



Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

January 30, 2020

Dear Governor Inslee,

Please accept Goodwill of the Olympics and Rainier Region's (GORR) letter of support for the **Poverty Reduction Work Group's 10-year Plan for the Future to reduce poverty and inequality in Washington state**. For the past two years, PRWG has worked diligently to develop a plan that, if implemented, will meaningfully and measurably reduce poverty and inequality in Washington state. We are grateful to you for your support of poverty reduction, and look forward to bringing the plan to action.

Reducing poverty and inequality is extremely important to the mission of Goodwill of the Olympics and Rainier Region. Our vision is that every person has the opportunity to learn, work and thrive in all aspects of life. We have people come through our doors every day that are in need of not only opportunity to achieve their vision for their lives, but also need our support in dismantling and removing the many barriers that hinder them from accomplishing that vision. The Poverty Reduction Work Group's 10-year plan for the Future has critical recommendations to help us as a community create a more equitable Washington in which those in poverty have the needed support to thrive.

We understand that the PRWG co-lead agencies will be conducting a series of community engagement meetings and finalizing the *10-year Plan for the Future* this summer. We look forward to supporting their efforts. In the meantime, we urge your continued support of the strategic plan and taking immediate steps to begin implementing it by:

- Directing state agencies to write action plans to fulfill the strategies outlined in the plan;
- Elevating the influence and expertise of people most affected by poverty in the implementation of the plan;
- Committing to the ongoing importance of this work through ensuring your cabinet builds internal structure in their agencies to support the recommendations through the ten year time frame;
- Funding the PRWG's short-term priorities in the next budget cycle.



We believe these actions will lay a strong foundation for the full implementation of the plan over the next 10 years, and provide immediate, urgent relief for the 1.8 million Washingtonians currently struggling to make ends meet in communities throughout our state.

Thank you for supporting the Poverty Reduction Work Group and your passion for making Washington state a place where every child, adults, and family can thrive. If we can do anything further to support this effort, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori F. Harnick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being the most prominent.

Lori F. Harnick
President and Chief Executive Officer
Goodwill of the Olympics and Rainier Region