

DDC March 24 Updates

March 27, 2024

Hello DDC Council Members, we hope you are moving well through spring. Here are several updates on what is happening at the DDC for March.

We are thrilled to announce that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Learning (DEI) Initiative project has been awarded to a company named Offshootz! Learn more about Offshootz here: [Diversity Equity And Inclusion \(DEI\) Consultant | Offshootz | Seattle](#). I am copying our Offshootz lead for that project, Brenda Suazo in this message as well. We have had one planning meeting with Offshootz and the Steering Committee, now being called the Internal Champions, made up of Sydney, Adana, Mark, Leigh, Tayshia, Brian, Kevin and Brandi. We have a Project Kick Off Meeting scheduled for this coming Monday, April 1st from 3:00 to 5:00. We will send a meeting invitation for that event today. Please note we plan to record that meeting so that it is available to view for those who cannot attend the kickoff meeting. Offshootz will also join us via Zoom at our Quarterly Council Meeting in April to introduce themselves and share more about the project. This project presents an invaluable opportunity for us to listen, learn, and collaborate as we work towards creating a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all. Please let me know if there are questions or concerns with this information.

We are also excited to announce that the Advocacy Leadership Development Project that you all voted on in February currently has an open Request for Applications (RFA). The application opportunity closes on 4/22/24 and the total amount available to one Community Team is \$20,000. Find out more and help us spread the word in the community here: [Advocacy Leadership Projects Request for Applications | WADDC](#).

We expect the other two opportunities you voted on: Request for Proposals on a paper focused on the intersection of IDD and incarceration, and a paper and event plan for the intersection of IDD and behavioral health to come out in the next two weeks.

Our Mission is to advocate, promote, and implement policies and practices to create pathways to meaningful, integrated, and productive lives for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities over the life course.



Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council
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Please check our Facebook and new LinkedIn sites to see those opportunities when they are listed. We will also share on our [news page of the website](#) and send you all updates when the April Council Meeting Packet is released in a few weeks.

We were contacted by Ros Damm earlier this month letting us know he is stepping down from the Council in order to focus on other things. We also confirmed that Phil Tracey has stepped down. This means there will be at least two open seats for new council members this spring/summer. Please help us get the word out by sharing this information in your networks! Here is the webpage to apply: [Become a WADDC Council Member](#). Also, if you're curious about your own seat and when your term is up, please check out the Governor's site here: [GovernorJay Inslee | Washington State](#). More to come on this in April.

Like I mentioned above, more information about the April Council Meeting will be coming soon. We want to make sure you all know about the Town Hall that is planned for 4/24 at 6:30. Please share this flyer far and wide and join us if you can! [65e90355abe07a7998e4146a_April2024 DDC Town Hall.pdf \(website-files.com\)](#)

The Wandke Accessibility Report is final (please see attached). We will discuss this report and the Membership Survey Results as a group in April.

Alright, don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns. We are standing by, ready to help and also looking forward to our time together in a few short weeks.

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