

BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



NO SEPTEMBER MEETING OR EVENT



CELEBRATING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

September 15 - October 15

Join us as we honor the rich histories, vibrant cultures, and lasting contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans during **National Hispanic Heritage Month!**

This annual observance recognizes the influence and impact of Americans whose ancestry traces back to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to recognize the achievements, resilience, and cultural heritage of generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have helped shape our society.

WHAT ARE COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES AND HOW DO I ACCESS THEM?

Community Inclusion (CI) services are individualized supports that help people build meaningful connections in their local communities. Services take place in integrated community settings with other people without disabilities. The activities are based on each individual's interests and provide opportunities typically experienced by the general public of similar age in their local community, such as joining a class, volunteering, or participating in clubs. Activities are typically accessible by public transit or within a reasonable commute from the individual's

home. The goal is to help individuals participate, contribute, and develop relationships with community members who are not paid staff.

Expanded Access Through House Bill 1980

In 2022, the Washington State Legislature passed House Bill 1980, which allows eligible individuals to access Employment and CI services at the same time. Previously, people had to choose between employment services or other community supports. With this change, individuals can now have both services at the same time, which offers more opportunities for meaningful connections in their communities.

Who Is Eligible?

CI services are available to:

- Individuals on the Basic Plus and CORE Waivers who are of working age (21–61) and have participated in Employment services for nine months.
- Individuals who are of retirement age (62+).
- Individuals approved for an Exception to Rule by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Developmental Disabilities Community Services (DDCS), formerly Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA).
- Eligible individuals residing in Skilled Nursing Facilities (under the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) program), Residential Habilitation Centers, or those receiving Roads to Community Living supports.

Learn More

Please watch the [CI Video](#) for additional information regarding CI services through DSHS/DDCS.

For more information about accessing CI or Employment services, please contact your DSHS/DDCS Case Manager. You may also reach out to the King County Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division directly at 206-263-9046 or Susy Stremel by email at Susan.Stremel@kingcounty.gov.

SAVE THE DATE!



2026 Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum

When: Thursday, November 13, 2025

Time: 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Where: [Southcenter Hilton DoubleTree Suites](#)

Registration: Opens Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Visit our [website](#) to learn more.

SEPTEMBER UPDATES

[August Minutes](#)

[August Presentations](#)

[September DDECSD Update](#) (Services for Children/Youth/Adults, and their families)

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next quarterly hybrid Board for Developmental Disabilities is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, 2025, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. at a **new location**, the King County Tukwila Office located at 625 Andover Park W., Suite 200.

BOARD RECRUITMENT

Are you a self-advocate with a developmental disability? Do you want to help make decisions and speak up for people with disabilities in our community?

We are looking for self-advocates to join our Board for Developmental Disabilities. Your voice matters. As a board member, you'll help guide important work that affects the lives of people with disabilities — and we need your ideas and input!

You don't need any previous board experience — just a willingness to share your thoughts. We will provide training, support, and any accommodations you need to feel confident and comfortable.

Meetings are held quarterly on Wednesdays from 3:30–5:30 p.m. They are hybrid (in-person and online), and we'll work with you to make sure you're supported in the way that works best for you.

Interested or want to learn more? Contact James Ott at James.Ott@kingcounty.gov or visit <http://Kingcounty.gov/DDBoard>.

Let's make a difference together!



Want to know more? [Subscribe](#) now!



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

**Developmental Disabilities and
Early Childhood Supports Division**

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