 Adult Education Advisory Council

October 18, 2022

# Call to order

The Adult Education Advisory Council (AEAC) held their Fall Meeting at Tacoma Community House on October 18, 2022. [Meeting Materials on SBCTC – AEAC website](https://www.sbctc.edu/about/task-forces-work-groups/aeac/meeting-materials.aspx)

# Attendees

Babette Roberts-Chair, Amy Diehr-Vice-Chair, Kelli Graham, Lucretia Robertson, Anne Goranson, Courtney Jacobsen, Katrina Klepper, Diane Klontz, Kristen Morgan, Marlana Parr for Eleni Papadakis, Kenny Ryan, and Heidi Summers.

SBCTC Staff: MarcusAntonio, Troy Goracke, and Christy Lowder

# Members not in attendance

Paul Francis, Nancy Livingston, Mandy Paradise, Aaron Parrott, Lin Zhou, and Will Durden

# Business meeting

Approval of Meeting Minutes – June meeting minutes – Babs asked if there are any changes that anyone would like to make before the motion. Yes, on page 1 under New Member, the thought is incomplete as to Kristen’s position, and under Enrollments, in the second paragraph, second sentence needs restructured to make sense. And on the last page under Amy Diehr...what will she do? *MOTION made to approve minutes with those modifications, seconded, and approved, no abstentions.*

# New business

## Announcements

Thank you for re-upping your appointments to Courtney Jacobsen, Amy Diehr, and Katrina Klepper!

Welcome to our newest members!! Kelli Graham is our new Community Based Organization member; Lucretia Robertson is our new Library Program member; and Nancy Livingston is our new Nominated Student.

## Co-Chair Nomination and Discussion

There are many changes happening at Tacoma Community House and Amy isn’t able to continue her role as Vice-Chair with those responsibilities. We would like to ask for a member who would like the opportunity to become the Vice-Chair.

Our By-laws do not have specific appointment terms for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions, but that is something the council could look at amending.

It doesn’t have to be determined today, but we wished to share with the council the change that we needed to make.

We circled back at the end of the meeting and Kristen Morgan volunteered to be the AEAC Vice-Chair.

## BEdA Update

* Afghanistan/Ukraine New Arrival Funds
	+ 50% of $1.87 million allocation awarded so far!
* Recent Federal Advocacy Efforts
	+ Will and Troy partnered with COABE Fellow Asha Dore (Shoreline)
	+ We requested $1 billion for adult ed and alternatives to standardized testing!
* Tracking Digital Literacy/Digital Equity
	+ We are participating in in-state efforts to define and support digital inclusion.
	+ We are also monitoring the flow of dollars from the Federal Infrastructure bill’s Digital Equity Act.
* Caseload Forecast strategy on pause
	+ Strong showing last session in Senate
	+ No clear path forward in House
	+ Always a first step
* Dedicated State Basic Education for Adults Allocation
	+ Executive Director Paul Francis eager to strategize for next legislative session
	+ Place focus on end goal
* Advocacy for this session
	+ Keep BEdA in discussion with legislators and colleagues
	+ Focus on need for State investment
	+ ROI: equity, economic recovery, stronger workforce

## Centering the Work and Plan / Task Development

The group broke out into their Goal teams to finalize the Goal language and work on developing strategies to accomplish that goal. We came back together and finalized our 2022-25 AEAC work plan.

* Goal #1 - Work with system partners to ensure equitable student access, retention, and completion in order to close the education gap for students of color and low-income students.

*Team: Babs, Diane, Kristen, Aaron, Kenny and Christy*

Objectives and Strategies for Goal #1)

1. Observe & learn: Gather information on what barriers and obstacles are preventing equitable education access, retention, and completion rates for students of color and low-income students.
2. Solutions & stories: Identify and prioritize solutions to the barriers and obstacles identified in strategy A, the investment required to address with the highest ROI, and gather stories to support.
3. Influence & advocate: Find ways to take strategies and stories identified in strategy B to influencers and stakeholders who can help make them happen. Who do we talk to, when, where, and what do we say?
* Goal 2: Advocate for innovative education and career pathways that advance current and graduates of Basic Education for Adults students into living wages and to achieve their career goals.

*Team: Ricardo, Anne, Courtney, Katrina, Paul, Eleni and MarcusAntonio*

Objectives and Strategies for Goal #2)

1. Research, identify and share best practices and innovative programs.
2. Ensure employers understand the value of hiring current and graduated BEdA students.
3. Educate- Ensure students understand the career options available to them and have resources to explore those options.
* Goal 3: Promote training and information sharing on college and career pathways for faculty and staff statewide to support and advance the Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP) and Workforce and Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) plans.

*Team: Amy, Lin, Nancy, Heidi and Will*

Objectives and Strategies for Goal #3)

1. Have better informed faculty and staff - reduce duplication of services and misinformation.

## New Member Short Bio’s

Kelli Graham: My name is Kelli Graham. I grew up on Camano Island, Washington and have lived in the Seattle area for the past 16 years. My journey in Adult Education began while I was a student at Everett Community College. I got a Work Study job in the Writing Center. I especially enjoyed supporting immigrant and refugee students, so I decided to pursue education in TESOL (teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). While in school, I learned about Hopelink, a community-based organization (CBO) located in north and east King County and started volunteering as an English language instructor. That was in 2010. I have been at Hopelink ever since! Currently, I manage the Adult Education program. I love the flexible, responsive, collaborative, relational way CBOs operate to meet the needs of community members, which is probably why I have stayed put. CBOs play an integral role in the college/career journeys of so many individuals. News of Hopelink students enrolling in college, completing job training programs, or getting job offers never gets old.

Lucretia Robertson serves as the Director of Human Resources and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Kitsap Regional Library where she works to operationalize equity, cultivate an inclusive culture and ensure a more accessible organization in order to better serve patrons and staff. Her greatest hope is that the Library would be a place where everyone feels safe, valued and a sense of belonging. Prior to returning to the Library, Lucretia held the role of Director of Operations for the YWCA Kitsap County.

An experienced DEI leader and strategic planner with a background in organizational development, human resources and training, Lucretia brings proven leadership to complex workplace culture and change management issues. Lucretia prioritizes collaboration, equity, and workplace wellness in her work with teams and leadership.

Lucretia is the principal of Clarity Partnerships, a black-owned, women-led micro-consultancy firm that works with organizations desiring to elevate women's visibility in leadership. Clarity works with organizations committed to accelerating WoC leadership. More recently, she is the founder of Women Who Rise, a nonprofit dedicated to elevating women-powered leadership by providing WoC, in informal and formal leadership roles, access to positive mentorship, leadership development, board governance training and tools for confident and resilient leadership.

Lucretia serves on various committees and boards including Kitsap Community Resources, Leadership Kitsap and was formerly an Equity Advisory Committee Member for the Puget Sound Regional Council. Lucretia loves fried rice, banana pancakes, police procedurals like CSI and Elementary, coffee+ and sunny days above 75 degrees.

She is a mom to two intelligent, outspoken and self-assured daughters who she hopes will one day use their voices to instigate change where needed.

## Action Items

1. The teams will meet in-between now and our February meeting to work on some of these tasks.