

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: May 2, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m.

[Join meeting here](#)

Call-in Option: 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID # 819 4100 9121

Passcode # 030686

**In person: Port Blakley Conference Room, KC Administration Building
614 Division St., Port Orchard, 98366**

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF April 4, 2023 MINUTES***
- 4. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**
 - B. Transition Student Update**
 - C. Virtual Kitsap County Resource Fair Update**
- 6. COMMUNITY INPUT**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - B. Advocacy Reports**
 - C. 2023 Community Summit Update**
 - D. South Sound Parent to Parent - Sylvia Davenport and Angie Gomez**
 - E. Contracts 2023-2024**
 - F. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
 - G. Provider Updates**
 - H. Officer Report**
 - a) Transportation-Heidi S.**
 - I. Staff Report**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

* = Indicates action item

**KITSAP COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

5:00pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday, April 4, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF March 7, 2023, MINUTES***

MOTION: Rae Williams moved to approve March 7, 2023, minutes with Donna Gearns seconded. Motion carried.

4. **ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

MOTION: Donna Gearns moved to approve to the agenda with no amendments Jennifer Acuna seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Updates on federal employment efforts and the Employment First Coalition (EFC) activities including, Partners for Work (PFW) was provided:
 - Kelly has meeting next week with the supervisor of the two HR federal employees she met with back in February. After they followed up with their leadership, he asked for this meeting to discuss supported employment and possible next steps.
 - Kingston Rotary club that has been interested in hiring a greeter finally have a potential candidate to consider.
 - Bainbridge Island Rotary is hosting the mock interview event on April 17th; there will be 3 job seekers participating; the job seekers industries of interest have been shared with the club's Vocational Services committee and the plan is to schedule job tours with each job seeker following the event.
 - The EFC subcommittee focused on outreach to the business contacts shared at the KEDA event; to date they have not gotten any responses back from those businesses after following up.

- ii. A list of community businesses with supported employees on staff was shared, list of employers also available online.

b. Transition Student Update

- i. 2022 School to Work (S2W) class, another former S2W student was recently hired.
- ii. 2023 School to Work class, had three additional students hired this month; a total of 4, S2W students are working.
- iii. 2024 Job Foundation activities almost completed for all students participating.
- iv. Kelly shared a reminder on the upcoming IEP Workshop/Clinic facilitated by PAVE on April 19th with the topic of High School Transition at OESD from 11am to 1 pm.
- v. Kelly attended the final Universal Design for Learning (UDL) three-part webinar in March focused on inclusionary practices for students with disabilities, presenters shared they will continue to be working with the state's school systems in planning and incorporating concepts.
- vi. Jennifer shared an update on senate proposals for inclusionary practices and noted monies are being proposed for continuation.

c. 2023 Virtual Kitsap County Resource Fair

- i. The virtual fair kicked off April 3rd. Kelly toured the fair website highlighting the featured programs, agencies, and services. The webpage covering early learning services contained Autism resource navigation and contact information; the employment services page shared provider success stories as well as stats; and the transition services page included the job foundation informational video which is available in multiple languages. Holly Ridge staff and Kitsap County Parent Coalition Coordinator helped county staff in planning and coordinating this year's virtual fair.

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

- a. Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) Coordinator shared upcoming events:
 - i. Neuro-diversity Night on April 5th at Ashley Pub's in Bremerton, Monica Meyer will present;
 - ii. On April 11th from 6-8 pm, Monica Meyer will provide an overview of autism, Autism 101;
 - iii. On April 26th from 6-8 pm the monthly KCPC meeting will

- be held; the topic is how to advocate for your child to get the right diagnosis; Dr. Violeta Gomes will be presenting.
- iv. Flyers and registration details for upcoming events on the KCPC website: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org>; for more information contact Melia at 360-373-2502, ext. 100.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Legislative and Budget Update

- i. The Governor, House, and Senate budgets are out as well as the weekly Bills of Interest. Kelly sent an updated Bills of Interest to the board for review. The focus is now on reconciling all three to develop the final budget. Areas that were addressed in all three budgets were discussed. Highlights included:
- Funds to support community housing options and decrease unnecessary hospitalizations, a variety of items were proposed that included:
 - an AFH pilot project; expanding diversion bed capacity; increasing mobile diversion services; increasing rates to SL providers, assisted living providers; rate parity to home care agencies; creation of a new program for people with I/DD who are in hospitals but not eligible for services due to their immigration status; increase rates and training opportunities to providers who support people with complex needs.
 - Continued funding for Dan Thompson projects beyond June; clarified it is for all money in the account.
 - Funds to support Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes, (ECHO); increase funds for developmental screenings and assessments; increase reimbursement rates for ABA therapy; and increase the cap on special education funding from 13.5% to 15%.
- ii. The proposed rate increase in both the House and Senate budgets for IE and CI services was discussed; both were the same rates as proposed in the governor's budget; as noted at previous meetings that rate is well below the recommended rates from the cost study that was submitted to the Legislature back in October. The department asked the county commissioners to write a

letter of support for the cost study rate recommendations and it was sent to the House/Senate last week; DDA is allowing counties flexibility for the remainder of the contract period beginning in April to fund provider stabilization through June 2023 with existing unspent funds.

