



King County

Board for Developmental Disabilities

NEWS & UPDATES



MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Welcome

May is a time of connection, reflection, and action. As we recognize Mental Health Awareness Month and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we are reminded that strong communities are built when every voice is heard and valued.

Your voice matters, and there are many ways to stay informed, get involved, and help shape a more inclusive community. We are committed to making our spaces and conversations accessible so everyone can fully participate.

Attend the May Board Meeting

Join us for our upcoming quarterly hybrid Board for Developmental Disabilities meeting:

Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

In-person:

King County Tukwila Office
625 Andover Park W., Suite 200
Hallway Meeting Room 2, Tukwila

Join online:

Meeting ID: 211 284 457 913 0

Passcode: zK33eS6s

Board meetings are a place to learn about issues that are important to you, ask questions, and share your voice. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families are encouraged to participate.

Reasonable Accommodations

If you need a reasonable accommodation or other support to participate in the Board meeting, please contact Michaelle Monday by email at

Michaelle.Monday@kingcounty.gov.

Board Recruitment



Lead From Where You Are: Join the Board

The Board for Developmental Disabilities is looking for individuals with I/DD to share their experiences, speak up about what matters to you, and help shape decisions that impact our community.

You don't need prior board experience. You don't need to be an expert. You just need a willingness to participate. Your voice and your leadership on the Board helps to create a more inclusive and responsive community for everyone.

Ways you can lead:

- Speak up about issues that matter to you
- Support others in your community
- Help make services more accessible
- Share your experiences and ideas

Apply to be on the Board. To learn more visit: <https://kingcounty.gov/DDBoard>

Community Resources

Providers in King County connect individuals with I/DD and their families to essential services that support health, independence, and well-being.

Learn more:

Visit the Developmental Disabilities and Early Childhood Supports Division's (DDECSD) website: [Developmental Disabilities](#).

To explore additional programs and services from the Department of Community and Human Services, visit: [Department of Community and Human Services](#).



Honoring Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month aims to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and support those affected by mental health challenges. No one should face these challenges alone, there are resources available to help.

Local Resources

Crisis Connections

24-hour crisis line and emotional support in King County
<https://www.crisisconnections.org>

Washington State Health Care Authority

Information on mental health services and coverage in Washington <https://www.hca.wa.gov>

King County Behavioral Health and Recovery Division

Local programs, services, and supports
<https://kingcounty.gov>



Honoring Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Power in Unity: Strengthening Communities Together

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month celebrates the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of AAPI communities.

Take Action:

- Learn about AAPI history and lived experiences
- Supporting inclusive policies and services
- Attending cultural and community events
- Uplifting all AAPI voices



2026 Resource Fair

Join us at the DDECSD Resource Fair:

Date: May 28, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Microsoft Conference Center

This free event brings together individuals with I/DD, families, caregivers, providers, educators, and community members.

Explore:

- Employment & School-to-Work
- Community Resources
- Early Childhood Supports
- Housing
- Recreation
- System Navigation

Register today:

kingcounty.gov/disabilities-fair

May Updates: Stay Informed and Engaged

DDECSD Transition Update

Ashley Ewings' role has been expanded in DDECSD as a Community Engagement Program Manager. In her new role, she will support community engagement efforts across the whole division. This includes supporting Board outreach, helping to increase community engagement and participation, and strengthening connections with the community. Ashley brings over a decade of experience in special education, child development, and working with families.

Meeting Materials

Stay up to date with recent discussions and decisions:

February

- [Minutes](#)
- [Presentation](#)

April

- [Minutes](#)
- [Presentation](#)

May

- [Agenda](#)
- [DDECSD Updates \(services for children, youth, adults, and their families\)](#)

We Want to Hear From You

Your input helps shape our work. Share your questions, ideas, and feedback to stay connected and make an impact.

Stay Connected



[Subscribe](#) and share this newsletter with your networks to help grow a more informed and connected community.

“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.”

— Arthur Ashe

Thank you for being part of a community that leads with inclusion, respect, and shared purpose.



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

**Developmental Disabilities and
Early Childhood Supports Division**

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