

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities

Employment & Community Access Services

Dear Program Participants and Family Members, this information is designed to assist you in choosing an employment service provider in Kitsap County, printable version available here. The agencies listed below, contract with the Kitsap County Department of Human Services Developmental Disabilities program to provide employment and community access services to adults, 21 years of age and older. Participants must be eligible for services through the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDA). The providers listed in this brochure have successfully completed a request for qualification process that includes a review of agency policies, procedures and staff training. Each of the agencies must undergo an on-site evaluation during the contract period to maintain authorized provider status and all have demonstrated a commitment to providing quality, person centered services. As an eligible participant, you are assigned a funding allocation to purchase employment or community access services from one of the Kitsap County contracting agencies. Services are designed to assist you to lead a full, active, integrated and productive life in your community.

There are other agencies in Kitsap County who provide similar services but do not contract with the County. If you would like a full list of all providers please call our office **(360-337-4622)** and request a **Community Resource Guide**. If, after selecting a service provider you are not satisfied with the services you are receiving you have the right to change providers at any time. We request you give the provider and your DDA Case Manager a 30-day notice.

If you have any questions or need assistance please contact:

Kelly Oneal,
Developmental Disabilities Coordinator
(360) 337-4624

Kirsten Murray,
Developmental Disabilities Program Specialist
(360) 337-4622

You may also contact your DDA Case Resource Manager, Bremerton office number;
(360) 475-3490.

The following values are the core of the Division of Developmental Disabilities County Guidelines and will be used in supporting individuals with developmental disabilities in Kitsap County:

- **Power and Choice** - Making our own choices and directing our own lives;
- **Relationships** - Having people in our lives whom we love and care about and who love and care about us;

- **Status/Contribution** - Feeling good about ourselves and having others recognize us for what we contribute to others and our community;
- **Integration** - Being a part of our community, through active involvement. This means doing things we enjoy as well as new and interesting things;
- **Competence** - Learning to do things on our own or be supported to do things for ourselves; and
- **Health and Safety** - Feeling safe and secure, and being healthy. The importance of these basic benefits of community life is not unique to people with developmental disabilities, they are important to all of us in all phases of our lives.

Pathway to Employment

The “pathway to employment” is the process by which an individual pursues competitive employment. The pathway to employment for each person may vary in time, activities and supports necessary to achieve their personal employment goals. These services reflect the core values stated in the County Guidelines.

School-to-Work Transitions

Transition services prepare young adults exiting the public-school system to secure meaningful work. Services assist students and their family in building a bridge from high school to adult employment programs. Support is provided to coordinate funding between the Division of Developmental Disabilities and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Programs Individual Supported Employment

Services are part of an individual’s pathway to employment. These are placement and follow-up services necessary to help persons with developmental disabilities obtain and continue integrated, living wage employment in the community, in business or industry. This service may include creating work opportunities, support to the supervisors and/or peer workers to enable them to support the person on the job, on-the-job training, and modification of work site or tasks.

Community Access

Services that assist people with developmental disabilities who are 62 and older who have retired and choose not to work. Services will assist individuals to participate in activities, events and organizations in the community in ways similar to others of retirement age.

Kitsap County Provider Services		
Providers	Individual Employment	Community Access
Able Opportunities	✓	
Cares of Washington	✓	✓
Easter Seals	✓	✓
Holly Ridge Center Services	✓	
Peninsula Services	✓	
Skookum	✓	
Trillium	✓	
Vadis	✓	

Below is a list of these service agencies, with links to their web sites:

Cares of Washington

www.caresofwa.org

Cares of Washington (formerly IAM Cares) has served Kitsap County since 1982. Presently we offer Independent Employment, and Community Access Services. Cares of Washington also has supportive staff to assist with bus training. Our range of employment placements is as individual as the people we assist. Each placement is made with the interest, desires and abilities of the client in mind, and always in a safe, supportive environment. We

actively participate with counselors at the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and other support staff to ensure quality services. We look forward to visiting with you about your dreams and goals and providing you with any information needed to assist you with your decisions. For information regarding our program

Please contact:

Lars Nowack, Executive Director

(206) 938-1253

e-mail: lnowack@caresofwa.org

1833 North 105th St., Suite 201; Seattle, WA 98133

Easter Seals

www.easterseals.com/washington

As a direct service provider, Easter Seals Washington (ESW) strives to help adults and transitioning students to meet their goals of independence and community involvement. For 65 years, ESW has responded to the needs of individuals and their families throughout our state. Our Workforce Development Program in Kitsap County has succeeded in placing people in employment since 1993, understanding that having a job and earning a paycheck changes one's status, social network, self-perception, and access to further opportunities. Our person-centered planning process works to involve all relevant people in an individual's life to set meaningful goals and to tap into resources that become apparent as the group brainstorms. This process leads to opportunities that were likely hidden before, and a realistic plan with measurable outcomes can then be developed. With the limited employment opportunities in Kitsap County, we are increasingly aware of the need to help the people we serve build skills and create relationships with employers, not just apply for existing competitive openings. Whether the service is identified as Individual Employment or Community Access, our approach is the same. Get to know the person; set meaningful time-sensitive goals; define the activities that will support goal obtainment; work the plan; assess progress and adjust the plan as needed. All of these activities are carried out under the supervision of our Program Director and with frequent communication between all stakeholders. At Easter Seals Washington, we want to help you live, learn & work in your community.

