



**King County**

Department of Community and Human Services

Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division

# BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MINUTES

**Day/Date:** Wednesday, May 3, 2023  
**Time:** 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Tukwila Community Center, Room A

## **BOARD MEMBER ROLE CALL:**

Joe Cunningham  
Laura Musso Escude  
Brandon Graham  
Tiffany Lee  
Hameed Quraishi

## **Attendees:**

Mahad Dahir, Community Member  
Erendira Mercado, ODMF  
Michaelle Monday, Developmental Disabilities and Early  
Childhood Supports Division (DDECSD)  
Peter Musante, Open Doors for Multicultural Families (ODMF)  
Jim Ott, DDECSD  
Paul Tan, ODMF  
Holly Woo, DDECSD

## **Joined by Zoom**

Carol Allen, Public Health-King County  
Teesha Bailey, Department of Community and Human Services  
Sung Cho, DDECSD  
Magan Cromar, DDECSD  
Catherine Cass Del Castillo – American Sign Language  
Interpreter  
Hasibullah Faqiry, Community Member  
Sahar Faquiry, Community Member  
Katherine Festa, DDECSD  
Emily Fung, ODMF  
Stephanie Jones, Department of Social and Health Services,  
Developmental Disabilities Administration (DSHS/DDA)  
Ginger Kwan, ODMF  
Norma Lobo, DDECSD  
Louis Lok, DDECSD  
Karla Lynch, DDECSD  
Kyle Matheson, People First of Washington  
Eric Matthes, People First of Washington  
Brandi Monts, Washington State Developmental Disabilities  
Council

Jessica Renner, People First of Washington  
Susy Stremel, DDECSD  
Margaret-Lee Thompson, Community Member  
Mary Thornton – American Sign Language Interpreter  
Tracy Ukura – Communication Access Realtime Translation  
Captioner  
Richard Wilson, DDECSD  
Jenna Wolfstone, DDECSD

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The hybrid King County Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting convened at 3:33 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at the Tukwila Community Center, Room A. The Board Chair Joe Cunningham called the meeting to order and asked Board Members and in-person attendees for self-introductions.

## **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair made the following announcements:

- Assignment of Board Members to Board Committees;
- Welcomed Brandon Graham as a Board Candidate;
- More information coming about the June Board sponsored event;
- No July Board meeting or event; and
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2023.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called for a motion to approve the February 7, 2023, Board Minutes. The Minutes were so moved, seconded, and approved as written.

## **PUBLIC INPUT AND CELEBRATIONS**

Kyle Matheson, People First of Washington announced their 45<sup>th</sup> annual convention to celebrate accomplishments, purpose, and mission of people first and disabilities second. The convention is scheduled for September 8-10, 2023, in Ellensburg. Registration is required, so visit [www.peoplefirstofwashington.org](http://www.peoplefirstofwashington.org).

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION FIELD SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR**

Stephanie Jones, DSHS/DDA, Employment Program Specialists provided the following updates:

- Public Health Emergency (PHE) ending on May 11, 2023, Central Office will distribute communications soon. In the meantime, there has been many trainings around everything re-opening.
- No Paid Services (NPS) and Enhanced Case Manager Program (ECMP) expansions are in full swing. Currently working on hiring a NPS and ECMP supervisors and teams.
- Acknowledged the end of the legislative session and the final budget is with the governor. More information to come on how funds will impact DSHS/DDA services.
- Reminder: iPhones are available for individuals and families, so please contact your Case Manager for additional details.

## **KING COUNTY DIVISION DIRECTOR**

Holly Woo, DDECSD asked Team Members to provide the following program updates:

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD TEAM**

Norma Lobo, DDECSD presented the following early childhood updates:

- Workgroup to create a base training for interpreters working with Early Support for Infants and Toddlers' (ESIT) families.

If you are interested in creating the base training, contact Norma Lobo by email at [Nreneri@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Nreneri@kingcounty.gov).

- Funding opportunity for ESIT facilitators and consultants (Request for Qualifications date was extended to May 22 and more information can be found on the Best Starts for Kids [blog](#)).

