



BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

JUNE 2025 NEWS & UPDATES



No June Board Meeting or Event

SHOWING APPRECIATION

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to **Beth Bardeen and Molly McCoy** for their outstanding presentations at the Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division's Resource Fair!

We would also like to thank **Devony Boyle, Molly McCoy, and Laura Musso Escude** for staffing the Board's resource table. Your presence and engagement helped share valuable information with the community.

The insight and expertise you all shared helped in making the event a success.

We truly appreciate your participation.

Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW JUNE 19 is JUNETEENTH?



According to the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#), on "Freedom's Eve," the night before January 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services were held. On this night, Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and throughout Southern cities, reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation and spreading the news of freedom in the Confederate states. However, it was

only through the ratification of the [Thirteenth Amendment](#) that emancipation legally ended slavery throughout the United States.

Freedom was finally realized on June 19, 1865, when approximately 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army declared that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "[Juneteenth](#)," which continues to be celebrated by "numerous African Americans across the nation."

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND EARLY CHILDHOOD SUPPORTS DIVISION SERVICES SPOTLIGHT

Community Information, Outreach, and Referral programs connect people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to the information, skills, and supports they need to live and participate in the community.

Connect with one of the following service providers to get help accessing services available to you and your family.

- [Open Doors for Multicultural Families](#) provides the Family Support and Self-Advocates in Leadership Training programs. Bilingual and bicultural staff ensure families who speak languages other than English can connect with staff who share their language and culture.
- [Somali Health Board](#) provides the Developmental Screening and Referral program. Services for Somali families include peer supports, screening, and referral.
- [The Arc of King County](#) provides the Information and Family Support and Civic Engagement programs. Services include peer supports for Spanish speaking families.
- The [Washington Multicultural Services Link](#) provides the Black Family Engagement program. Services focus on meeting the needs of Black families.

JUNE UPDATES

Please select the following links for the Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division's (DDECSD) updates:

[May Meeting Minutes](#)

[May Board Presentations](#)

[June DDECSD Updates \(Services for Children/Youth/Adults, and their Families\)](#)

BOARD RECRUITMENT

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 James Ott, Community Information, Outreach, and Referral Manager at 206-263-9060 or by email at James.Ott@kingcounty.gov.

Additional information about the Board can be found by visiting the Board's webpage at <https://kingcounty.gov/DDBoard>.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next quarterly hybrid Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 6, 2025, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room B, located at 12424 42nd Avenue, S., Tukwila.

Join Zoom Meeting Link: <https://kingcounty.zoom.us/j/82755601310>

Meeting ID: 827 5560 1310

Passcode: 372027



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King County

Department of Community and Human Services

**Developmental Disabilities and
Early Childhood Supports Division**

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