

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: June 3, 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
619 Division St., Port Orchard**

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF May 6th, 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**
- 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. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - B. Contracts***
 - C. Parent Coalition RFP**
 - D. Advocacy Reports**
 - 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, May 6, 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 April 1, 2025, MINUTES***

MOTION: Veola Taylor moved to approve the April 1, 2025; minutes as presented. Donna Gearns seconded. Motion carried.

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

MOTION: Donna Gearns moved to approve the agenda as presented. Shannon Turner seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Partners for Work (PFW) mock interviews took place at the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club on May 5, 2025. Two job seekers practiced interviewing. After the event the Rotary reached out about hiring a Greeter.

B. **Transition Student Update**

- i. 2025 School to Work (STW) – Two students are currently employed.
- ii. 2026 School to Work (STW) – Job Foundation reports are nearly finished, students in this cohort will begin STW July 1st.
- iii. 2027 School to Work (STW) – Kirsten is currently gathering student lists to start the process for STW 2027.

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

- i. Justin was happy to share that ACAC members and select county staff will be meeting at Sea Discovery Center in Poulsbo on Friday, May 9, 2025, to celebrate the installation of the accessible front door.

D. **KC Annual Resource Fair Update**

- i. The Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair took place at Central Kitsap High School Gym in Silverdale on April 23, 2025. There

were over 200 attendees along with 61 vendors that participated, it was a tremendous turnout. Heidi shared that there will be a debrief meeting with the planning committee to discuss next year's fair.

E. Community Summit

- i. The 2025 Community Summit is a virtual event, which takes place on June 4, 2025. Pierce and Kitsap County's have partnered together to create an in-person watch party, which will give people the opportunity to meet and network with other local community members, participate in live discussions, and to make your voice heard. The watch party is located at the Marriot in downtown Tacoma and is limited to the first 150 people. To register for the in-person watch party, [visit the event registration page](#).

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

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

- i. Sensory Strategies for Participating in the Community is scheduled for May 12, 2025, from 5:30pm-8:30pm, via Zoom. This training explores the five senses and additional sensory factors impacting community participation.
- ii. For registration details on all upcoming events visit the KCPC events page: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/events>.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Heidi Jo Johnson – Developmental Disability Specialist & Liaison Kitsap Mental Health

- i. Heidi shared an overview of her position at Kitsap Mental Health (KMH) and the processes she follows. Highlights included:
 - In order for a person to utilize Heidi's services they must be both a DDA and KMH client. Heidi is authorized to assist people in coordinating a Priority Intake at KMH but in order for a person to qualify as a KMH client, they must receive a mental health diagnosis at Intake.
 - Heidi provides direct services to KMH and DDA clients and their caregivers as 90% of her work is spent serving DDA clients with Authorizations from DDA called Stabilization Services. In order to qualify for these services, DDA and KMH clients must be at immense risk of losing their housing or at risk of a mental health crisis in order for these services to be authorized by the DDA.
 - When a client has a Stabilization Authorization Heidi can provide direct teaching skills that will assist them with reaching their goals along with teaching and training

- caregivers and families how to best care for a Client.
- Heidi provides consultation with DDA, family, and caregivers regarding the clients existing DDA Plan of Care and makes referrals and recommendations based upon her work with the client.

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:
 - Senate Bill 5393 – Closing the Rainier School has passed after over multiple amendments. No new long-term admissions will be allowed at the facility starting from the bill's effective date, with all admissions ceasing by June 30, 2027. The bill will allow current residents to stay at the facility indefinitely.
- ii. Details about the 2025 Budget Side By Side was discussed. Highlights included:
 - There is a 50 million dollar reduction line item for Employment and Day and Individual and Family services. More clarification is needed on the impact.
 - Senate Bill 5263: Eliminates the 16% enrollment cap on special education funding. This bill also increases the special education funding multiplier and adjusts the safety net threshold, aiming to provide more funding for districts to support students with disabilities.
 - House Bill 1272: Extending the Children in Crisis program to address complex cases by creating a Rapid Care Response Team. The rapid care response team will ensure that resources are effectively identified and mobilized for people who meet the definition of child in crisis and a youth or young adult leaving a publicly funded system of care.
- iii. Effective May 1, 2025, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) consolidated key functions previously managed by the Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Aging and Long-Term Support Administrations into two core entities.
 - Behavioral Health and Habilitation Administration: This division will oversee state-operated settings and manage comprehensive behavioral health and habilitation services.
 - Home and Community Living Administration: This division focuses on coordinating home and community-based services to better support clients in their own environments.

C. Contracts

- i. Tabled until the June meeting.

D. Parent 2 Parent

- i. Tabled until the June meeting.

E. Advocacy Reports

- i. None.

F. DDA/DVR Provider Updates

- i. Shannon Bryant shared while there is a waitlist for some, in the Kitsap office it is minimal.
- ii. 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.

G. Provider Updates

- i. Marina with Trillium shared that job development has picked up; they have nine jobs for the year so far. Trillium has hired two new staff members; one Employment Consultant and one Inclusion Consultant.

H. Officer Report

- i. None.

I. Staff Report

- i. None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 3, 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 Cindy Bonilla <u>Absent</u> Kathy Lougheed Jennifer Acuna	Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition Marina Jacobsen, Trillium Shannon Bryant, DVR Heidi Jo Johnson, Kitsap Mental Health Nina Old Coyote, Suquamish Tribe Human Services Program Manager	Heidi Scheibner Justin Wing