

Meeting Notes

Agenda:

- 12:00pm** Open Networking & Resource Sharing
- 12:15pm** Presentation: Economic Security for All (EcSA) - Kevi Veldman
- 1:15pm** Network Updates & Announcements
- 2:00** Adjourn

Attendance:

- Melissa S. - Peace Health
- Drew W. - Opportunity Council
- Lorelei B. - Ferndale Community Services
- Mariah D. - NWRC
- Christene D. - Northwest Youth Services
- Alex K. - Edward Jones
- Tami J. - Whatcom Literacy Council
- Edith T. - Opportunity Council
- Maria M. - Sea Mar
- Jon S. - WWU
- Amanda D. - Opportunity Council
- Brendan G. - Northwest Justice Project
- Sandy S. - Northwest Regional Council
- Kim S. - NAMI Whatcom
- Jennifer L. - Lynden Community/Senior Center
- Sam Z. - Opportunity Council
- Mike G. - St Paul's
- Corey S. - Opportunity Council
- Kevi V. - Opportunity Council
- Gabby S. - Ferndale Community Services

Featured Presentation: *Economic Security for All - Kevi Veldman*

- [Presentation](#)
- [Website](#)
- Contact: Kevi Veldman, kevi_veldman@oppco.org

Network Updates & Announcements:

Opportunity Council Employment Program - Corey Salas

- Switching to a new referral method: employment services in-person orientation every Tuesday at 11:00am at 1111 Cornwall Ave Opportunity Council office. Direct referrals to attend the orientation.
- Future possibility of the orientation also being offered in Spanish.
- Access ID continues to be every Wednesday from 9-11:30 at 1111 Cornwall Ave.
- Contact: Corey, corey_salas@oppco.org

Whatcom Literacy Council - Tami Johnson

- Organization helping adults improve their literacy skills and learn English throughout Whatcom County. Improved literacy can help someone secure employment, apply for housing and social services, and generally increase confidence.
- Free one-on-one tutoring and small group classes.
- Always looking for additional mentors for their programs.
- Contact: Tami, development@whatcomliteracy.org

Northwest Regional Council - Mariah Davis

- Caregiver outreach specialist
- Recruits and connects people who want to be caregivers to training and employment opportunities.
- Some healthcare plans will include programs for family members to become paid caregivers for their loved ones.
- Contact: Mariah_mariah.davis@dshs.wa.gov

Whatcom Resource Information Collaborative - Drew Whatley

- WRIC is a database for local resources and services.
- Drew is available to come and present to community partner organizations about WRIC, how to use it, and how to get involved in it.
- Contact: Drew, drew_whatley@oppco.org

NAMI Whatcom - Summer Starr

- NAMI offers support groups and classes for people struggling with mental illness and their families.
- Support groups offered at East Whatcom Regional Resource Center
- New: Whatcom Peer Collaborative. Now able to offer some limited 1:1 peer support for people with mental illness. This is NOT for family members. Hoping to grow this program, Spanish language is available.
- Contact: Kim, ksauter@namiwhatcom.org