Please contact:

Ashley Jackson, Director of Workforce Development

Phone: (360) 373-2502 Ext. 101

Email: ajackson@wa.easterseals.com

Holly Ridge Center
www.hollyridge.org

Holly Ridge Center's Adult Employment Services (AES) is a rehabilitation agency providing community based employment services to adults with disabilities. The AES programs provide a variety of employment services through contracting with Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, school district contracts and through private pay support agreements. Our programs have been recognized for 43 years of service in the community. The center offers three program formats:

- **Group Supported Employment** which staffs an onsite skilled vocational trainer who supports up to seven individuals in performing their community based jobs.
- **Independent Supported Employment (ISE)** is competitive employment opportunities by local business. The ISE Placement team assist the employer in understanding and providing the accommodations needed for their employees' success.
- **High School Transitional Employment** which are AES contracts with individual school districts developed on a specific student plan basis.

The focus on each program is meeting the individual need, abilities, and goals of the participant. Holly Ridge Center has on staff a team of skilled professionals, trained to assist individuals with disabilities achieve and maintain successful and meaningful employment.

For further information please contact:

Roxanne Bryson
(360) 479-9023
e-mail: aes@hollyridge.org
5002 Kitsap Way, Suite 200, Bremerton, WA 98312

Peninsula Services
www.peninsulaservices.org

Peninsula Services mission is to assist persons with developmental disabilities, mental illness and other challenges, in developing skills and capabilities by providing a wide array of rehabilitative and supportive services. The agency provides assessment, rehabilitative work training, job placement and employment options to persons with disabilities in Kitsap County. Peninsula Services has been in Kitsap County since 1971 and is currently serving approximately 200

people each year. Delivery of these services is accomplished in a number of ways including the procurement of actual contracts to serve as training or employment sites, the direct job placement of individuals with employers in the community, or through productive work training opportunities established by Peninsula Services itself. Peninsula Services is accredited by CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) and is certified to provide services to the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Department of Labor and Industries and the Veteran's Administration. On the job training, use of the latest technology, as well as accommodations that may be needed for individual participants, promote excellence in work performance. All services may be provided on a group and/or individual basis. It is the philosophy of the organization that all persons have the capacity to work, grow, and excel.

For further information contact:

Todd Faulkner, Vocational Services Director
(360)377-5544 or e-mail: toddf@peninsulaservices.org
PO Box 5030, 7500 Werner Rd., Bremerton, WA 98312

Skookum
www.skookum.org

Skookum Employment Services is a not-for profit organization that assists individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain jobs and become valued members of the workforce and the community. We work with Developmental Disabilities Administration, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and other agencies as applicable to help individuals with disabilities to become successfully employed. We can provide you with:

Employment Planning Skookum staff can help you develop a plan that is based on your personal dreams and choices.

Assessment An Assessment will provide you with experiences and information to help you decide about your future employment.

Job Development We can contact employers on your behalf, accompany you to job interviews and assist you with other activities that will lead to employment.

Job Coaching You will be trained by your supervisor and coworkers, but we can also be there to help you learn your job tasks, work faster and get used to the routine.

Long-Term Support In the future, your job duties may change and you may need a little extra training.

For further information about how Skookum can help you in working toward your goals contact:

Debra Fa'aita
(360) 360-385-4980 ext. 308
email: Deb.faaita@skookum.org
P.O. Box 5359, 4525 Auto Center Way, Bremerton, WA 98312

Trillium

www.trillium.org

Trillium believes that people of all abilities can work. We have been providing individualized employment services to people with developmental disabilities since 1983, and we look forward to the opportunity to help you find a job. We will meet with you and anyone you invite who will talk about your strengths, skills, and career goals. We will work with your DVR Counselor and DDA Case Manager to make sure you have the resources you need to reach your job goals. We will brainstorm businesses in your community that would benefit from your talents and skills and we will help you connect with the businesses that appeal to your interests. We will support you in creating a resume or portfolio, preparing for interviews, completing applications, and talking with prospective employers. We will help you learn your job duties, connect with your coworkers and supervisors, and provide any technical supports or accommodations that will help you do your job independently. We will continue to support you on your job and communicate with your supervisor so that if your job duties change or you encounter challenges, we can help you be successful.

For further information contact:

Heidi Scheibner, Kitsap Program Manager

(360) 698-6659 or e-mail: Heidi@trillium.org

3501 Lowell St, Suite 101; Silverdale, WA 98383

Vadis

www.vadis.org

Incorporated in 1979, Vadis is a private, non-profit organization which provides a wide array of employment assistance to people with developmental disabilities and the businesses that employ them. We honor each person's choices, skills and interests through person centered vocational planning. For over a decade we have offered training to businesses in the community to assist them by supporting their employees with disabilities. Our Individual Employment Services have a reputation of quality employment, high wages and long-term job retention. We partner with businesses to create successful employment opportunities, encouraging natural supports within the workplace. We tailor support to each individual person we serve. In the instances where people need a little experience before starting paid employment, we offer short-term volunteer opportunities to allow people to contribute to their community in a meaningful way, while gaining the skills needed for their future careers. For

further information contact:

Shauna Euritt, Employment Services Manager

(360)516-6484

email: shauna@vadis.org

3100 NW Bucklin Hill Road, Suite 205

Silverdale, WA 98383