- iii. Karen Williams, Trillium's Executive Director, and president elect of the statewide provider organization, Community Employment Alliance (CEA) shared that the staffing crisis is having a significant impact on agencies ability to provide services. Sees low paying wages as a major impact to hiring skilled/necessary staff and the importance of advocating for increases. Karen also explained the hourly wage breakdown, it has been 12 years since a rate increase, and the breakout of various expenses within the organization, including billable hours. Karen also discussed the long-term consequences and impact on the entire system and services when agencies are unable to attract and retain staff.

b. Advocacy Reports

- i. Kimberly Adams shared they are working with Communitas as potential place to hold in person People First meetings.

c. 2023 Community Summit Update

Registration has not opened yet; anticipate it should happen soon with details forwarded out once this happens.

d. Salish Youth Network Collaborative (SYNC), Salish BH-ASO

- i. Brian provided an overview and PPT presentation of the Salish Youth Network Collaborative (SYNC) program, new to the Salish BHASO. SYNC services youth 0 – 18 years old and their families with complex behavioral health needs via referral for the three counties – Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap, regardless of income. SYNC will assist those over 18 years old with locating resources. The purpose of the program is to pull services together and create a collaborative system among providers to streamline the process working with the systems already in place. Those interested should contact the Salish-bhaso@kitsap.gov. The website launches on Monday, April 17th and the program will present at the Commission on Children and Youth meeting on April 6th.
 - SYNC does not provide treatment services, nor increase beds in the state but will seek to increase availability of resources. Also planning to create outreach and communications resources to go out to hospitals.

e. Board Officer Elections

- i. Two nominations were received, Sandra LaCelle for Chair and Donna Gearns for Vice Chair.

MOTION: Sandy LeCelle nominated for chair and Donna Gearns nominated for vice chair. The board moved approve to the nominations as presented. Motion carried.

f. DDA/DVR Updates

- i. Kim McCarty shared Intake and Eligibility staff will be on-site at their office in Bremerton on Monday, Tuesday, and Fridays. DDA recruiting for case managers in Bremerton continues.
- ii. Kelly shared that DDA appointed an interim DDA assistant secretary, Dr. Tonik Joseph as Debbie Roberts resigned from that position last month; DDA is currently recruiting for a permanent replacement. Kelly also shared a handout on an upcoming documentary screening, *UNSEEN: How We're Failing Parent Caregivers & Why It Matters*, on April 19th focused on parent caregiver challenges. Those interested can register to attend in-person or online.

g. Provider Updates

None

h. Officer Report

- i. Discussion continued regarding meetings. With most meetings held throughout the year with a virtual option, it was agreed to keep the meeting day on Tuesday; there will be in-person only meetings held twice a year, in March and September.

i. Staff Report

- ii. Kelly shared South Sound now hosting parent-to-parent contract through the State Arc of Washington as of April 1st. They will expand the current counties they are serving to include Jefferson and Kitsap counties. They plan to hire a local P2P coordinator; Sylvia and Angie will attend a future board meeting to provide an overview.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m. The May 2023 meeting will be Tuesday, May 2, 2023, it will be held both in-person at the Port Blakely Conference Room and virtually via Zoom.

* = Indicates action items

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS	GUESTS/ORGANIZATIONS	STAFF
<u>Present</u> Sandra LaCelle Donna Gearns Frances Aquiningoc Jennifer Acuna Rae Williams Jennifer Crider Shannon Turner <u>Absent</u> Veola Taylor Heidi Scheibner Kathy Lougheed	Kim McCarty, DDA Kimberly Adams, Parent Advocate Miranda Fort, Easterseals Sylvia Davenport, South Sound Angie Godinez, South Sound Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition Bryan Gross, Salish BH- ASO, SYNC Karen Williams, Trillium & Community Employment Alliance (CEA)	Kelly Oneal Sonya Miles Kesha Anderson - Evans