



King County

## BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NOVEMBER MEETING

**Community Sharing and Celebrations:** Community members are asked to limit their sharing of information to two minutes each unless pre-arranged with Staff. We ask that all presenters share information with courtesy and respect to the audience.

**If you need ASL interpretation,** please request it in the Chat Box and staff will allow you to pin the screen of the ASL interpreters.


### AGENDA

TIME	ITEMS	PRESENTERS	ACTION
3:30 p.m.	Welcome and Board Member Introductions	Chair and Board	Information
3:35	Chair's Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>November Board Business</li> <li>February Board Meeting</li> <li>Board Activities</li> </ul>	Chair	Information
3:40	Approval of August Board Minutes	Board	Approval
3:50	Public Input and Celebrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-Advocates, Families, and Allies</li> <li>Upcoming Events and Activities</li> </ul>	Board and Community	Information
4:00	King County Division Director's Report	Magan Cromar	Information
4:15	Developmental Disabilities Administration Report	Catrina Braid and Sheila Collins	Information
4:30	Break		
4:40	2025 Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum and Priorities	Holly Woo and Jenna Wolfstone	Information
5:00	Board Elections	Chair and Board	Approval
5:15	2024 Board Accomplishments	Staff and Board	Information
5:30 p.m.	Adjourn	Chair	

# Greetings!

- Welcome to the November, Board for Developmental Disabilities Meeting
- The meeting is scheduled to begin at 3:30p.m. If the meeting does not start at 3:30p.m., please stand by as we may be experiencing technical difficulties in launching the meeting on time.

# Closed Captioning and American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation

- **Closed Captioning** of the meeting is available by clicking the  icon at the bottom of your screen.
- **If you need ASL interpretation** please request it in the Chat Box, staff will allow you to pin the screen of the ASL interpreter.

# We Do Audio Description

## WHY?

Help low-vision people picture you

## HOW...

Say your name.  
Use "AGREED" to describe yourself

## NAME

- Age
- Gender/Gender Expression
- Race/Skin Color/Ethnicity
- Eye and Hair Color
- Environment/Background
- Dress/Clothing/Wearables



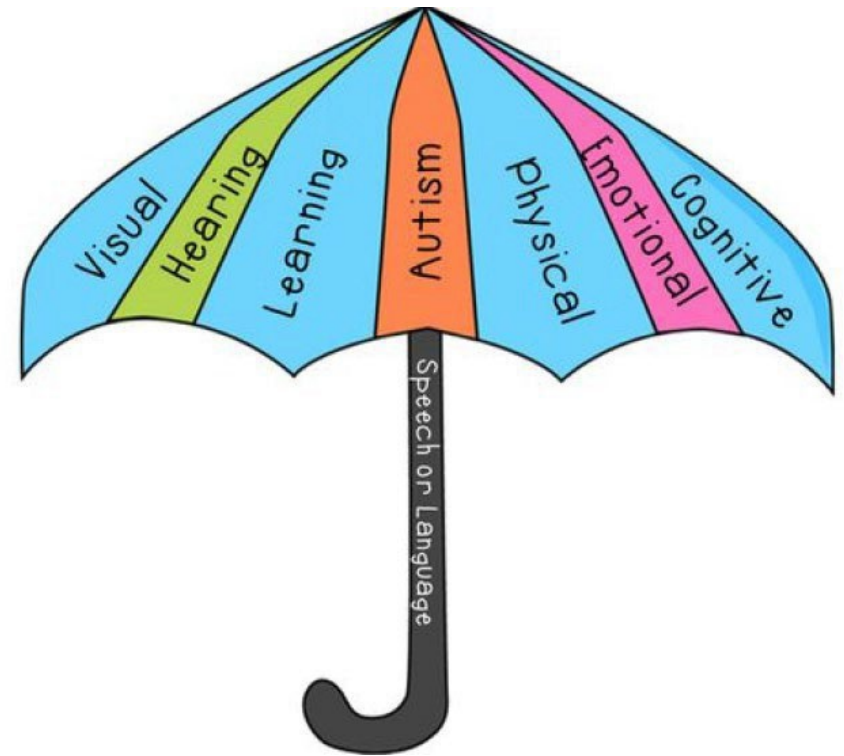
# Presentations & Presenters

**Presenters give contact information at the end of their presentation. Look in the Chat Box and feel free to contact them. Some of their slide shows and information sheets will be posted on our website.**



# What is a Developmental Disability?

The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) defines a developmental disability as a disability attributed to an intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or another neurological or other condition.





