

## **STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND JUSTICE FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) is to guide the development of the Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment. SAC members will act as **liaisons** to the communities or agencies they represent. They will **share information** about the study, **bring feedback** to the SAC meetings, and **help build a plan** that is reflective of community values. Through engaging communities and agencies they represent, SAC members will help **develop community support** for the recommendations in the Needs Assessment. SAC members will actively participate in developing the Needs Assessment.

### MEMBERSHIP

The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will consist of 36 voting members as follows:

1. Whatcom County Council Member
2. Whatcom County Administration
3. Bellingham City Councilmember
4. Bellingham Administration
5. Tribal Nations (2)
6. Small Cities (2)
7. Behavioral Health and Social Service Providers (4) \*  
May include but not limited to:
  - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
  - Housing Specialists
  - Domestic Violence Prevention
  - Re-entry Job Training
  - Philanthropic Specialists
8. Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force (acting as the Law and Justice Council) (4)
9. Bellingham Police
10. Whatcom County Sheriff
11. Whatcom County Health Department
12. Citizen - Behavioral Health (mental health and substance use disorder (SUD)) Advocate\*
13. Citizen - Criminal Justice Advocate (9)\*
14. Individual with lived experience in the criminal justice system (5)\*
15. Jail Resources/Service Providers\*
16. Teamsters Local 231 Whatcom County Corrections Business Unit

*\*Members marked with an asterisk are appointed by the Whatcom County Council.*

### MEETINGS

- The SAC will meet four times over the next five months, at a location in Bellingham to be determined, with additional meetings as needed. Members can expect each meeting to include elements such as a presentation, moderated discussion of ideas among the full membership or break out groups, and other activities designed to generate feedback. Meetings will be approximately 2 hours.
- SAC Members will be expected to dedicate additional time outside of scheduled SAC meetings to review materials and engage and promote participation from the broader community.
- The SAC will elect a chairperson from among its members.
- Meetings will be open to the public.
- Audio recordings and written summaries of meetings will be available online.
- The SAC may develop subcommittees as needed to accomplish their goals.

For more information, please visit: [www.whatcomcounty.us/justice](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/justice)