

## **Fair Deal for Foster Kids**

We believe that kids deserve a fair deal in Olympia to help them thrive at home and in life. To achieve this goal, we will support policies that fall into the following three buckets:

- **REFORM SYSTEMS: Establish and stabilize system reforms that improve performance outcomes and accountability**
  - ❖ Enact legislation creating the Department of Children, Youth and Families including the Office of Innovation and Alignment.
  - ❖ Expand performance based contracting per SHB 2264.
  
- **SUPPORT CHILDREN: Stabilize placements and permanency for foster children**
  - ❖ Expand foster parent pool through recruitment and retention strategies that increase training and support for foster parents.
  - ❖ Stabilize the workforce: lower caseloads and increase support for caseworkers, including foster parent liaisons
  - ❖ Establish a compensation structure that adequately reflects caseworker responsibilities.
  - ❖ Expand Mockingbird Family Model.
  - ❖ Expand Wendy's Wonderful Kids to increase permanency for hard to place, legally free foster children.
  - ❖ Provide educational stability and support for high school graduation through Graduation Success.
  
- **REUNIFY FAMILIES: Support reunification of families**
  - ❖ Improve parent child visitation through policy changes and funding for transportation services.
  - ❖ Restore funding for Family Reconciliation Services