

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: April 1, 2025

Time: 5:00 p.m.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 835 7203 2268

Passcode: 691068

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

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF March 4th, 2025 MINUTES***
- 4. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**
 - B. Transition Student Update**
 - C. Accessible Communities Advisory Committee**
 - D. KC Annual Resource Fair Update**
- 6. COMMUNITY INPUT**

Please limit individual comments to 2 minutes. Written comments may also be submitted to the advisory board if this timeframe is insufficient.
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Guest Speaker, Emily Rogers, Public Policy Director, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council**
 - B. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - C. Advocacy Reports**
 - D. Board Officer Elections***
 - E. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
 - F. Provider Updates**
 - G. Officer Report**
 - H. Staff Report**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

* = Indicates action item

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

5:00pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday, March 4, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:02pm. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE February 4, 2025, MINUTES***

MOTION: Shannon Turner moved to approve the February 4, 2025; minutes as presented. Donna Gearn seconded. Motion carried.

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

MOTION: Veola Taylor moved to approve the agenda as presented. Donna Gearn seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Partners for Work (PFW) mock interviews are set up at the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club on May 5, 2025, from 10:30am-11:30am.

B. **Transition Student Update**

- i. 2025 School to Work (STW) – Our 2026 graduating class of 15, is nearly 50% larger than last year. We have already received one Job Foundation Report and anticipate more to come soon.
- ii. Tools 4 Success Conference is scheduled for March 25, 2025, at Tacoma Community College from 8am-1pm. This free in-person conference is designed for transition youth, young adults, and community members who experience a disability to dream, imagine and shape their future. <https://www.tools4successconference.org/>
- iii. A focus group was created for Washington State students with disabilities to make schools more inclusive. Students selected can receive up to \$500 for participating in 5 online meetings. Meetings will be one hour each between late March and late May 2025.

C. **Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (ACAC)**

- i. Justin was happy to share that the accessible front door installation at the Sea Discovery Center in Poulsbo is scheduled for March 12 and 13, 2025. Once completed, SEA is open for a press release

- and photos of the new door.
- ii. The ACAC will be participating in the 2025 Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair on April 23, 2025, from 4pm-6pm to connect with the community and provide resources.

D. KC Annual Resource Fair Update

- i. This year's Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair takes place at Central Kitsap High School Gym in Silverdale on April 23, 2025, from 4pm-6pm.

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

A. Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) Coordinator shared details about upcoming KCPC March and April meetings, highlights included:

- i. KCPC Meeting: Transition Services for High Schoolers with Disabilities is scheduled for March 27 from 6pm-7:30pm via Zoom. Participants will learn about services for students transitioning to adulthood from the Division of Vocational Rehab (DVR), Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities, and Trillium.
- ii. Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) application night is scheduled for April 2 from 6pm-7:30pm via Zoom. Participants will learn about the types of services DDA offers, application timeline, roadmap, and conditions for eligibility. This session will have Spanish Interpreters available.
- iii. For registration details on all upcoming events visit the KCPC events page: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/events/>. You can also contact Melia Hughes at 206-486-0300.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Legislative and Budget Update

- i. Overview of Governor Bob Ferguson's plan to save \$4 billion to address the state budget deficit. Highlights included:
 - Maintain all K-12 education investments totaling more than \$15 billion annually.
 - Maintain all public safety investments for the current biennium, adopting all new investments from the Inslee budget.
 - Maintain Medicaid eligibility for all Washingtonians.
 - Ferguson recommends pausing or phasing in program expansions or rate increases that have not yet been implemented. An example Ferguson proposed was to save \$144 million by gradually expanding proposed rate increases paid to childcare centers over the next four years instead of increasing the rate all at once in July 2025.

- ii. Details about the Arc 2025 Bills of Interest for people with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) was discussed. Highlights included:
 - House Bill 1390 – Requiring the DDA to develop and implement a plan to transition all individuals participating in the Community Protection Program into other services or programs by December 31, 2025. This bill is still moving forward.
 - House Bill 1357 – Increasing the multiplier to 1.15 for the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program for children with disabilities ages birth to 3 that receive early intervention services. This bill is still moving forward.
 - Senate Bill 5253 – This would allow students to stay in school through their 22nd birthday, funding currently stops when the student turns 22.
 - Senate Bill 5394 – Reduces the DDA's no-paid services caseload. This bill is currently ongoing but could affect up to 300 people within the DDA.
 - HB 1158 – This bill is no longer active.
- iii. Advocacy Days 2025 presented by The Arc of Washington State was discussed. Virtual events are currently scheduled along with an in-person rally that follows each event. You can [register here](#) to participate.

B. Advocacy Reports

- i. Medicaid Matters: How to Take Action and Stay Informed was discussed. The Arc of Washington State, Informing Families and Self Advocates in Leadership created a campaign to help people understand and participate in potential changes coming to their Medicaid services. For more information you can visit the Informing Families Medicaid Information page [here](#).

C. Board Officer Nominations

- i. Voting will be held next month. Members can email Heidi or Sandra with their nominations.

D. DDA Caseload Forecast Report

- i. Tabled until the April meeting.

E. DDA/DVR Provider Updates

- i. Kim shared that DDA is fully staffed, and they have completed the service request list that dated back to July 2024.
- ii. DDA is currently working on 2-minute videos to post on their YouTube channel based on services they provide. These videos include Community Engagement, Community Inclusion, Supported Employment, Waiver Transportation, Respite Care, and many

- others. You can view the posted videos [here](#).
- iii. DDA presented informative videos to students at North Kitsap High School in February and are currently working on creating new Community Engagement videos. More details to come.
 - iv. DDA will be hosting an application event night at the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe on March 12, 2025, in Kingston.
 - v. To receive DDA information updates and alerts, go to [Department of Social and Health Service's Developmental Disabilities Administration \(govdelivery.com\)](#) to sign up.

F. Provider Updates

- i. Trillium shared that they are expanding their Inclusion Consultant positions and are starting to build their caseload.
- ii. On February 19, 2025, Trillium gathered in Olympia for the statewide Employment Advocacy Day hosted by The Arc of Washington State. Trillium had nearly 30 clients, staff, and a board member attend to advocate protecting community-based services that support individuals and employers across Washington.
- iii. Alicia with Holly Ridge Center shared that their overall referrals were down in November and December but have stabilized to start the new year. Holly Ridge Center hired a new teacher and are currently looking for a new speech therapist.

G. Officer Report

- i. Sandra and the rest of the board showed their appreciation for Kelly as this was her last meeting before retirement.

H. Staff Report

- i. The 2025 Community Summit: Uniting for Impact, Engaging for Change will be virtual only and is scheduled for June 4, 2025, from 8:30am-5pm. Planning is currently underway to set up local watch parties for this year's event, more details to come.
- ii. The ECHO Autism Communities Symposium is a virtual event scheduled for April 3, 2025, from 6am-1:30pm. At this free symposium event, experts and participants learn together about specific topics to enhance services, access, care, and advocacy within the autism community. You can [register here](#) to participate.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 1, 2025, both in-person and via Zoom.

* = Indicates action items

ATTENDANCE		
MEMBERS	GUESTS / ORGANIZATIONS	STAFF
<u>Present</u> Sandra LaCelle Donna Gearns Shannon Turner Jennifer Crider Kathy Lougheed Veola Taylor <u>Absent</u> Jennifer Acuna Cindy Bonilla Rae Williams	Kim McCarty – DDA Melia Hughes – Kitsap County Parent Coalition Marina Jacobson – Trillium Alicia Skelly – Holly Ridge Center	Kelly Oneal Heidi Scheibner Justin Wing