

The Mission of the developmental disabilities advisory board is to promote choice, opportunity, and support for people with disabilities in an enhanced community where all people are included, respected, and dignified.

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: May 7, 2024

Time: 5:00 p.m.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

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

Meeting ID # 885 2209 4285

Passcode # 366530

**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 April 2, 2024 MINUTES***
- 4. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**
 - B. Transition Student Update**
 - C. Accessible Communities Advisory Committee Update**
 - D. 2024 Kitsap County Resource Fair Update**
- 6. COMMUNITY INPUT**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - B. Advocacy Reports**
 - C. Building Inclusive Communities Video**
 - D. Resource Guides**
 - E. Contracts 2024-2025**
 - F. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
 - G. Provider Updates**
 - H. Officer Report**
 - I. Staff Report**
 - KRL Resources-Accessibility-Open to All**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

* = Indicates action item

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

5:00pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday, April 2, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE March 5, 2024, MINUTES***

MOTION: Heidi Scheibner moved to approve the March 5, 2024; minutes as presented. Donna Gearn seconded. Motion carried.

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

MOTION: Donna Gearn moved to approve the agenda as presented. Heidi Scheibner 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:
 - The Dan Thompson Employment Rally took place in Tacoma on March 21; the rally highlighted students sharing their stories including a class from South Kitsap High School that attended the rally.
 - The Dan Thompson Statewide Employment Rally is a two-day event taking place on April 18, from 9a-4:30p, and April 19, from 9a-12:30p at Central Washington University, Student Union Building in Ellensburg. The two-day event is a culmination of information, celebration of successes, with a focus on planning for the future. The rallies are a great opportunity to learn about the history of supported employment in Washington State; and hearing from people receiving the services and their stories. You can visit the [WISE](#) page to register for the in-person and virtual Statewide Employment Rally event.
 - Kelly shared that there will be a PFW mock interview event on April 8 with the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club. Three job seekers will be participating.
 - Some EFC members will be meeting with the WISE social

media team on April 4 to continue conversations regarding developing a social media platform to highlight PFW efforts and other activities supported by EFC. This week's meeting will involve mock-ups and what the WISE team is proposing.

- Kelly shared efforts in the development of a PSNS position, meeting with PSNS staff in a couple of weeks. Kelly is hopeful that the development of a PSNS job description will be available soon. More details to come.

b. Transition Student Update

- i. 2023 School to Work (S2W) – With the 2023 S2W services wrapping up, additional efforts ongoing for those not yet hired.
- ii. 2024 School to Work (S2W) – Another S2W student was hired in March bringing the total 2024 students employed to five.
- iii. 2025 Job Foundation/School to Work – Agencies should be wrapping up their reports by April 15 so they can start to schedule meetings with students and their teams before the school year ends.
- iv. The Bremerton ESD 114 Virtual Training Series facilitated by PAVE will be held virtually, via Zoom. Upcoming training series includes:
 - April 10, from 4p-5:30p. Topic: High School Transition.
 - Visit [Bremerton ESD 114 2024 Virtual Training Series \(tfaforms.com\)](https://tfaforms.com) to register for sessions of the Virtual Training Series.
- v. Melia Hughes with Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) conducted the Transition Services for High Schoolers with Disabilities meeting on March 28. You can visit the [KCPC YouTube page](#) to view the virtual meeting.
- vi. Kelly shared information about a part of Senate Bill 5790, the Statewide School to Work Bill which included implementing a system for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), to share student contact information for students on IEPs with the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), the Washington State Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). The pilot has gotten underway. It is voluntary to participate but the purpose is to connect students and families to services that can assist with transition and post-school life.

c. 2024 Kitsap County Resource Fair Update

- i. The Annual Kitsap County Development Disabilities Resource Fair takes place in-person on April 24, 2024, from 4p-6p at the Central Kitsap High School Gym in Silverdale.
- ii. Kelly shared they are finalizing the list of agencies attending. During the next couple of weeks Kelly will be partnering with school staff to plan final details for the day of the event. The county partnered with DDA in providing stamps for their staff to mail flyers

to approximately 1,800 enrolled individuals between ages birth to 21. Kelly is hoping for a great turnout.

- iii. For more information about the DD Resource Fair, visit [DD Fair 2024 \(kitsap.gov\)](https://www.kitsap.gov/2024-DD-Fair)

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

- a. Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) Coordinator shared that it is Autism Acceptance Month and that the Autism Society of Washington (ASW) will be holding a virtual meeting on April 25 from 6p-7:30p to discuss their mission and goals, and the benefits of starting a chapter in Kitsap County.
- b. Last month the Autism and I/DD Training: Value of Assistive Technology took place, hosted by Monica Meyer Consulting. You can visit the [KCPC YouTube page](#) to view the virtual meeting.
- c. Melia also shared upcoming KCPC events:
 - i. Special Ed Training: High School Transitions is scheduled on April 10 from 4p-5:30p.
 - ii. Special Ed Training: Preparing for the 2024-2025 School Year is scheduled on May 8 from 4p-5:30p.
 - iii. KCPC updated their Summer events page: [Summer Events – Kitsap County Parent Coalition](#)
 - iv. For registration details on upcoming events visit the KCPC events page: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/events/> You can also contact Melia Hughes at 360-347-6412

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Legislative and Budget Update

- i. Kelly reviewed handouts of the 2024 Final Side by Side Budget. Highlights included:
 - The Housing Trust fund, a fund set aside for people with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) passed with a budget of \$19 million.
 - Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) adjustment of the child count passed thus allowing agencies providing birth to three services to bill for the first month they provide services.
 - Increasing the Special Education Funding cap to 16%
 - Funded school inclusionary practices: funds will be spread out to public schools where students with disabilities spend the least amount of time in general education classes.
 - Community Supportive Living rates received a 2.5% rate increase effective January 1, 2025.
 - Funding to establish 5 respite care beds in Tri-cities.
 - Funding for Parent Support Programs (P2P, Informing

Families) to increase information and referrals to community resources passed with a total budget of \$400,000.

