

## **Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board**

**Date: May 6, 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**

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### **A G E N D A**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF April 1st, 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**
  - E. Community Summit**
- 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, Heidi Jo Johnson, MSW, MHP, LMHC  
Developmental Disability Specialist & Liaison Kitsap Mental Health**
  - B. Legislative and Budget Update**
  - C. Contracts**
  - D. Parent 2 Parent**
  - E. Advocacy Reports**
  - F. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
  - G. Provider Updates**
  - H. Officer Report**
  - I. Staff Report**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

\* = Indicates action item

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

5:00pm – 6:30pm  
Tuesday, April 1, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE March 4, 2025, MINUTES\***

*MOTION: Jennifer Acuna moved to approve the March 4, 2025; minutes as presented. Donna Gearns seconded. Motion carried.*

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

*MOTION: Donna Gearns moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jennifer Acuna seconded. Motion carried.*

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Partners for Work (PFW) mock interviews are scheduled at the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club on May 5, 2025, from 10:30am-11:30am. Currently there are four students looking for jobs and participating in the interviews.

B. **Transition Student Update**

- i. 2024 School to Work (STW) – No changes. We have received Job Foundation Reports for 19 students.
- ii. 2025 School to Work (STW) – Currently there are 5 students that are employed.
- iii. 2026 School to Work (STW) – Currently 15 students are participating in Job Foundation.

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

- i. Justin was happy to share that the accessible front door at the Sea Discovery Center (SEA) in Poulsbo was successfully installed in March. Once the SEA logo is put on the door ACAC members will meet at SEA to celebrate the completion of the project.
- 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. 67 vendors are expected, and preparation is moving along great in anticipation for the fair.

### **6. COMMUNITY INPUT**

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

- i. 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.
- ii. School to Adulthood: Planning the Path is scheduled for April 9 from 4pm-5:30pm via Zoom. This session will provide information to parents, guardians, and professionals who assist students with disabilities in planning a path for their future.
- iii. Building Community for Neurodivergent (ND) and Autistic Adults, Teens, and Families is scheduled for April 24 from 6pm-7:30pm via Zoom. Participants will learn about new local events for ND and Autistic people including the importance of inclusive community building and generating ideas for topics and activities for future events.
- iv. 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. Emily Rogers – Public Policy Director, Washington State DD Council**

- i. Emily shared an overview of the Medicaid Matters: How to Take Action and Stay Informed campaign created by The Arc of Washington State, Informing Families and Self Advocates in Leadership. Highlights included:
  - A series of videos were created to share information related to what Medicaid is, who uses it, and how it impacts lives across the community. These videos explain how the Medicaid system supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Washington, and how you can take action to protect these services. You can access the videos [here](#).
  - Share Your Story: Medicaid Matters – Creating a story will help the Informing Families team explain why Medicaid Matters to you and will also provide a resource to help

people that need additional information and clarification about the uncertainty surrounding Medicaid. If you're interested in creating a video and sharing your story you can fill out the form [here](#).

## **B. Legislative and Budget Update**

- i. 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 1472 – Closing the Yakima Valley School and Rainier School is currently moving forward.
  - Senate Bill 5253 – This would allow students to stay in school through their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday, currently students exit when the student turns 22.
  - House Bill 1130 – Prioritizes waivers distribution, including individuals over the age of 45.
  - 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.
- ii. The 2025 Budget Side By Side showing the differences between former Governor Inslee and current Governor Ferguson was discussed. Highlights included:
  - Day Habilitation Program Support – Referenced both in the House and Senate.
  - Program Underspend: Employment and Day

## **C. Advocacy Reports**

- i. Outgoing People First (PF) President Cathy Borelli introduced the newly elected PF President of the Kitsap Chapter, Leah Beth. Leah shared updates about the PF Kitsap Chapter and events they have attended. Highlights included:
  - PF continues to meet the first Thursday of each month from 4pm-5:30pm at Communitas in Bremerton.
  - Cathy and Leah will be representing PF at the upcoming Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair on April 23 in Silverdale.
  - Two members of the PF Kitsap Chapter attended the Washington State Capitol Rally in March.
  - WISE and their representatives will begin training with PF starting in May.

**D. Board Officer Elections\***

- i. The board nominated and voted for Sandra LaCelle to remain as chair, and Donna Gearns to remain as vice-chair.

*MOTION: The board moved to approve the nomination of Sandra LaCelle as Chair.  
Motion carried.*

*MOTION: The board moved to approve the nomination of Donna Gearns as Vice-Chair. Motion carried.*

**E. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**

- i. To receive DDA information updates and alerts, go to [Department of Social and Health Service's Developmental Disabilities Administration \(govdelivery.com\)](https://govdelivery.com) to sign up.

**F. Provider Updates**

- i. None.

**G. Officer Report**

- i. None.

**H. Staff Report**

- i. None.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:06pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 6, 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 Veola Taylor Rae Williams Jennifer Acuna	Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition Emily Rogers, Public Policy Officer Washington State DD Council Cathy Borelli, Kitsap People First Leah Beth, Kitsap People First Cathy Bisailon, EasterSeals Kimberly Adams, South Sound Parent to Parent	Heidi Scheibner Justin Wing Doug Washburn
<u>Absent</u> Cindy Bonilla Kathy Lougheed		