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# **CHAIRS'S REMARKS**



**November  
2024**



## November Board Business

Board Members will hold elections for Chair and Vice-Chair this month.

## February Board Meeting

The Board will hold its next regular quarterly meeting on Tuesday, February 4th, 2025, from 3:30-5:30p.m.

## Board Activities

The Board met in September to review its Mission, Vision, Values, Guiding Principles, and Role. The Board will meet again in November to continue refining these items.



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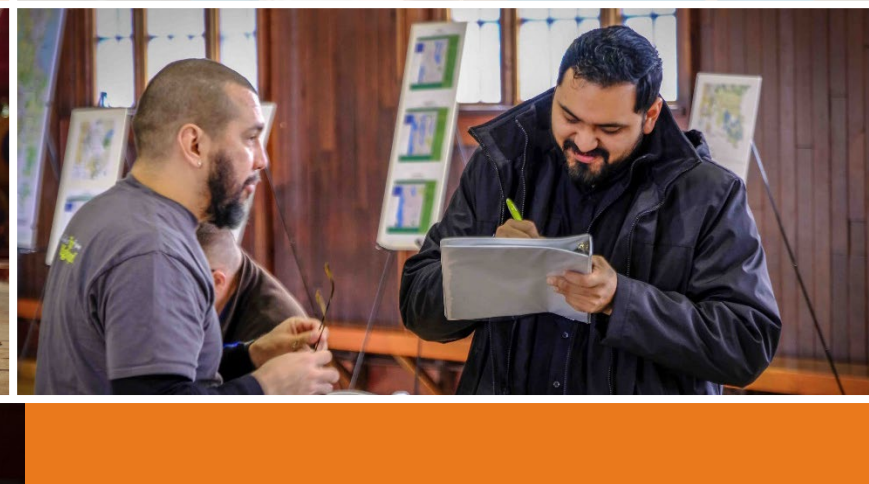
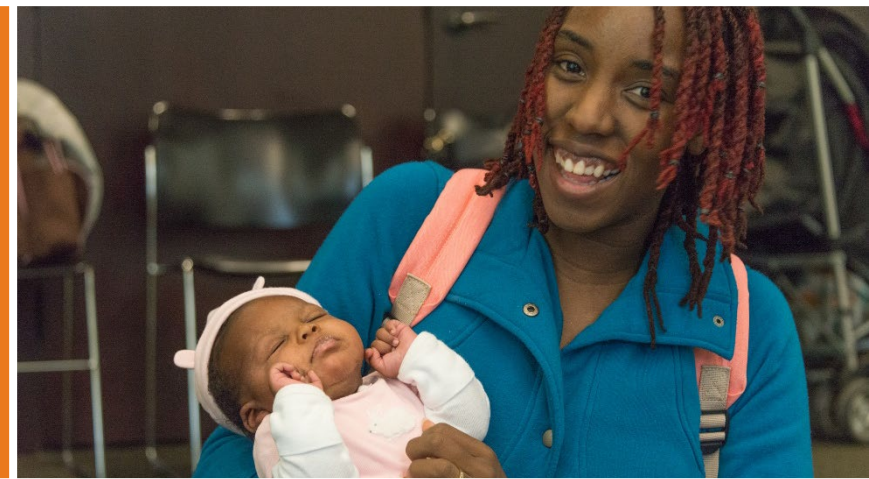
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# Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division Report November 2024





# Early Childhood Team



## ESIT Career Pathways Scholarship Pilot Awardees!

- Angel Perez
- Brandon Cross
- Fran Walker
- Jess Adams
- Maria Zambrano
- Summer Webster
- Talitha Asteria
- Tatiana Sarkhosh

# What's going on?

**ESIT Career Pathways Scholarship Pilot Launches** | On October 10, 2024, the eight awardees gathered at Hearing, Speech & Deaf Center to celebrate their participation in the first round of Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) scholarships. This pilot focused on retaining current ESIT workforce members by creating access to higher education coursework that will lead participants to new career opportunities to work effectively with diverse families in ESIT.



# What's coming up?

**Workforce Development |** Cultivating Prenatal to five Community Based Facilitators is now taking applications for 2025. The program supports King County's P-5 community members who seek to share wisdom, learning, and practice in their communities and beyond, and want to further cultivate their skills. This six-month program is scheduled to take place from January 2025 to June 2025. It is designed as a combination of large and small group trainings, individual mentorship sessions, and culminating with a celebration.

Applications must be submitted by November 22, 2024.