- Funding is provided to hire additional DDA Case Resource Managers to reduce the caseload ratio.
- No rate increase, for IE or CI services; overall \$35 million cut to IE and CI programs split over the next two years.

ii. Kelly reviewed handouts of the 2024 Final Bills of Interest.

Highlights not already covered included:

- The Nothing About Us Without Us Act passed, which addresses the crucial need for including individuals with direct lived experience in shaping policies that directly impact them.
- Expanding the definition of family members for people providing individual care services.

iii. Additional discussion regarding concerns over lack of rate increases for Individual Employment Services (IE) and Community Inclusion Services (CI) and the programs funding being cut by \$35 million over the next two years occurred.

- Re-capped the three key pieces of legislation that passed in 2022: HB 1980 establishing concurrent services which would allow people to receive both IE and CI services at the same time; SB 5790 establishing a statewide school to work program; and requirement of a cost study for IE and CI services.
- b. As has been previously discussed, both bills depend on provider capacity significantly increasing so services will be available. Challenges implementing concurrent services to any great degree has been impacted by staff shortages and turnover statewide. While the cost study revealed that provider rates paid were significantly below actual provider costs, the rate increases this past July, were well below what the cost study indicated were needed so efforts are moving slowly. There is now uncertainty with the removal of funds from the program what the impact to raise the rates may be in the future.
- c. Additional discussion included purpose of offering concurrent services, how these services align with DDA and Board values to support the full inclusion of people with I/DD into their communities in meaningful ways; how they have the potential if fully funded to be transformative, similar to the efforts in transforming the employment services system; Board aware of the strategies and focus involved in those efforts.
- d. Most recent legislative session had a bill put forward to support a 20-hr. day habilitation program that seemed similar to what had been in place years ago where people

with I/DD spent their days in a segregated center/facility; these services were moved away from in support of employment and community access programs. While the bill didn't pass, a study was funded to explore this further. With the values to fully include people with I/DD into all aspects of their communities which CI services supports, additional focus on concurrent services efforts is needed versus creating a service option that seems counter to these efforts.

b. Advocacy Reports

- i. No updates this month.

c. 2024 Community Summit Update

- i. The 2024 Community Summit takes place from May 7-9, 2024, at the Wenatchee Convention Center. There will be 28 people attending including DVR staff, self-advocates, families, agency staff, and Board members. Unfortunately, school staff will not be able to attend this year, given the earlier dates fall during the school week.
- ii. Visit the [Community Summit](#) page for more information and to register.

d. Building Inclusive Communities Video

- i. Video will be shared next month due to audio issues.

e. Parks and Recreation Plan-Survey Feedback

- i. Sandra LaCelle drafted a letter to Kitsap County Parks and Recreation in response to the overall feedback she received from Board members using the Parks- Stakeholder/User Questionnaire survey. The letter detailed examples of accessibility issues and suggested approaches and/or solutions to consider. Kelly noted additional feedback may be coming from one more member. Once finalized, the letter will be sent to Parks and Recreation staff; reach out to Kelly with any additional feedback. Kelly shared Parks staff were aware the letter would be forthcoming.

f. Board Officer Elections*

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

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

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

g. DDA/DVR Provider Updates

- i. No updates this month. Those interested in receiving DDA updates and alerts were directed to the [Department of Social and Health Service's Developmental Disabilities Administration \(govdelivery.com\)](http://govdelivery.com) to sign up.

h. Provider Updates

- i. Marina with Trillium shared that Community Inclusion services has started at their agency. These services will further support participants to connect and be included in their local communities.
- ii. The 2024 School to Work (S2W) student has started working and is doing great. Trillium is now fully staffed.

i. Officer Report

- i. Heidi shared information about the new Silverdale Transit Center and Kitsap Transit's plan to start Sunday Bus Service in Port Orchard, Silverdale, and Poulsbo on June 16. This rollout was delayed from March to give Kitsap Transit time to evaluate a ballot measure that would repeal the state Climate Commitment Act.
- ii. There will be significant changes to 9 bus routes and on May 7 Kitsap Transit will hold a public hearing on those proposed changes at the Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners Meeting. Members of the public who want to comment on the changes can attend the meeting, or submit feedback during the public comment period, which runs from March 11 to May 6, 2024.
- iii. Donna Gearns suggested that a group letter from the Board be drafted and submitted to the Board of Transportation with any feedback related to the proposed changes that Kitsap Transit will be making. Sandra LaCelle will draft the letter, reach out to Sandra or Kelly with any feedback.
- iv. Shannon Turner shared that he is running for State Representative so his participation in future DD meetings may be sporadic.

j. Staff Report

- i. No updates this month.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7, 2024, both in-person and via Zoom.

* = Indicates action items

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS	GUESTS / ORGANIZATIONS	STAFF
<u>Present</u> Donna Gearns Jennifer Crider Shannon Turner Sandra LaCelle Heidi Scheibner <u>Absent</u> Veola Taylor Jennifer Acuna Rae Williams Kathy Loughheed	Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition Marina Jacobsen, Trillium Brent Rotter, Community Member Justin Thayer, Community Member	Kelly Oneal Justin Wing