



Department of Community and Human Services  
Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division

# BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## MINUTES

**Day/Date:** Wednesday, November 6, 2024

**Time:** 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

### **BOARD MEMBER ROLE CALL**

Beth Bardeen  
Devony Boyle  
Joe Cunningham  
Brandon Graham  
Molly McCoy  
Radhe Morgan  
Laura Musso Escude  
CeCe Stovall

### **ABSENT**

Amanda Knott

### **JOINED VIA ZOOM**

Krista Anderson, American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter  
Karlee Ayalisse, ASL Interpreter  
Nico Chau, DDECSD  
Sheila Collins, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)  
Magan Cromar, Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division (DDECSD)  
Ayan Elmi, Washington Multicultural Services Link  
Katherine Festa, DDECSD  
Asmeret Habte, DDECSD  
Louis Lok, DDECSD  
Karla Lynch, DDECSD  
Tala Mahmoud, King County Executive's Office  
Michaëlle Monday, DDECSD  
Jim Ott, DDECSD  
TJ Protho, DDECSD  
Chris Ramos, DDECSD

## **JOINED VIA ZOOM (CONTINUED)**

Susy Streeel, DDECSD  
Margaret-Lee Thompson, Community Member  
Nicole Wilhelm, CART  
Jenna Wolfstone, DDECSD  
Holly Woo, DDECSD

## **WELCOME AND BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called the virtual meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, with welcoming remarks and Board Member self-introductions.

## **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair covered the following Board Business:

- Election of officers
- The next **hybrid** Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 4, 2025**, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room A, Tukwila
- Review of the Board's Mission, Vision, Values, Guiding Principles, and Role
- Board will meet for a second time in November to finalize their Mission, Vision, Values, Guiding Principles and Role

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called for a motion to approve the August 7, 2024, Board Minutes. The Minutes were so moved, seconded, and approved as written.

## **PUBLIC INPUT AND CELEBRATIONS**

No report

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **KING COUNTY DIVISION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Magan Cromar, DDECSD asked team members to provide program updates.

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD TEAM**

Magan Cromar, DDECSD presented the following Early Childhood Team's updates:

- Launch of the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Career Pathways Scholarship Pilot that focused on retaining current ESIT workforce members and congratulated the scholarship pilot awardees.
- Workforce Development is accepting applications to support King County's Prenatal to Five community members. For more information visit the Best Starts for Kids workshops at [Beststartworkshops.org](https://beststartworkshops.org).

### **ADULT SERVICES TEAM**

Susy Stremel, DDECSD presented on the Statewide Employment Forum where partners and advocates reviewed employment data and goals.

Nico Chua, DDECSD conducted a needs assessment to identify gaps and barrier of service providers and to identify ways to support their Equity Racial and Social Justice goals.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION OUTREACH AND REFERRAL TEAM

Holly Woo, DDECSD invited everyone to attend the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum on Thursday, November 21, 2024, from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Southcenter Hilton DoubleTree Suites.

Magan Cromar, DDECSD announced the following new team members and staff promotions:

- Caress Pina, Operations and Contracts Coordinator
- Ashley Ewings, ESIT Community Engagement Program Lead
- Miguel Rodriguez-Torres, ESIT Co-Lead
- Congratulations to Emily Hart on her new role as School-to-Work Team Lead

## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Sheila Collings, DSHS/DDA presented the following updates:

- Expressed gratitude for a provider's kudos for DSHS/DDA staff;
- Hiring of Case Managers;
- Intake and Eligibility Rules;
- Individual and Family Services Waiver Capacity; and
- [Legislative Reports](#).

For more information, please contact Sheila Collins at [Sheila.Collins@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Collins@dshs.wa.gov) or Cat Braid at [Catriona.Braid@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Catriona.Braid@dshs.wa.gov).

## 2025 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND DELAYS LEGISLATIVE FORUM AND PRIORITIES

Jenna Wolfstone, DDECSD presented the draft Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Delays 2025 Legislative Priorities and provided a schedule for the legislative forum. Below are the draft 2025 Legislative Priorities:

- **Promote language access for all children and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD)** by providing funding to service providers for spoken and sign language supports.
- **Improve access to early support for infants and toddlers ages 0-3** by re-aligning funding policies to ensure that rates for special education funding for ages 0-3 are increased to match the rates for ages 3-5 and increase whenever rates increase for age 3-5.
- **Strengthen services and treatment for youth with behavioral health and I/DD in crisis** by sustaining and expanding behavioral health support teams and growing short-term residential treatment capacity for youth.
- **Maintain access to high school transition investments for students with I/DD** by continuing funding to support employment and other essential services.

- **Protect opportunities for employment and meaningful inclusion in the community** through increasing provider payments to strengthen staffing that would help avoid delays or interruptions in services access.
- **Increase and maintain access to affordable housing and wraparound services.** invest in the Housing Trust Fund, including funds for repairs, and increase funding for operations and housing support services.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called for a motion to open nominations for Vice-Chair. Laura Musso Escude was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as the newly elected Vice-Chair.

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called for a motion to open nominations for Board Chair. Joe Cunningham was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as the re-elected Board Chair.

## 2024 BOARD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Michaëlle Monday, DDECSD thanked Board Members for sharing their passions and interest in the Board and reviewed the Board's 2024 accomplishments.

## 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, LGBTQUIA+, 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 by visiting the board's webpage at <https://kingcounty.gov/DDBoard>.

## NEXT MEETING

The next **hybrid** Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 4, 2025**, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room A located at 12424 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue S., Tukwila.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

**Prepared by:**  
Michaëlle Monday

**Attested by:**  
Jim Ott