For more information, visit the Best Starts for Kids Workshops site:  
[Workshops | Best Starts for Kids \(beststartsworkshops.org\)](https://beststartsworkshops.org)





# Adult Services Team

# What's going on?

**Statewide Employment Forum** | Several team members from the King County Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division gathered with statewide representatives from counties, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)/Developmental Disabilities Administration, DSHS/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, employment providers, community partners and advocates/self-advocates this past week. Employment data and goals were reviewed relative to national and statewide trends. The forum builds on work and information gathered from the Dan Thompson Employment Rallies earlier this year.

# What's coming up?

**Equity, Racial and Social Justice (ERSJ) and Capacity Development** | Work continues with Employment and Community Inclusion service providers to support agency ERSJ goals and identify training/consultation objectives through a recent needs assessment.



**Community Information  
Outreach and Referral  
Team**


# What's going on?

**Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum** | We hope you will join us **Thursday, November 21, 2024**, from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the [Southcenter Hilton DoubleTree Suites](#) for King County's 35<sup>th</sup> annual Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum! State legislators and congressional members representing King County, as well as King County Councilmembers, have been invited to our forum to learn more about our intellectual and developmental disabilities and delays legislative priorities for 2025.

Your presence is so important. The evening centers on sharing experiences so that elected officials understand the supports needed in King County to help all people live full, integrated, and meaningful lives.

**Register Today!** We are happy to provide interpreters upon request. Please use the registration form to submit your request: [IDDForum.eventbrite.com](https://iddforum.eventbrite.com). New this year: register in [Spanish](#) and [Somali](#)!

More information and multilingual invitational flyers on our website: [www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum](https://www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum).



**We have new team  
members!!!!**

# Caress Pina- Operations and Contracts Coordinator

## WELCOME Caress Pina TO A NEW ROLE IN



Hello DCHS

I am excited to announce that Caress Pina started with DDECSD today as an Operations & Contracts Coordinator TLT. Caress will support Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) and Developmental Bridge contracts.

*A message from Caress:*

My Name is Caress Pina, and I am excited to be joining DDECSD as an Operation and Contracts Coordinator in a TLT role. I have always had an affinity for community work beginning directly after high school during the time I spent as a camp counselor for the YMCA serving the youth of Lithonia, GA. After serving in the US NAVY, I attended community college in Skagit Valley and earned my associate in early childhood education. After realizing the needs of families in our community ran deeper than what a teacher could provide, I enrolled in Grand Canyon University where I achieved a Bachelor's in Sociology and Social work as well as a Master's in Public Administration. I spent time as a Family Resource Coordinator working with families of children from birth to age 4 with developmental delays and as an Employment Coach and Job Consultant working with youth in their high school's Transitional Program. I also worked with youth and young adults in YMCAs Permanent Supportive Housing Project as a Program Manager and spent many years in direct service as an intensive case manager and care coordinator working with the aging disabled community as a support and advocate. I am passionate about community, ERSJ work as evidenced by the many work groups and affinity groups I co-lead and hope to continue my journey in King County long after this TLT expires. In my free time, I enjoy trying new foods and restaurants, spending time with my family, white water rafting, camping, light hikes (heavy on the light 😊) and swimming in any body of water I can find. I look forward to doing great work in DDECSD and hope to cross paths with some of you while I'm here!

*Please join me in welcoming Caress to DDECSD!*





# Emily Hart- School to Work Team Lead



## Congratulations Emily Hart on your new role with



Please join us in congratulation Emily Hart on her new role as the School to Work Team Lead with the Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division

### **From Emily:**

I am honored and excited to be the School-to-Work Team Lead and to continue to be part of such wonderful School-to-Work (S2W) and DDECSD team/family! I began my career in the field of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities in 2001 with Pierce County Human Services working as a Family Resources Coordinator, then as a Social Security Disability Benefit Planner and finally their S2W Program Manager. I started with King County DDECSD in 2016, moving back home to WA after 2 years in SoCal, and feel so lucky to have been part of the S2W team from the start. Thank you to all my DDECSD family!

I was born and raised in the PNW and called Tacoma home for most of my life, including now! You could also say I was born into the field of supported employment as both my parents served in the field of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities and were at the forefront of community-based services in the early 1970's, and my mom continued in the field until her retirement. I graduated from University of Washington School of Social Work and originally thought I would become a teacher, but my parents' advocacy for the human rights of individuals with disabilities, including the right to inclusive and competitive employment, helped shape me and lead me to where I am today.

