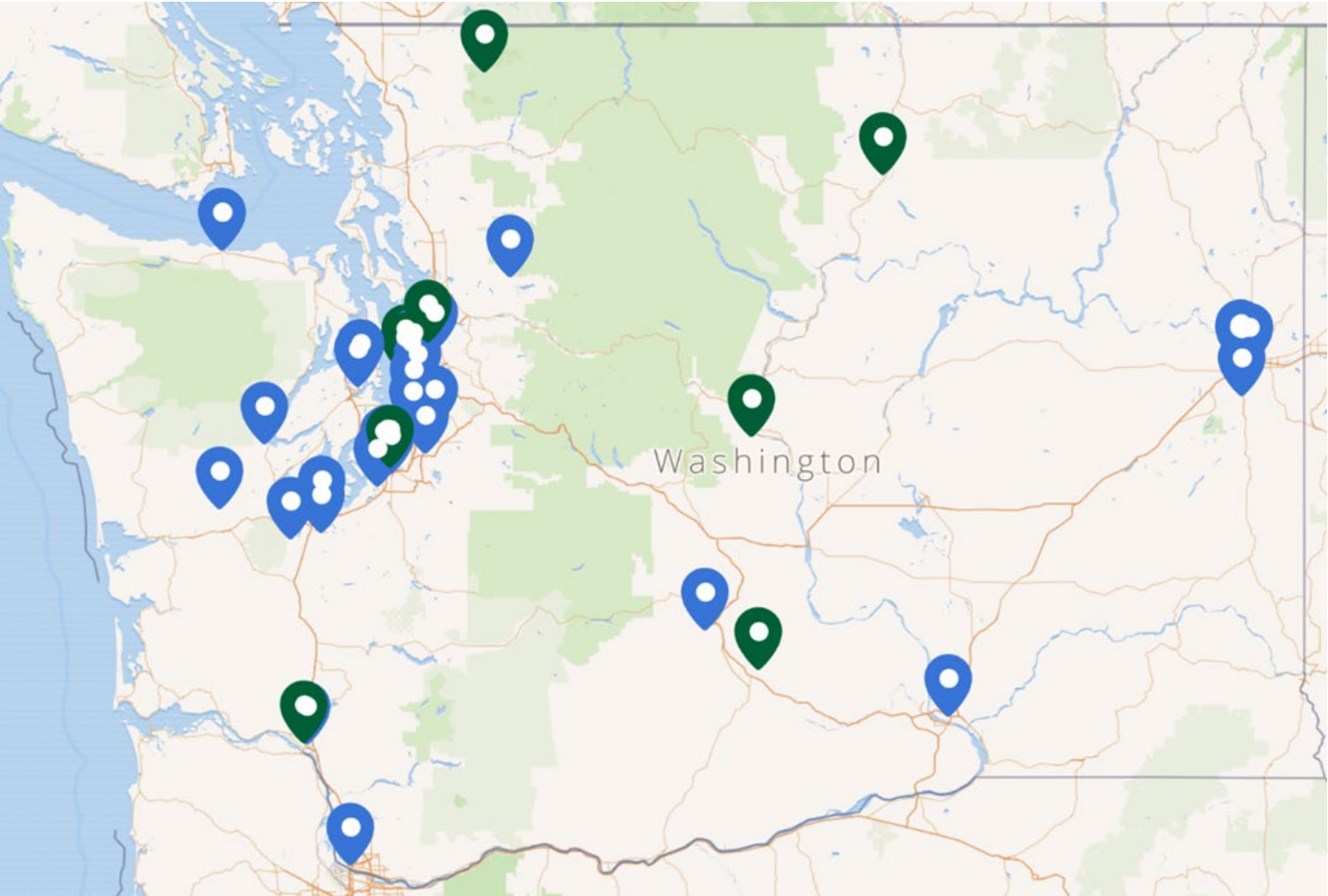
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# Map of Father-Friendly Service Providers

