



Clallam County Health and Human Services

111 E 3rd Street • Port Angeles, WA 98362 • Phone: 360-417-2377

Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee (DDAC) M I N U T E S

Tuesday • February 11, 2025
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
223 E 4th Street, Room 160
Port Angeles, Washington

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Introductions

Laura Johns called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Members Present: Tony Andrus, Terry Barrett, Pamela Bumgardner, Glen Chipman, Skye Eastman, Laura Johns and Christine Motokane

Members Absent: Jasmine Grenot

Members Excused: Pamela Hicks and Bobbie Stoneman

Audience: Megan Addison, Shelby Bell, David Hankinson, Kim Lopez, Keeoma Messenger, Leah Miller, Kelsi Millet, Jennifer Nehr, Karen Pierce, Laura Radke, Carina Robinson, Lambros Rogers, Michelle Simmons, Raandi Simpson-Goss, Nicole Sklors, Catherine Thomas (interpreter), Misty Ziegler and Melissa (interpreter)

County Staff: Jennifer Charles, Kelley Lawrence, Jenny Oppelt and Kevin LoPiccolo

2. **AGENDA:** Approval and Additions

No quorum

3. **MINUTES:** Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2024

No quorum

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. Welcome, New DDAC Member, Glen Chipman!! The DDAC voted on December 10, 2024, to make a recommendation to the BOCC for Glen Chipman's membership to the DDAC. On January 7, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of this recommendation.
- b. The Clallam County Developmental Disabilities Biennial Community Plan will be the sole focus of today's meeting; consequently, our regular agenda has been changed to dedicate the full time of this meeting to developing our plan.

5. ACTION ITEMS:

The development of the 2026-2027 Clallam County Developmental Disabilities Biennial Community Plan was facilitated at the meeting by Jenny Oppelt, Deputy Director of Clallam County Health and Human Services.

Kelley Lawrence, Clallam County Coordinator for Developmental Disabilities and Laura Gillis Johns, President of the Clallam County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee (DDAC) along with Jenny Oppelt provided a PowerPoint presentation entitled “2026-2027 Clallam County Developmental Disabilities Biennial Community Plan” which offered information and the purpose of developing a County Plan. Following the PowerPoint presentation, Jenny Oppelt, the designated Meeting Facilitator, introduced the Service Areas for developing the plan:

- **Child Development Services**
- **Pre-Vocational Services**
- **Community Information Activities**
- **Community Inclusion Services (CI)**
- **Individualized Supported Employment (ISE)**
- **Training**

The following information was provided by participants for each Service Category:

Child Development Services:

Meet the developmental needs of each eligible child and the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development

- Play Groups
- Multi-generational family support (start as early as possible)
- ABA therapies (accessible and affordable for all)
- Accessible playgrounds (PA?) (some exist in Clallam)
- Early intervention programs (infants/toddlers)
- Occupational therapists who are trained in sensory issues for autism
- Support groups/respite for parents and caregivers. Primary caretaker/giver focused would be helpful (existing: "Mom chats", parent to parent, family movie night)
- "Informing Families" helps connect with DDA services but will help all families
- DDA Services for children - lack providers in our area. Need day respite/camps. Need providers for services: Staff and family, life skills, assistive tech etc.
- Integration of all the programs is essential for children to develop appropriate social skills
- Speech and language therapists (long wait times/lack of providers)
- Mental Health services for neuro diverse individuals (past contract with PBH. Challenge with local providers)
- Inclusive opportunities for sports/rec activities/ after school programs (YMCA/Day care work happening)

Pre-Vocational Services:

Part of an individual's pathway to integrated jobs in typical community employment – Short Term

- More DVR \$
- Need for increased rates
- Program like West Sound Tech (high school vocational program, example of integrative support in classes at Evergreen) at Peninsula - transition students take college courses at Peninsula College - issue with numbers of transition students to get funding
- Parent/Family training on how to navigate this part of the system to set their children up for the future
- Resource Fair - trainings
- Road show - Employment providers going into high schools to present about transition programs - bring people who used the transition program to present
- Reverse job fair
- More employers to be receptive to having Community Based Assessments (CBA's) to allow employment exploration opportunities

Community Information Activities:

Activities to inform and/or educate the general public about intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and related services

- Market to a more general/broad audience
- Presenting to community boards (YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs)
- Increase general public awareness: Having events and presentations that involve self-advocates talking about their lived experiences with IDD
- Highlight voices of people with IDD let it be their choice how to engage
- Trainings for community agencies or boards about the joy, inclusion, and integration of people with IDD
- National Council on Disability (Federal) to come and present about what's happening nationally to promote access for people with disabilities.
- Share maps for inclusive trails (blog site - Glen) add to resource guide
- Project Safer - Statewide presentations - website move to county website
- Mapping healthy relationships training
- Continue what is already happening
- Guardianship training - informed decision making
- SSI/Able Savings/DD Trust trainings
- Training on understanding neurodiversity and inclusion - with individuals voices at the forefront
- Medical gap - between hospitalization and next physical space - advocacy (increased issue with those living independently)
- Training for health professionals/hospital/medical/EMT social workers specific to IDD
- Housing

- Caregiver training specific to IDD
- A video or some form of educational material to educate our clients directly so that our clients will know what to expect and how to behave and respond in the presence of law enforcement in order to prevent negative outcomes

Community Inclusion Services (CI):

Individualized services provided in typical integrated community settings

- 3 hour/month - not enough to actually engage in Community Inclusion (waiver reconstruction process happening on DDA website)
- RATES; agencies paying to provide Community Inclusion
- Transportation – evenings/weekends/bus routes challenge; PINGO as a transportation resource (need in whole Clallam County)
- Funds for the activities (for families and individuals)

Individualized Supported Employment (ISE):

Pathway to employment - tailored to individual needs, interests, abilities, and promote career development

- RATES
- Transportation
- Education around earning income and benefits - Benefits planning and training; <https://benefitu.org/>
- Education around work vs. community engagement
- Accessing both Community Inclusion and Individual Supported Employment
- Increasing hours with Job Coach (transition is 20 hours - challenge/need for increase)

Training:

Planned, structured activities for the purpose of providing, or improving, or enhancing job related knowledge and skills of staff, providers, volunteers, or interning students in the provision of developmental disabilities service

- Non-verbal trainings
- SS/benefits training
- Advocacy/ Self-Advocate training
- People first training
- SAIL - advocacy
- Parents who experience IDD training - Association for Successful Training Webinars, Parent to Parent connections and informing families

Upon completion of the input from participants for the Service Categories our next steps will be to meet with a sub-committee of the DDAC to discuss everyone's input from the meeting. The subcommittee will use this input to assist in developing the priorities for the funding for the upcoming "Request for Proposal" (RFP). Once the priorities are established the 2026-2027 RFP will be created and presented to the DDAC for approval and then presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) for final approval.

Our upcoming RFP process will be conducted in the Fall/Winter of 2025 and contracts awarded will begin in January 2026 and will run through December 2027.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Please limit comments to three minutes (10 minutes total)

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday · April 8, 2025 · 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.