

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: March 5, 2024
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Meeting: In-person: Communitas, 2nd Floor Training Room
920 Park Ave., Bremerton

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF February 6, 2024 MINUTES***
- 4. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**
 - B. Transition Student Update**
 - C. Accessible Communities Advisory Committee**
 - D. KC Annual Resource Fair Update**
- 6. COMMUNITY INPUT**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - B. Advocacy Reports**
 - C. Parks, Recreation and Opens Spaces (PROS) Plan-KC Parks Dept.**
 - D. 2024 Community Summit**
 - E. Board Officer Nominations**
 - F. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
 - G. Provider Updates**
 - H. Officer Report**
 - I. Staff Report**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

* = Indicates action item

**KITSAP COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

5:00pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday, February 6, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF December 5, 2023, MINUTES***

MOTION: Jennifer Acuna moved to approve December 5, 2023; minutes with one amendment. Donna Gearn seconded. Motion carried.

4. **ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

MOTION: Donna Gearn moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jennifer Acuna seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Updates on federal employment efforts and the Employment First Coalition (EFC) activities including, Partners for Work (PFW) was provided:
 - Kelly shared efforts in the development of a PSNS position, met with PSNS staff recently and are working through the hiring process. Making progress, more details to come in March.
 - Met in January with the WISE social media team to begin conversations with the EFC regarding developing a social media platform to highlight PFW efforts and other activities supported by EFC. Meeting again in February with the WISE team to continue discussions on options.
 - Kelly shared that there will be a PFW mock interview event in April with the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club.

b. **Transition Student Update**

- i. 2022 School to Work (S2W) – Another 2022 graduate became job stable so transitioned to long-term funding.
- ii. 2023 School to Work (S2W) – The 2023 S2W services wrapped up with six out of the twelve participants employed and transitioning to long-term funding; while three additional students were hired, bringing the total employed to nine, they hadn't begun working yet

so they along with the other three participants were transitioned out of S2W to DVR services.

- iii. 2024 School to Work (S2W) – The total 2024 S2W students employed is three.
- iv. 2025 Job Foundation/School to Work – Currently there are nine students who will be participating in Job Foundation services.
- v. The County is supporting an in-person Systematic Instruction Training the end of the month for teachers and para-educators.
- vi. The Bremerton ESD 114 Virtual Training Series facilitated by PAVE will be held virtually, via Zoom. Upcoming 2024 workshops include:
 - April 10, from 4p-5:30p. Topic: High School Transition.
 - May 8, from 4p-5:30p. Topic: Preparing for the 2024-2025 School Year.
 - Visit [Bremerton ESD 114 2024 Virtual Training Series \(tfaforms.com\)](https://tfaforms.com) to register for sessions of the Virtual Training Series.

c. County Supported Employment Update

- i. Met with Kitsap County District Court staff in December to discuss the creation of a supported position. Next steps will be developing the position and taking a deeper dive into the District Court staff workspace. More details to come.

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

- a. Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) Coordinator shared upcoming events:
 - i. The DDA Information Night and Application Assistance is scheduled on February 7, 2024, from 6p-7:30p. Opportunity to learn about application timelines, roadmap, and conditions for eligibility.
 - ii. Planning For The Future with Partners4Housing is scheduled on February 22, 2024, from 6p-7:30p. Opportunity to hear creative ways to find and fund housing for individuals with developmental disabilities.
 - iii. Autism and I/DD Training: Value of Assistive Technology is scheduled on March 19, 2024, from 5:30p-8:30p. Participants will learn the importance of assistive technology, how technology can advance the capacity of learning, examples and applications of assistive technology, and the process of purchasing and implementing assistive technology.
 - iv. Transition Services For High Schoolers with Disabilities is scheduled on March 28, 2024, from 6p-7:30p. Learn about services for students transitioning to adulthood.
 - v. For registration details on upcoming events visit the KCPC events page: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org/events/> You can also

contact Melia Hughes at 360-347-6412

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Legislative and Budget Update

i. Kelly reviewed handouts of the Governor's budget. Highlights included:

- Caseload Ratio Reduction: Adding 48 FTE positions is being proposed to reduce case manager to client caseload ratios from current level of 1:75 and better provide person-centered customer service.
- Funding for Parent Support Programs to increase information and referrals to community resources.
- Adjusting child count so agencies providing birth to three services can bill for the first month that they provide services.
- Funding for the Housing Trust fund.

DDA's overview of progress with implementation of projects from last legislation session was discussed. Highlights included:

- DDA working on new waiver of services for children in foster care that are also eligible for DDA services; this new waiver will be in addition to the services they are eligible to receive through the state foster system.
- Maintaining Service Eligibility: Children found eligible for DDA services between ages, 3-17 will remain eligible and will no longer need to complete a re-determination of eligibility until age 20. In June, DDA stopped reviewing eligibility of children aged ten. Families impacted will be sent letters regarding this change.
- Homecare Worker Shortage: Modified training and certification requirements went into effect for home care workers who only provide services to specific, identified family members. In those instances, they no longer need to complete a Home Care Aides certification. DDA completed and published a feasibility study end of December outlining how to pay parent caregivers of minor children with complex needs.
- Enhanced Adult Family Homes Specialty Pilot: The pilot started in September 2023 with 16 Clients and 3 Adult Family Homes. The goal is to add 16 new clients each month until the budgeted target of 100 is met.
- Non-Citizen Program: Pilot program to provide supports to 33 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities who are ineligible for Medicaid services due to citizenship status. DDA identified clients for the pilot and services will begin in January 2024.

