



## King County

Department of Community and Human Services

Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division

### BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FEBRUARY AGENDA

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**Community Sharing and Celebrations:** Community members are asked to limit their sharing of information to three 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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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>February Board Meeting</li><li>May Board Meeting</li><li>Board Activities</li></ul>	Chair	Information
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4:00	King County Division Director's Report	Magan Cromar	Information
4:20	Developmental Disabilities Administration Report	Catrina Braid Sheila Collins	Information
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4:55	2025 Legislative Session Update	Ramona Hattendorf	Information
5:30	Adjourn	Chair	

Greetings!

- Welcome to the February, Board for Developmental Disabilities Meeting.
- The meeting is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m. If the meeting does not start at 3:30 p.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 and staff will allow you to pin the screen of the ASL interpreter.

# We Do Audio Description



## WHY?

Help low-vision  
people picture you

## HOW...

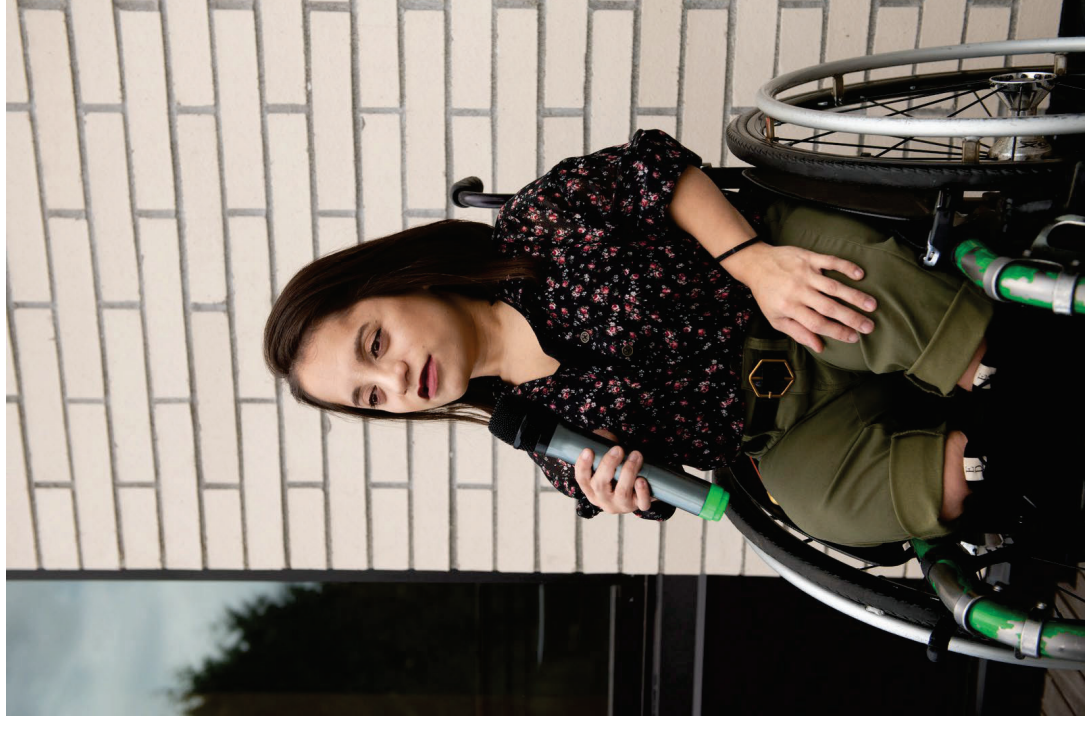
Say your name.  
Use "AGREED" to  
describe yourself