My family is very close, and I feel very lucky to be loved by and married to my best friend for 28 years (and counting) and to have raised three intelligent, determined and advocacy-minded young women with him! We love football, taking walks, watching movies and baking (some prefer the eating part of that hobby) 😊. I love hanging out with my mom and I believe I may have the best big-baby-brother in the world! Anyone who knows me knows that I love coffee and am totally on board with visiting and trying all the coffee shops!

# Ashley Ewings- Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Community Engagement Program Lead

**WELCOME Ashley Ewings TO**



**DCHS**

**Department of Community  
and Human Services**



Hello team! I am extremely proud and excited to be joining such an amazing team and stepping into the role of ESIT Community Engagement Program Lead. I have worked with children and families for the last ten years and my professional experience stems around teaching special education, advocacy, and child development. I have served as Deaf and Hard of Hearing point person as a Family Resources Coordinator. My personal philosophy involves creating a supportive, inclusive, and engaging environment for children and families with diverse needs, helping them reach their full potentials. My educational accomplishments include a BA and a Masters in Elementary Education from Liberty University in Virginia.

My commitment to my work extends beyond my professional life. I was drawn to early support after the positive impact it has had on my own family. My daughters, Caelynn and Emerson, have complex medical, genetic, and behavioral needs and I have seen firsthand how critical early diagnosis, and a multidisciplinary approach are to their development and to my family's ability to meet their needs. In addition, we are a military family, and navigating resources for children with special needs within this system is a challenge. I look forward to shining a light on this underserved population that needs programming and advocates. I thrive on giving back to the community through my volunteering efforts as part of the BIPOC Council and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., ensuring that diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are always at the forefront of conversations.

During my spare time, I enjoy exploring the Pacific Northwest by camping, kayaking, paddleboarding, and traveling. I look forward to connecting with you all and serving alongside you to ensure children and families uniquely reach their full potential!

# Miguel Rodriguez-Torres: Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Co-Lead



**WELCOME Miguel Rodriguez-Torres**

**DCHS**

Department of Community  
and Human Services



Hi everyone! I'm thrilled to join the team as one of the ESIT CoLeads, bringing 7 years of experience as a Family Resources Coordinator (FRC), where I supported children, families, and providers within ESIT. I look forward to continuing and expanding this work in my new role! My commitment to supporting diverse communities and advocating for racial equity, particularly within the birth-to-three age group, is deeply personal and driven by my experiences as a first-generation Mexican American from a low-income immigrant household.

Originally from Wenatchee, WA, I moved to Seattle to earn my social work degree from the University of Washington. Since then, I have worked in Early Head Start, early learning, and youth mental health. Outside of work, I'm a dad to an almost 1-year-old, enjoy soccer, and love troubleshooting things—from pens that won't click to printers that won't print.

# Seeking input

Please reach out if you have input/ feedback!

- Jim Ott, [jim.ott@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jim.ott@kingcounty.gov)
- Michaelle Monday, [michaelle.monday@kingcounty.gov](mailto:michaelle.monday@kingcounty.gov)
- Magan Cromar, [magan.cromar@kingcounty.gov](mailto:magan.cromar@kingcounty.gov)
- Holly Woo, [holly.woo@kingcounty.gov](mailto:holly.woo@kingcounty.gov)



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# King County Board November 2024 Updates

Transforming  
Lives

*from the Developmental Disabilities Administration  
Region 2, King County*

- **Thank you** to Hodan for the kudos emails to DDA staff!
- **Hiring:** we continue our work to hire new staff in an effort to reduce caseloads from 1:75 to 1:66. We have established the positions and are working on hiring and training new case managers.
- **Intake and Eligibility Rules:** On October 7th, DDA's Eligibility rules were updated to remove the IQ component. We have seen an uptick in applications to process and are working hard to process them quickly. We currently have an assessment backlog of 2-4 months for most assessment requests.
- **IFS Waiver capacity:** For the first time since the IFS waiver was established in 2015, we are nearing capacity for this waiver. We may start seeing more denied requests due to lack of capacity.
- **Legislative Reports:** DDA has begun publishing reports due to the Legislature as we near those due dates and in anticipation of the Legislative Session starting in January. 4 reports are currently posted as of 11/1, and more will likely be added. DDA's Reports to the Legislature in 2024 can be found here: [DDA Reports | DSHS](#)

# Contact Information

## **Cat Braid (she/her)**

Field Services Administrator (FSA)

Developmental Disabilities  
Administration (DDA)

Region 2

Phone: 206.550.4280

Email: [Catriona.Braid@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Catriona.Braid@dshs.wa.gov)

## **Sheila Collins (she/her)**

Field Services Administrator (FSA)

Developmental Disabilities  
Administration (DDA)

Region 2

Phone: 206.643.0972

Email: [Sheila.Collins@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Sheila.Collins@dshs.wa.gov)



*Transforming lives*





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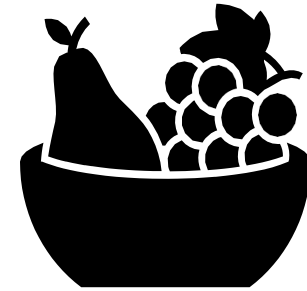
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# We Are Taking A Break...