If you have a passion for sharing knowledge regarding developmental delays or disabilities impacting infants and toddlers, consider joining the Best Starts for Kids ESIT Strategy and contact Norma Lobo.

### **ADULT SERVICES TEAM**

Richard Wilson, DDECSD provided the following School-to-Work updates:

- April 20, 2023, School-to-Work Virtual Orientation
- Collaboration to address provider capacity challenge

For more information, contact Richard Wilson by email at [Richard.Wilson@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Richard.Wilson@kingcounty.gov).

### **COMMUNITY INFORMATION OUTREACH, AND REFERRAL TEAM**

Holly Woo, DDECSD made the following announcements:

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2023
- DDECSD is implementing structural changes for the Legislative Committee this year. The committee will conduct outreach and engagement to community members and groups to collect input on legislative priorities

### **BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair provided an overview of the four Board committees and below are the committees Board Members joined:

**Development, Engagement, and Inclusion Committee** – Tiffany Lee

**Legislative & Policy Committee** – Currently unassigned

**Recruitment Committee** - Currently unassigned

**Housing Committee** – Laura Musso Escude and Hameed Quraishi

### **PEOPLE FIRST OF KING COUNTY – RECRUITMENT**

King County People First members Eric Matthes, Kyle Matheson, and Jessica Renner introduced themselves and provided background on the People First of Washington Chapter. The Chapter advocates for community services that allow people to have choices and control over their supports and lives. Eric revealed a new logo and name for the King County People Chapter. The Chapter has changed its name to King County Champions Chapter.

The King County Champions Chapter is actively recruiting self-advocates to join their chapter. If you are interested, send Eric Matthes, Chapter President an email to [Kingcountychampionschapter@gmail.com](mailto:Kingcountychampionschapter@gmail.com).

## **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL UPDATE**

Brandi Monts, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) provided an overview of the DDC's mission and commitment to advocate, promote, and implement policies and practices to create pathways to meaningful, integrated, and productive lives for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities over their lifetime. Brandi noted the DDC works in close collaboration with the University of Washington Center on Human Development and Disability, Disability Rights Washington, and Allies in Advocacy.

Brandi also announced a Spring update on the projects funded by the Dan Thompson Memorial Trust. Visit the [Dan Thompson Memorial Developmental Disabilities Community Services Account](#) for more information. For more information, please contact Brandi Monts by email at [Brandi.Monts@DDC.WA.gov](mailto:Brandi.Monts@DDC.WA.gov).

## **MARCH BOARD EVENT DISCUSSION: CAREGIVER SUPPORTS – LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**

Laura Musso Escude, Board Member provided a summary of the March Board sponsored event titled, Caregiver Supports – Life After High School. The event hosted a resource fair where families connected with providers to discuss eligibility and available services. The panel discussion provided helpful information and experiences to assist families in planning to meet the needs of their young adults as they approach and experience life after high school.

Laura shared the following concerns voiced by families:

- Individualized Education Plan support;
- Work options;
- After hours care, after high school;
- Summer camps; and
- How to make connections to get housing services.

Laura's desire is to make this Board event an annual occurrence to connect with the community and collaborate to improve services and the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Stay tuned!

## **BOARD RECRUITMENT**

The Board for Developmental Disabilities is seeking residents of King County interested in serving on the board. The board is a 15-member citizen's advisory board, which provides oversight of community services for residents of the County who have intellectual and developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or other neurological impairments and their families. The board values diverse perspectives, life experiences, and people of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply, including people with disabilities, people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQIA+ and veterans.

If you are interested in learning more about the Board, please contact Jim Ott, Information and Outreach Manager at 206-263-9060 or by email at [Jim.Ott@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Jim.Ott@kingcounty.gov). More information on the Board can be found on our webpage at <https://Kingcounty.gov/DDBoard>.

## **MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The next Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2023, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the Northgate Executive Center II, Conference Room 126 located at 9725 Third Avenue NE, Seattle.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

**Prepared by:**  
Michaëlle Monday

**Attested by:**  
Jim Ott