## NAME

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

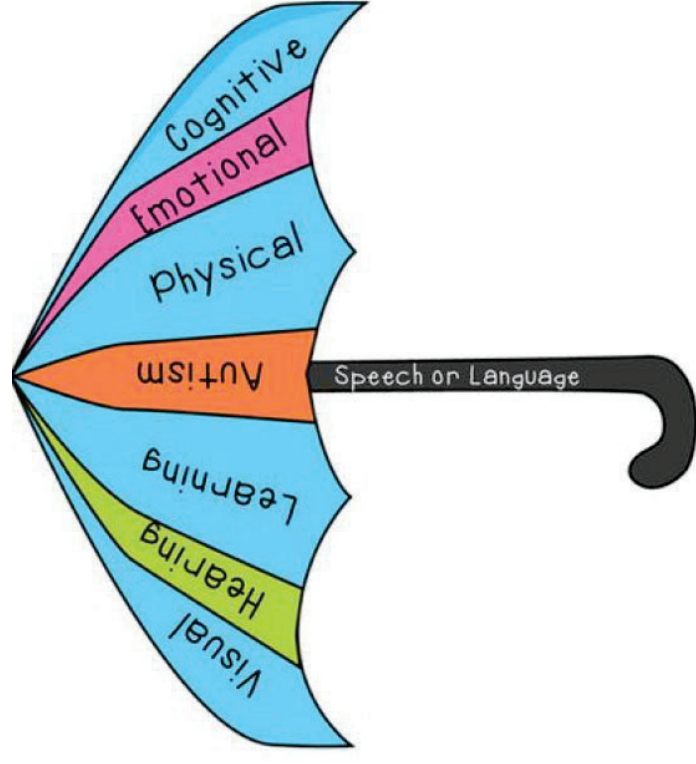
# **Presentations & Presenters**

**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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# **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

**February 2025**



## February Board Meeting

We will have an update  
on the 2025 Legislative  
Session from Ramona  
Hattendorf with The  
Arc of King County.

## May Board Meeting

The Board will hold its next hybrid regular quarterly meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

## Board Activities

The Board met on November 9, 2024, for a second review of their Mission, Vision, Values, and Guiding Principles. The Board will meet again this spring to refine these items.



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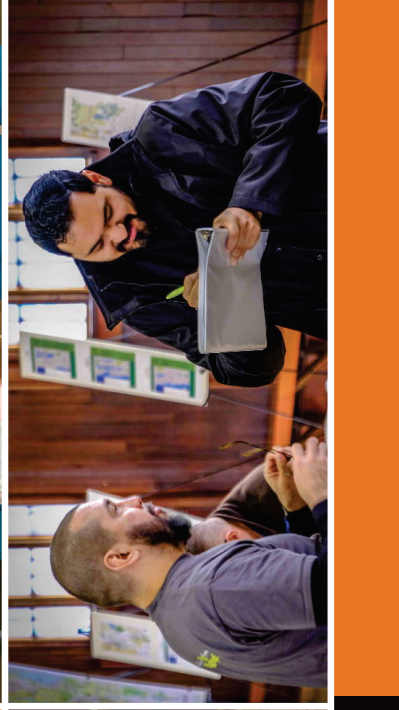
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# Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division Report February 2025



# Early Childhood Team

# What's going on?

## **Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) Scholarship Pilot**

ESIT strategy is hard at work on the second part of the ESIT Scholarship Pilot. A workgroup is meeting to review the application for the second round of ESIT Scholarships.

ESIT Scholarship Pilot program seeks to retain current workforce members, create career pathways for existing staff, and strengthen the ability of ESIT providers to work effectively with diverse families, by funding higher education and related costs needed for career advancement.



# What's coming up?

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Referrals Re-Open for Hearing Speech and Deaf Center (HSDC)** | HSDC has re-opened their referrals for their Birth to Three program to provide D/HH services to children and families! HSDC is participating in a Meet and Greet with Family Resource Coordinators across the tri-county area (King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties). HSDC is now taking new referrals in King County!







# Adult Services Team

# What's going on?

## Community Inclusion Services Updates |

- The State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) contracts with counties to provide Employment and Community Inclusion (CI) services.
- DDA submitted a [Medicaid Waiver Restructure Report](#) to the Legislature in November 2024. In this report, DDA recommends moving CI services to a new "Social Engagement" service category to be administered by DDA, removing it from county services.
- Counties are concerned this could adversely affect services for the 2,300 individuals currently receiving CI services statewide and negatively impact the stability of employment and CI services.
- The Washington State Association of Counties sent a letter to DDA leadership in mid-December expressing their concerns.

# What's going on?

## Community Inclusion Services Updates |

- House Bill 1158 was introduced during the January 2025 legislative session and relates to CI services.
- Counties have several concerns about the bill as it significantly alters the existing delivery model for CI services.
- The bill directs the Department of Social and Health Services to contract directly with service providers to deliver CI services, which are currently administered by counties.
- The Washington State Association of Counties sent a letter on behalf of the Association of County Human Services to the bill sponsors to express county concerns with the bill. Counties will continue to monitor this bill.

# What's coming up?

## School-to-Work (S2W) Update I

- Our posting for a S2W Program Manager, PPM III closed on 2/1/2025, which means we are through our first phase of hiring!