While you  
are waiting  
stretch,  
drink, have a  
snack





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# Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Delays Draft 2025 Legislative Priorities

Developmental Disabilities  
and Early Childhood  
Supports Division (DDECSD)





# King County Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum

November

**21**

2024

## DoubleTree Suites

16500 Southcenter Parkway  
Seattle, WA 98188

## Agenda

- 6:00 – 6:15 PM Doors Open
- 6:15 – 6:45 PM Meet with legislators
- 7:00 – 8:30 PM Legislative Forum

## Registration

- English: [IDDForum.Eventbrite.com](https://iddforum.eventbrite.com)
- Spanish: [IDDForumspanish.Eventbrite.com](https://iddforumspanish.eventbrite.com)
- Somali: [IDDForumsomali.Eventbrite.com](https://iddforumsomali.eventbrite.com)



**Community  
Input  
Informs  
Legislative  
Priorities**

Informally collect input all year

Formally collect input

- Multilingual online survey
- Listening Sessions focused on historically excluded communities including
  - People with disabilities
  - Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

# 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 (ESIT) 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 ages 3-5.

# Draft 2025 Legislative Priorities



- **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.



# Draft 2025 Legislative Priorities



- **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 service access.
- **Increase and maintain access to affordable housing and wraparound services.** Invest in the Housing Trust Fund, including funding for repairs, and increase funding for operations and housing support services.



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## Board Elections

The Chair will begin elections by calling for nominations for the office of Vice-Chair.

1. Board Members may nominate and vote for themselves or nominate and vote for other members who are joining the meeting by phone or via the web.
2. Nominees may share any goals for the upcoming year. Sharing of goals will not exceed three minutes.
3. Once all nominees have had an opportunity to share, the Chair will call for a vote.
4. The Chair will call on each Board Member individually for their vote.
5. Board Members are asked not to abstain from voting.
6. The candidate receiving the most votes will begin their one-year term in office on December 1, 2024, with the term ending on November 30, 2025.
7. If the vote is tied, the Board will vote again.

The same process will be repeated for the Chair's position



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## 2024 Board Accomplishments

- January -April - In recess to while achieving Board recruitment goals.
- March - April - Four new Board Members appointed by the Executive.
- May - Board orientation with the Executives Office.
- June - Board Meeting – Board Bylaws Review.
- July - Michaëlle becomes full-time staff support to the Board.
- August - Board Landscape Orientation.
- August Board Meeting - Board Committee Assignments.
- September - Board Mission, Vision, Values and More Meeting Part I.
- September - Board Sponsored Listening Session with People First Champions Chapter.
- September - Board Sponsored Listening Session with Washington Multicultural Services Link.
- November - Board Meeting - Board Elections.
- November - Board Mission, Vision, Values and More Meeting Part II.



King County

## BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NOVEMBER MEETING

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**Community Sharing and Celebrations:** Community members are asked to limit their sharing of information to two minutes each unless pre-arranged with Staff. We ask that all presenters share information with courtesy and respect to the audience.

**If you need ASL interpretation,** please request it in the Chat Box and staff will allow you to pin the screen of the ASL interpreters.

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### AGENDA

TIME	ITEMS	PRESENTERS	ACTION
3:30 p.m.	Welcome and Board Member Introductions	Chair and Board	Information
3:35	Chair's Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• November Board Business</li><li>• February Board Meeting</li><li>• Board Activities</li></ul>	Chair	Information
3:40	Approval of August Board Minutes	Board	Approval
3:50	Public Input and Celebrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self-Advocates, Families, and Allies</li><li>• Upcoming Events and Activities</li></ul>	Board and Community	Information
4:00	King County Division Director's Report	Magan Cromar	Information
4:15	Developmental Disabilities Administration Report	Catrina Braid and Sheila Collins	Information
4:30	Break		
4:40	2025 Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum and Priorities	Holly Woo and Jenna Wolfstone	Information
5:00	Board Elections	Chair and Board	Approval
5:15	2024 Board Accomplishments	Staff and Board	Information
5:30 p.m.	Adjourn	Chair	