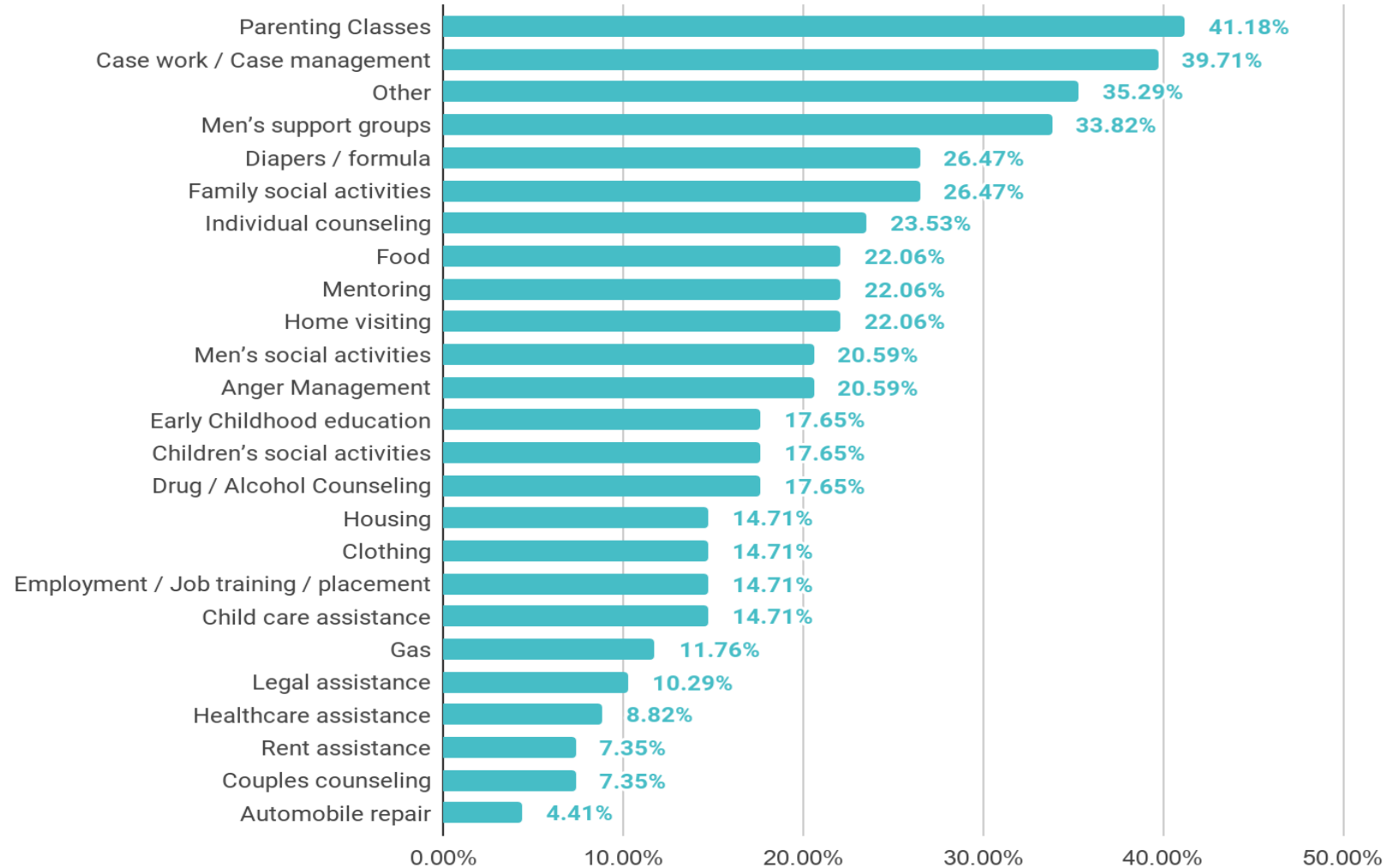


- Blue** Local / regional program that provides services for fathers
- Green** Program that serves entire State of Washington



# Types of Services

Types of Services Organizations Provide, 2020, N=68



# What do we need to make Washington Father Friendly?

Promote Fatherhood Inclusion in existing services

Reduce Toxic Stress for Families and Promote Equity for All Loving Adults in a Child's Life

