

Washing State Budget Proposals are out....

Both the Governor's and Senate Budget Proposals call for the closure of Frances Haddon Morgan Center (FHMC) in Bremerton.

The Governor calls for creation of State Operated Living Alternatives and Expansion of Community Services & Supports to affect the transfer of FHMC clients.

The Senate calls for FHMC to be closed and all residents relocated to "other appropriate community and institutional settings".

The House budget calls for the closure of one residential cottage at Rainier School. It further asks for an independent needs assessment for each resident of the state's residential habilitation centers. The assessment must include what, if any alternative placements would be appropriate for each client.

All budgets call for additional reductions in "Institutional Funding."

The Governor and the Senate need to be made aware of the needs of the residents of FHMC. A short timeframe for closure does not ensure appropriate, safe moves. Multiple moves would be harmful to many of the FHMC residents.

Only the RHCs have a NO REJECT policy in place.

You may wish to contact the Governor and the Senate and ask them to rethink their positions regarding closure of Frances Haddon Morgan Center.

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Other assistance: Contact Terri Anderson 425.788.4529/WinchesterWillie@comcast.net