

# Renton Results, Strategies, and Activities

## **BACKGROUND**

In October, 2005, an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of a diverse group of Renton residents encompassing business owners, educators, non-profit service providers, Councilmembers, and members of the Human Services Advisory Committee was appointed to participate in a planning process to identify what conditions of well-being they wanted to see for the Renton community (results). They identified seven **Results**. An additional two results have been added.

The Committee then identified 38 strategies and activities they knew would work to improve the results. They were asked to do this, in the context of the community – and not specifically those that fit under the definition of “human services.”

The list of strategies and activities identified below are suggestions only. The Committee recognized that non-profit agencies providing services to the Renton community have expertise in their service areas and can develop other strategies and activities that will achieve the indicated Result.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

Child=less than 12 years old; Youth=12 to 18 years old

Result: A condition of well-being for the residents of Renton

Strategy: A broad, non-specific statement of an approach to improving a Result

Activity: A service or action that contributes to the implementation of a Strategy

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## **RESULT #1: All children and youth are ready for educational success, work, and life.**

Strategy A: Increase the number of Developmental Assets for youth

### Activities:

1. Increase youth opportunities to learn about community engagement through mentoring, job sharing, leadership training
2. Support a variety of mentoring programs
3. Increase youth employment opportunities through training/hiring
4. Expand the pool of adults who will help teens/youths get involved
5. Increase opportunities for business owners to contribute resources and time to schools
6. Increase youth leadership
7. Include youth on councils and commissions (low-cost)

Strategy B: Families and children have services and programs that support their success in schools and access to them.

### Activities:

1. Increase access to Play and Learn Groups for parents and caregivers
2. Increase access to resources and support in a user-appropriate, understandable manner
3. Support after-school programs and other programs that are easily accessible or provide transportation home after the program
4. Involve business owners in providing information to their employees (low-cost)

Strategy C: Encourage parents to read to their children

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### **RESULT #2: Individuals have adequate clothing, food, housing, and healthcare.**

Strategy A: Increase and maintain affordable (adequate) housing

Activities:

1. Improve residents' ability to keep residences in good repair
2. City employees have access to information that can help troubled homeowners/residents

Strategy B: Increase the capacity of programs that provide food, clothing, housing and healthcare, and residents' access to them

Strategy C: Improve our understanding of community needs

### **RESULT #3: All individuals become as self-sufficient as possible.**

Strategy A: Provide residents with the skills to obtain living wage jobs (such as language and job training skills)

Activities:

1. Expand availability of effective English-language learner (ELL) classes
2. Decentralize ELL classes (e.g., at businesses)

Strategy B: Expand small business opportunities

Strategy C: Improve financial literacy (for example, knowledge of household budgeting, use of checking and savings accounts, getting and maintaining credit)

Activities:

1. Promote financial education
2. Increase the ability of people to reduce debt and improve their credit
3. Support Earned Income Tax Credit sites to help people maximize their incomes
4. Create an inventory of agencies and programs currently providing financial literacy, money management, and budget training and identifying strategies to increase capacity

### **RESULT #4: Residents know about domestic violence and how to keep safe.**

Strategy A: Increase education about healthy relationships

Activities:

1. Prevention education
2. Programs for kids
3. Anti-bullying programs
4. Workplace domestic violence education
5. Improve in-school domestic violence curricula

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Strategy B: Increase access to information about domestic violence

Activities:

1. Create and use educational materials in languages used by the residents of Renton
2. Increase public service announcements

Strategy C: Increase the amount of domestic violence services and programs

Strategy D: Assure that domestic violence services are culturally competent (for example, agency is responsive to cultural norms, values and beliefs of the client, addresses needs in a culturally appropriate manner that encourages participation, reduces cultural barriers to service, and recognizes and respects cultural diversity)

### **RESULT #5: All residents are proactive to issues of sexual assault and sexual violence.**

Strategy A: Increase the ability of service providers to respond and act when sexual assault is suspected or confirmed

Strategy B: Increase the capacity to provide sexual assault services

Strategy C: Improve the ability of people to talk about sexual assault as a normal topic

Activity: Help parents and adults find ways to talk with children about sexual assault

Strategy D: Improve access to sexual assault services

### **RESULT #6: All residents are healthy and safe.**

Strategy: Improve community fitness (physical activity/nutrition)

### **RESULT #7: All residents identify with and contribute to their community.**

Strategy: Promote volunteerism

Activities:

1. Develop a centralized volunteer opportunity location
2. Promote volunteer solutions

### **RESULT #8: End Homelessness in Renton**

Strategy A: Provide services to prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.

Activities:

1. Provide shallow subsidies (for example, financial assistance from \$200-500 per month for a set amount of time)
2. Provide one time emergency assistance (rent, utilities, water bill assistance)

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3. Provide case management and services to enable families and individuals to become self sufficient.

Strategy B: Assist those who are in the cycle of homelessness to obtain housing.

Activities:

1. Outreach and provide services to chronically homeless persons in Renton.
2. Provide case management and services to increase the ability of homeless men in A.R.I.S.E. to find stable housing and become self sufficient.
3. Work with institutions such as the Renton Municipal jail, treatment facilities and foster care to require/provide exit planning for at risk individuals prior to release.

**Result #9: Connect People to Services** (To be considered, 51% or more of an agency's request for funding must go toward connecting people to services).

Strategy: Increase the ability of Renton residents to access services.

Activities:

1. Provide crisis lines or referral systems that increase access to services.
2. Increase access to services by providing transportation to that service (for example, senior volunteer transportation).