Foster Positive Co-Parenting Relationships

Invest in Fatherhood Programs and Research

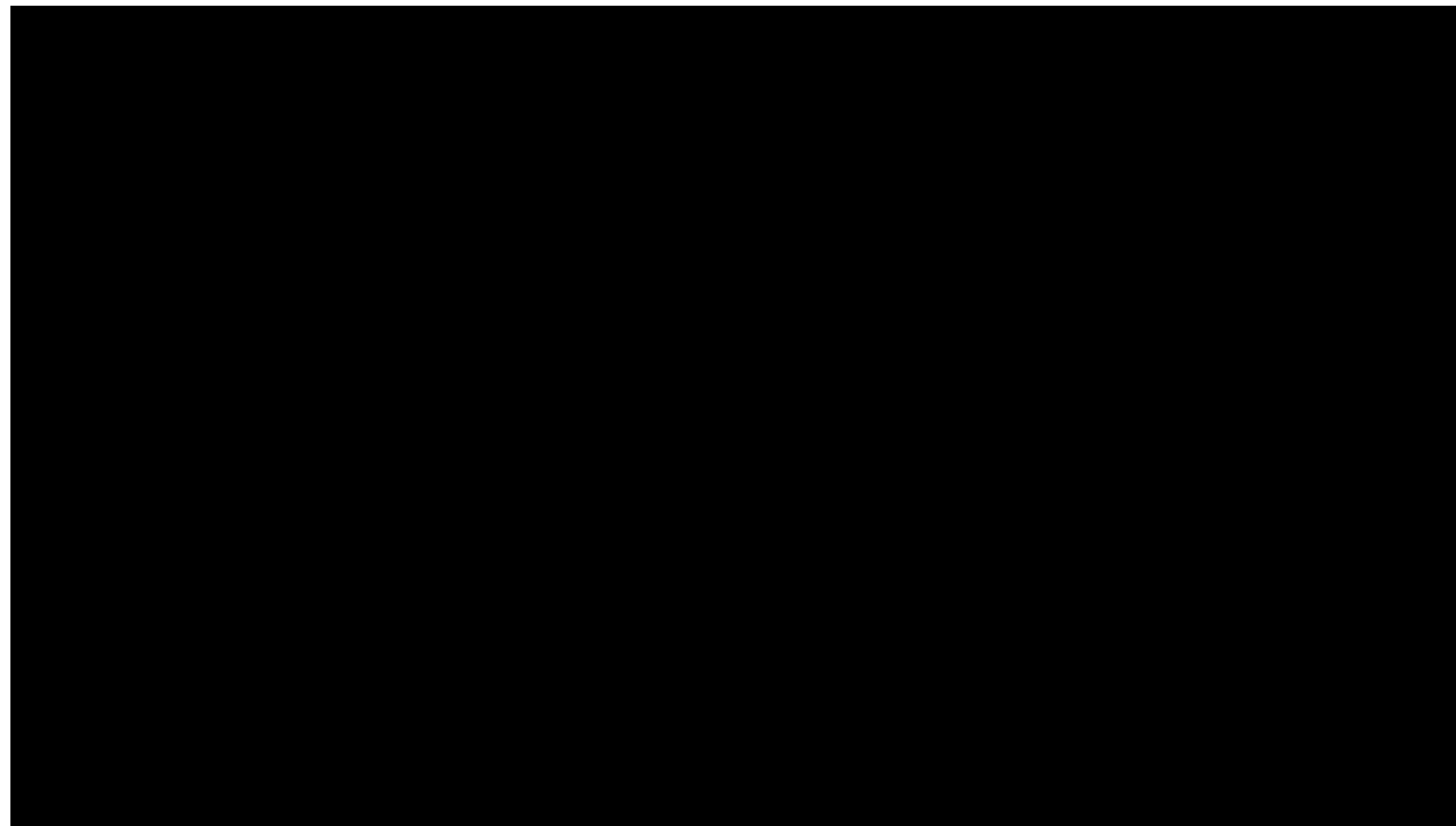
Use Father Friendly imagery – open source free!

[Fatherhood Photo Bank](#) | [WA Interagency Fatherhood Council](#)  
([wafatherhoodcouncil.org](http://wafatherhoodcouncil.org))





**In Real Life...**



PSA from  
the National  
Fatherhood  
Council:  
*“Let’s Crawl...”*

Interagency  
Fatherhood  
Council  
Washington





PSA from  
the National  
Fatherhood  
Council:  
*“Juan  
Dadication”*

Interagency  
Fatherhood  
Council  
Washington



# Questions and Queries

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