



COALITION AGENCY AGREEMENT

First 5 FUNdamentals: Pierce County's Early Learning Coalition is comprised of diverse agencies working together to support young children and their families. Organizations throughout Pierce County self-select to become participants in the Coalition. Participants devote their time and resources in helping to improve the system that supports young children and their families.

Participants bring unique expertise and energy that strengthens the collective model. The Coalition's diversity helps to ensure that First 5 FUNdamentals has a current, realistic picture of needs for children and families in Pierce County.

The vision of First 5 FUNdamentals is:

"All Pierce County children start school ready to succeed!"

The mission of First 5 FUNdamentals is:

"Build and sustain an integrated early learning system of community partners and organizations to support our young children and their families."

Inspired by the potential and early results of the Collective Impact model, First 5 FUNdamentals structures its activities and relationships using five key elements as guides.

Key Elements of Collective Impact

1. Using a **Common Agenda** to focus action.
2. Identifying and using **Mutually-reinforcing Activities** to accelerate action.
3. Using of **Shared Measures** to test our success and refine our approaches.
4. Maintaining **Continuous Communication** to help us work in concert.
5. Ensuring **Backbone support** through organizational structure and agreements to enable effective action.

As part of a Collective Impact initiative, participants will occasionally be asked to examine specific practices (such as communication and/or data collection and sharing) as related to the First 5 FUNdamentals coalition for the sake of greater alignment whenever possible.

First 5 FUNdamentals specific goals and activities, that are reviewed annually, are outlined in the Collective Impact framework.

First 5 FUNdamentals is a Washington State nonprofit corporation whose fiscal agent is United Way of Pierce County. First 5 FUNdamentals is governed by an Executive Committee, which is elected by the participants of the Coalition.

The Coalition Executive Committee oversees the direction of the Coalition, directing Coalition employees, oversight of First 5 Fundamentals' budget and funds, and approving the Coalition's policies and procedures.

In addition to appointing the Executive Committee, the participants of the Coalition vote on officers of the Executive Committee and approving the annual Coalition operating budget.

First 5 FUNdamentals values the independence of each participant. Absent permission from a participant, First 5 FUNdamentals does not portray or imply that participants of First 5 FUNdamentals hold the same positions on public policy matters.

First 5 FUNdamentals is a dues-free organization. In exchange for voting rights, participants of the Coalition are asked for the following:

- Sign the membership agreement
- Review First 5 FUNdamentals bylaws
- Allow First 5 FUNdamentals to use name and logo (in accordance with member organization guidelines)

Participant voting privileges are outlined in the First 5 FUNdamentals bylaws.

The term of this Coalition Agency Agreement will be 3 years until December 31, 2017.

Either party may terminate its participation in this Coalition Agency Agreement without cause with 30 days written notice.

I agree that my organization will become a participant of First 5 FUNdamentals (Signature).

Title

Organization

Date

*A **coalition** is a pact or treaty among individuals or groups, during which they cooperate in joint action, each in their own self-interest, joining forces together for a common cause. This alliance may be temporary or a matter of convenience. A coalition thus differs from a more formal covenant. Possibly described as a joining of 'factions', usually those with overlapping interests rather than opposing.*

*An **alliance** is a pact, coalition or friendship between two or more parties, made in order to advance common goals and to secure common interests. It is a Political agreement between countries to support each other in disputes with other countries.*