



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

BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Minutes

DAY/DATE: Tuesday, February 4, 2025
TIME: 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Tukwila Community Center, Banquet Room A
12424 42nd Avenue S.
Tukwila, WA 98168

BOARD MEMBER ROLE CALL:

Beth Bardeen (joined virtually)
Devony Boyle (joined virtually)
Joe Cunningham (joined virtually)
Laura Musso Escude (joined virtually)
Brandon Graham (joined virtually)
Radhe Morgan (joined virtually)

EXCUSED:

Molly McCoy

ABSENT:

Amanda Knott
CeCe Stovall

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES:

Ashley Ewings, Developmental Disabilities and Early Supports Division (DDCESD)
Crystal Goodwin, Community Member
Michaelle Monday, (DDCESD)
Jim Ott, (DDCESD)
Holly Woo, (DDCESD)

JOINED VIA ZOOM:

Cat Braid, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)
Kristin Brown-Patrick, Community Member
Sheila Collins, DSHS/DDA
Nico Chua, DDECSD
Magan Cromar, DDECSD
Ayan Elmi, Washington Multicultural Services Link
Katherine Festa, DDECSD
Sierra Forde, ASL Interpreter
Wen Harris, DDECSD
Ramona Hattendorf, The Arc of King County
Cori Jones, ASL Interpreter
Stephanie Jones, DSHS/DDA

JOINED VIA ZOOM (CONTINUED):

Louis Lok, DDECSD

Karla Lynch, DDECSD

Sonya Machado, CART Interpreter

TJ Protho, DDECSD

Susy Stremel, DDECSD

Margaret-Lee Thompson, Community Member

Jenna Wolfstone, DDECSD

WELCOME AND BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called the hybrid meeting to order at 3:44 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, with welcoming remarks and asked for Board Member self-introductions.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair announced the following topics:

- 2025 Legislative Session update;
- Wednesday, May 7, 2025, is the next hybrid quarterly Board meeting; and
- Board Business: The members will meet this spring for a second review of their mission, vision, values, and guiding principles.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Joe Cunningham, Board Chair called for a motion to approve the November 6, 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 welcomed a new team member, Alyssa Ramseur, the division's Executive Assistant and asked team members to provide program updates.

EARLY CHILDHOOD TEAM

Wen Harris, DDECSD presented on the following topics:

- Early Support for Infants and Toddlers' (ESIT) Scholarship Pilot. The program seeks to retain current workforce members, create career pathways, and strengthen ESIT providers in working effectively with diverse families.
- Hearing Speech and Deaf Center has re-opened their referrals for Birth to Three services.

ADULT SERVICES TEAM

Susy Stremel, DDECSD provided updates for the following topics:

- Concern for the proposed removal of Community Inclusion services from county administration.
- School-to-Work has completed their first phase of hiring for a Project/Program Manager III who will co-plan, coordinate, implement, and maintain services to meet the employment needs of youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION, OUTREACH, AND REFERRAL TEAM DDECSD LEGISLATIVE FORUM UPDATE

Jenna Wolfstone, DDECSD provided the following updates for the Developmental Disabilities and Delays 2025 Legislative Forum held on November 21, 2024:

- 400 in-person and virtual attendees
- 17 Legislator and Aides

Below are the 2025 Legislative Priorities:

- Language Access;
- Special Education Funding;
- Behavioral Health;
- School Transition;
- Employment and Inclusion; and
- Housing.

You can view the full recording or segments of the forum in English, Spanish, and Somali [here](#).

Jenna Wolfstone also announced a “save the date” for the May 29, 2025, Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division’s whole-life Resource Fair! The fair will be held at the Microsoft Mixer Commons Building in Redmond where information will be shared for the following services and resources:

- Employment and School-to-Work;
- Community Resources;
- Early Childhood Supports;
- Housing;
- Recreation; and
- System Navigation.

More information and registration details are coming soon and will be posted [here](#)!

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS), DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION (DDA)

Sheila Collins and Cat Braid, DSHS/DDA provided the following updates:

- Approved Waiver Amendments for a name change, transportation expansion, and Washington Administrative Code update;
- Intake and Eligibility application backlog;
- Enhanced Respite Provider as a resource for ages 8-17;
- Hiring update for Case Resource Manager positions; and
- Project ECHO caregiver training for children ages 3-12 to support challenging behaviors.

For more information, contact Cat Braid at Catriona.Braid@dshs.wa.gov or Sheila Collins at Sheila.Collins@dshs.wa.gov.

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Ramona Hattendorf, The Arc of King County provided an overview of the 2025 Legislative Session and updates for legislative activities.

Below are resources mentioned during the meeting:

- Washington State Office of Financial Management - [Budget Reductions](#)
- The Arc of Washington State - [Bill Tracker](#)
- The Arc of King County's Outreach and Advocacy Team - [Sign up to receive emails and newsletters](#)

For more information, contact Ramona Hattendorf by email at Rhattendorf@arcokingcounty.org.

BOARD RECRUITMENT

The Board for Developmental Disabilities is seeking residents of King County interested in serving on the Board. The Board is a 9–15-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.

We are currently recruiting for new Board Members who are:

- Persons with a developmental disability;
- Parents of young children with developmental delays or disabilities; and
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

If you are interested in learning more about the Board, please contact Jim Ott, Community Information, Outreach, and Referral Manager at 206-263-9060 or by email at 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 quarterly Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2025, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room B located at 12424 42nd Avenue S., Tukwila.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Prepared by:

Michaëlle Monday

Attested by:

Jim Ott