- S2W connects students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to employment services early while they are still in their high school transition programs.

This best practice transition service model collaborates closely with multiple partners with the goal of supporting students to obtain paid employment prior to exiting their high school transition programs at age 22 and make a smooth transition from school to adult services.

- The new S2W Program Manager will work as part of a team co-planning, coordinating, implementing, and maintaining services to meet the employment needs of current and future King County youth who experience I/DD. We are looking forward to welcoming a new member to the DDECSD family soon!



**Community  
Information, Outreach,  
and Referral Team**

# Developmental Disabilities and Delays 2025 Legislative Forum

A meaningful event!



400 in-person and virtual attendees



17 legislators and aides



Legislative district conversations, support from The Arc of King County



Welcoming committee, support from Washington Multicultural Services Link



Recordings (English, Spanish, Somali) and priority information: [www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum](http://www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum)

# Developmental Disabilities and Delays 2025 Legislative Forum

## 2025 Legislative Priorities



Language access



Special education funding



Behavioral health



School transition



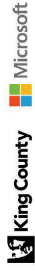
Employment and inclusion



Housing



Recordings (English, Spanish, Somali) and priority information: [www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum](http://www.kingcounty.gov/disabilities-forum)



*Save the Date*

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND  
EARLY CHILDHOOD SUPPORTS DIVISION

# Resource Fair

**Thursday, May 29, 2025**  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Microsoft Commons**  
15255 NE 40th St.  
Redmond, WA 98052

This event is for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and delays, their families, caregivers, and community-based providers. Join us to learn more about resources, services, and supports!

**We look forward to gathering together. More information and registration details coming soon!**

WE'RE HERE TO SHARE ABOUT:



Employment and  
School-to-Work



Early Childhood  
Supports



Recreation



Community  
Resources



Housing



System Navigation

# Resource Fair

- Thursday, May 29, 2025
- Microsoft Commons, Redmond Campus
- All ages
- Whole-life: services, resources, and fun!
- Registration required: details in spring





**We're Hiring!!!!**

# Alyssa Ramseur- Executive Assistant



# DCHS

Department of Community  
and Human Services

## WELCOME ALYSSA RAMSEUR TO

A note from Alyssa:



Hello!

My name is Alyssa Ramseur and I'm very excited to join the DDECS team and support Division Director, Magan Cromar! This promotion allows me to support our department in new ways while continuing to contribute to our mission: providing equitable opportunities for people to be healthy, happy, and connected to their community.

I began my King County career in 2018 with the Department of Executive Services, joined DCHS in 2019, and completed a 1.5-year Special Duty Assignment with Public Health during the COVID-19 pandemic. These experiences have deepened my commitment to community-focused work and service.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, volunteering as Art Docent at my child's school, gardening, crafting, and roller-skating! My values include open-mindedness, inclusivity, creativity, and self-governance – I look forward to bringing these principles to my new role. Along with that I'm eager to learn more about our department's work and to connect with the DDECS team as we work together to make a meaningful impact in King County. Talk soon!

Warmly,  
Alyssa

# 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 February 2025 Updates

Transforming  
Lives

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



## **Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates:**

- Approved Waiver Amendments – January 1, 2025
  - Changing name from Specialized Habilitation to Life Skills. All service eligibility requirements and limitations remain the same.
  - Expanding Transportation to include purchase of a bus pass and add provider types.
  - Contracts need to be developed and Washing Administrative Code updated before these changes can be fully implemented.
- Intake and Eligibility – Region 2 currently has a backlog of DDA Eligibility applications. Taking about 6-8 weeks to get them entered and processed. We are pulling in additional staff to help get caught back up.
- DDA is adding an Enhanced Respite Provider (2 beds) in Western Washington (Vancouver). This is a resource for DDA clients age 8-17 years old who are seeking short-term stabilization supports (up to 30 days in a calendar year).
- Hiring update – down to only a few vacant Case Resource Manager positions left to fill.
- Project ECHO: Training opportunity for parents and caregivers of children ages 3-12 years old, focused on strategies to support challenging behaviors at home. **This 12-week series runs from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Fridays via Zoom, beginning February 7 and ending April 25. [Click here to register](#). This series is free and translation is provided through subtitles if needed.**

# 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)

# We Are Taking A Break...

While you  
are waiting  
stretch,  
drink, and  
have a snack







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# 2025 Legislative Session Update

Ramona Hattendorf, Director of Advocacy  
The Arc of King County



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