

White River Partnership (WRP)

Hybrid Meeting @ Marion Grange – Dec 8, 2025 (10:00-11:30AM)

What's our Why?

- ☑ Serve as leadership group for White River 'Community of Focus'
- ☑ Purpose: *Develop priorities, goals, and measurable outcomes to improve the well-being of White River communities. Serve as a working group to accomplish the outcomes.*
- ☑ Priorities: *Access to Resources, Food Justice, Transportation, Youth Activities, Social Connections, Behavioral Health*
- ☐ Successes: *identified community priorities, \$175,000 investments, RDI leadership team & installation of Wilkeson garden, oversee WRHT \$78k fund, EBT cooler at Buckley Market, increasing resource access, **grant for NE Pierce guide website!!***

Action Points from last meeting (11/10/2025)

- The WRP gathered in-person and virtually to get reorganized for the 3rd quarter, in which we reviewed subgroups, projects, ways to support subgroups, and identify other partners that would be beneficial to invite to future meetings and gauge their interest in the work.

Participants (x):

In-person: Daniel Burdsall, Marcy Boulet, Lauren Henrickson (Whatcom County), Meagan Roades, Stephanie King, Sue Munion, Amy Boucher-Kiss, Sue Z Hart, Trip Hart, Danielle Davis, Leah Haugen, Mary Beth Holmes,

Important Coalition Resources:

White River Partnership website: <https://sites.google.com/view/whiteriverpartnership/home>

North East Pierce Resource Guide: <https://www.northeastpierceresourceguide.org/>

If you have any questions, feedback, ideas, send them to whiteriverpartnership@gmail.com.



Meeting Guidelines & Reminders:

- We are focused on the greater White River, not just one area/town within White River.
- To use our time wisely, keep your ideas succinct, to the point, appropriate for this meeting.
- Be inclusive and open to all ideas - Remember, this coalition is action-oriented.

AGENDA

Purpose: Reviewing Subgroup projects and goals, allowing members to choose a subgroup and their level of involvement, and EAT THE SOUP, RATE THE SOUP!

- Green highlight = Assignments

Adore the soup spread, Choose a soup, and Get settled! (10 mins) All

- FYSA: We will vote on the best soup at the end of the meeting.

Welcome & Quick Introductions (5 min)

Review the minutes and assignments from the Nov meeting (10 mins) Daniel

Open Discussion on Future Direction (60 mins)

- Strengths of WRP? What brings you to the meeting?
- What's gone well with WRP?
- What could be improved? What makes it challenging to attend?
- How should decisions about the future be determined? Survey data, Hard data, other?

Vote on the Best Soups - The Top 3! All

Winners:

1st Place - Muligatani Soup - Mary Beth Holmes & Tracy Holmes

2nd Place - Ground Elk Chili - Marcy Boulet

3rd Place - Vegetable Soup - Megan Rhoades

Next Steps/Adjourn (mins) Marcy

- Sub-groups are encouraged to meet and organize - Reach out if contact info is needed!
 - Next WRP meeting scheduled for January 12 , 2025 (10:00 - 11:30 AM) at Marion Grange & Zoom.
 - Next Families First Coalition (FFC) meeting scheduled for January 26, 2025 (3:30 - 5:00 PM at the Buckley Fire Dept & Zoom.
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Meeting Notes:

Daniel, Lauren from Clark County, Mary Beth, Meagan, Stephanie, Sue M, Amy, Sue H, Danielle, Leah, Marcy, Tripp

The group sampled 8 soups and voted on favorites. We also had homemade pretzels, bread, and sweet treats.

Reflections on 2025 –

High level overview. Before 2025 looked at a lot of qualitative and quantitative data and then determined projects to affect those health topics.

Promotion/Communication

Food Access

Social Vitality

Organizational Funding

Feedback:

Enjoyed the subgroup meetings.

Narrowing the focus allows more accomplishment. In larger groups, discuss but it's harder to get traction.

Meeting at 8 am on a Saturday allowed an elementary school principal to participate. Widens participation. Also allowed folks to meet with one another afterward for social connections.

That principal had an idea to stick NE Pierce Resource Guide stickers on every staff chrome book to ensure they knew of community resources from the site.

NE Pierce Resource Guide cards also going into Buckley Foodbank distribution bags.

WR FRC has formula, Pedialyte, and baby food. See Leah.

Action item: See if traffic to NE Pierce Website increases

Can we start a small fund for the WR Partnership specific for resource guides? Tehre was discussion about becoming a 501c3. Decided not to.

Could subcommittees develop financial needs to put into the google drive?

Could also ask folks to donate for the Hometowns Fund for the resource guide. BBTW is current fiscal sponsor.

Suggest an organization apply to WR Hometowns Fund for dollars to purchase more stickers, brochures, and prom materials for the NE Pierce Resource Guide.

Subcommittees didn't feel like a heavy lift. Structured and led in a way that made a person feel comfortable.

People feel open to learning and making changes.

WR Hometowns Fund committee, process. Highlighted as a strength by GTCF! Great way to own and support access to resources locally.

Opportunities for improvement:

Sharing at council meetings about WR Hometowns Fund.

Amy: possibility of creating an annual report. Discuss at January meeting

This is a good time of year to reach out to folks to engage or re-engage with subgroups.

How do we allow committees to share work but also to hold each other accountable, esp when we don't have a leader or regular meeting cadence. Also, ask other subcommittees what kind of support would be helpful to keep them going? Take time during meeting asking about what support is needed. Also, ask folks what they want the work to look like in the future, to ensure duplication is avoided and work and projects are complimentary.

Bring bigger ideas like a funders forum back to the bigger group for assistance.

Food rescue at Grange! 700 October, 400 in November that went back into the community. Tuesday mornings, all are welcome to join in. Need new processing kitchen. HD will get list of processing kitchens to Community Place NW and Kids Place NW

Stephanie will connect Marcy with the new leadership about possibility of meeting elsewhere.