- ii. Kelly shared information about the 2024 Bills of Interest for People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD). Highlights included:
 - Funding Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program allowing agencies providing birth to three services to bill for the first month they provide services.
 - Extending special education services to students with disabilities until the end of the school year in which the student turns 22.
 - Authorizing payments for parental caregivers of minor children with developmental disabilities.
 - Increasing access to respite care for those with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their caregivers.
 - Establishing the Nothing About Us Without Us Act addressing the crucial need for including individuals with direct lived experience in shaping policies that directly impact them.
 - Creating a revenue stream for the Housing Trust fund with a DD set aside.
 - Proviso request to increase IE and CI rates to reflect the rates identified in the cost study.
- iii. Information was shared regarding one of the projects funded through the Dan Thompson Memorial Grant. It was a creation of videos, Embracing Community Values developed by Colibri Facilitation, Children of the Setting Sun Productions, and The Arc of Washington. The event dates and times included:
 - Virtual viewing of two stories that explores the value of contributions and status in Coast Salish community. February 1, 2024, from 12p-12:45p.
 - Virtual viewing of two stories that share stories of the exploration of personal sovereignty. February 8, 2024, from 12p-12:45p.
 - Collaborative community meeting to guide the next steps of the use of this work. February 18, 2024, from 12p-12:45p.
- iv. DDA's creation of a Family Advisory Council narrowed down their selection from over 400 applicants to 15 members. The selected members represent the 3 different regions across the state. It was created for families with lived experience to provide guidance to DDA as they develop programs, policies, and procedures.
- v. At the November meeting, it was shared that Kitsap County was in the process of developing an ADA Transition plan and was looking for community input to guide when and where mobility improvements are made in the public right of way. The Central Kitsap Community Council will be meeting on February 7, 2024, from 5p-6:30p at the Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue Headquarters in Silverdale to provide an overview of the plan and provide an

opportunity to gather feedback from attendees.

b. Advocacy Reports

- i. Cathy Borrelli with People First announced that the 2024 People First Convention will be held at the Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton in October.
- ii. A People First flyer was shared. The Bremerton Chapter meets the first Thursday of the month at Communitas at 4 pm. For additional information, contact: peoplefirstofkitsap@gmail.com or 360-731-3936.

c. 2024 Community Summit

- i. The 2024 Community Summit is taking place earlier this year, from May 7-9, 2024, at the Wenatchee Convention Center. There are approximately 1000 in-person spots available, up from 500 in 2023 and a virtual option. Visit the [Community Summit](#) page for more information. County will provide scholarships for Board members to attend, so reach out to Kelly if you are interested. There will also be scholarships available for providers, families, self-advocates and teachers to attend.

d. Kitsap County Annual Resource Fair

- i. The Annual Kitsap County Development Disabilities Resource Fair will be held in-person this year. It is planned on April 24, 2024, from 4p-6p at the Central Kitsap High School Gym. For more information, visit [DD Fair 2024 \(kitsap.gov\)](http://kitsap.gov)

e. DDA/DVR Provider Updates

- i. Kim McCarty with DDA shared that they will be attending upcoming events, which included Hopeful Horizons on February 24, 2024, from 12p-4p at the First Lutheran Church in Port Orchard.
- ii. Kim shared that their office is fully staffed, the last DDA CRM is finishing up Care Academy.
- iii. To receive DDA information updates and alerts, go to [Department of Social and Health Service's Developmental Disabilities Administration \(govdelivery.com\)](http://govdelivery.com) to sign up.

f. Provider Updates

- i. Miranda Fort with Easter Seals shared that their work with 2024 School to Work students is going well. Easter Seals has placed one student so far in a job and will be requesting extended services funding.
- ii. Lindsey with Trillium shared excitement for the Advocacy Days, Employment Rally scheduled on February 14, 2024. Five staff members from Trillium will be present in Olympia that day, along with a scheduled meeting with Washington State Senator Emily Randall.

- iii. Lindsey announced their 2023 achievements; they placed 31 people in jobs in 2023; their initial goal was 35 jobs. They achieved their goal of developing jobs in 15 new businesses and exceeded their goal of increasing the number of hours people are working. One of Trillium's new goals for 2024 is the development of 35 jobs.
- iv. Lindsey shared a story regarding a student they are currently supporting that participated along with staff in a WISE hosted website portfolio workshop; parts of the student's portfolio highlighting her skills, interests and workshop experience was shared; Lindsey noted part of the workshop entailed reaching out to employers in the student's area of interest, in this case it was photography which resulted in the student receiving positive feedback after sharing her photos.
- v. Kelly shared information about South Sound Parent to Parent (SSP2P), Helping Parents program; flyers detailing some of their program offerings was shared. You can visit the [SSP2P](#) page for more information.

g. Officer Report

- i. Sandra LaCelle reminded everyone about the Night to Shine prom event taking place on February 9, 2024, at the newlife Training and Event Center from 5p-9p. You can visit the [Night to Shine](#) page for more details. People can visit the [Virtual Night to Shine](#) page to take part in the event virtually.

h. Staff Report

- i. Kelly reminded everyone that the March advisory meeting will be held only in-person at Communitas, 920 Park Ave. in Bremerton.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at Communitas in Bremerton.

* = Indicates action items

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS	GUESTS/ORGANIZATIONS	STAFF
<p><u>Present</u> Donna Gears Kathy Loughheed Jennifer Acuna Rae Williams Shannon Turner Sandra LaCelle Heidi Scheibner</p> <p><u>Absent</u> Veola Taylor Jennifer Crider</p>	<p>Kim McCarty, DDA Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition Miranda Fort, Easter Seals Cathy Borrelli, People First Lindsey Woodruff, Trillium Kimberly Adams, South Sound Parent to Parent (SSP2P)</p>	<p>Kelly Oneal Justin Wing</p>