Reimagine Visiting Project

STATEWIDE FAMILY COUNCIL UPDATE

MAY 16, 2026

Department of Corrections
WASHINGTON STATE

Overview

The Reimagine Visiting project team was formed in May 2025 and was tasked with examining how families, visitors, and friends connect with incarcerated individuals through visiting and to determine where improvements can be made.

Recommendations were approved by agency leadership in October 2025, and the team immediately began implementational. Given the scale and number of recommendations, implementation will continue through at least June 2027.

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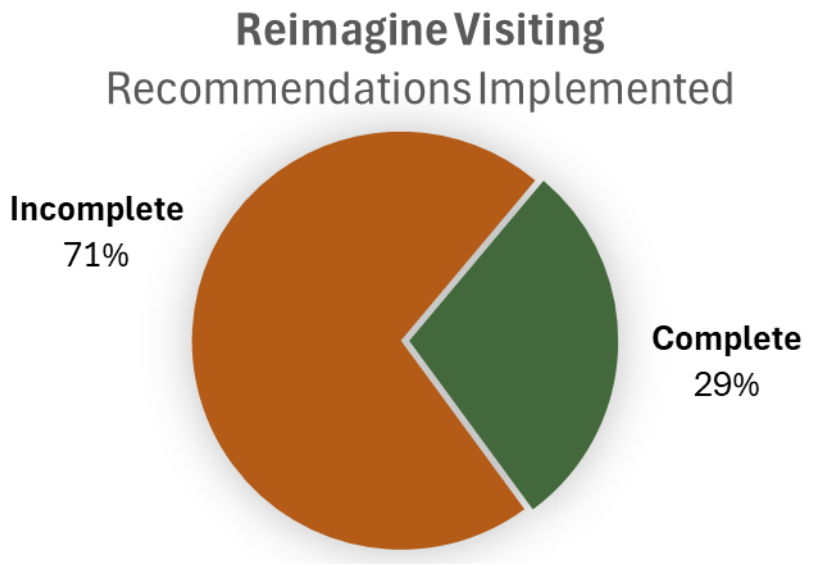
Current Status

The lists of recommendations has been refined since the *Reimagine Visiting Project Report* that was released in December 2025. Through combining similar recommendations and expanding others, the project team is tracking implementation of 59 project deliverables.

Workstream	Total	Complete	Incomplete
Comms	10	3	7
Data	2	1	1
Food Services	5	0	5
Family Programs	4	0	4
Funding	10	9	1
Facility Ops	10	2	8
Policy	13	2	11
Training	5	0	5
Totals	**59**	**17**	**42**



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Implementation Completed

Recommendation		Outcome	Finish
1	The work of the Reimagine Visiting team should be communicated publicly and internally.	December 2025 report	December-25
2	Release March quarterly report.	Update	March-26
3	Create and distribute a monthly DOC newsletter to families.	Newsletter	December-25
4	Support additional data collection to monitor the success of changes to the visiting program.	Ongoing data collection	December-25
5	Permit families, especially children, to take home drawings, coloring pages, or crafts created during visitation with their incarcerated loved ones.	Protocol update	December-25
6	Develop recommended Post Orders that include clear expectations that visit staff always remain courteous and professional.	Wording released for adoption	March-26
7	Modify video visit rules (disallow tablets for phones, disallow standing).	Video visit rules revision	April-26
8	Remove visit application question regarding felony convictions (new)	Visit application revision	March-26

Implementation Completed

Recommendation		Outcome	Finish
9	Allow visitors to submit one LTAP request per visitor per incarcerated individual per month.	Lodging & Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP) revisions	February-26
10	Explore automating the LTAP application using current technology.		February-26
11	Move to an allowance framework from a reimbursement framework.		February-26
12	Visitors can apply for allowance after the visit up to $100 per month. Reduce distance requirement to 120.		February-26
13	Move to a weekly payment cadence from monthly.		February-26
14	Exceptions to the process that provide travel allowances for eligible visitors confirmed to have visited a full visiting room.		February-26
15	Exceptions to the process that provide travel allowances to eligible visitors confirmed to have visited a closed visiting room.		April-26
16	Increase community awareness of the LTAP program by creating additional messaging.	Flyers, card, posters	March-26
17	Establish a new family friendly program that makes use of the IIBF to provide funding for facilities to create one-time children's events in support of Washington Way principles,	IIBF Children's Events Initiative (CEI)	May-26