

DDC August 2024 Monthly Updates

August 8, 2024

Hello DDC Members, we hope August is starting well for you all! This message contains several updates from the last month. You'll also find this message copied to the Members Page of our website later today for future reference: [WADDC | Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council](#). Please reach out to Christie Chiles if you need help accessing the Members Page: Christie.chiles@ddc.wa.gov or 360-586-3540.

1. First, we are excited to welcome five new council members in this message! Welcome to Robert Wardell, Ken Larson, Bridget Parkhill, Melissa Dodge and Riley Daugherty. Council staff are working with our new members to get them oriented and ready for their first meeting in October. Please stay tuned for time at our October meeting to get to know each other.
2. Speaking of our October meeting, we have confirmed that we will be in Walla Walla at the Courtyard Marriott. Please stay tuned for council staff to reach out to Community Council Members, who plan to attend in person, for assistance with hotel and travel arrangements.
3. We would like to set up a partner program for our new members again this year. If you have been on the Council for at least a year, and are interested in being a partner to a new council member, please let Linda West know by September 1st: linda.west@ddc.wa.gov or 360-586-3572. Being a partner means you would be connected to one of the new members before the meeting, possibly sit next to them during the meeting to answer any questions and help them understand what is happening, and be an ongoing contact they could reach out to as they learn how to be a council member. Thanks for considering this opportunity!
4. The Dan Thompson Memorial Account has a Round 3 Survey out to the community for feedback. You will hear more about this in the coming months. Please help us share the survey with your networks: [Take the Survey](#)
5. Meeting minutes from our July Quarterly Council Meeting are posted and ready for your review: [July Meeting Minutes](#)
6. Council staff have started to develop support plans to help identify and provide supports for council members as they participate on our Council. We are inviting



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all council members to work with our staff to create a support plan if you are interested. You can view the support plan by visiting [66a2d66f127fe5d4fd79ace4_Council Member Support Plan FILLABLE.pdf \(webflow.com\)](#). Please reach out to Linda if you would like to develop a support plan. Someone from our team will set up a meeting with you to discuss ideas and get a plan going.

7. Our next Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) event is coming up tomorrow, Friday, August 9th from 1:00 to 3:00. We hope to see you there and/or at the follow up cohort meetings on August 20th or August 21st. You can find the link to these events on the project webpage: [Offshootz DEI \(wa.gov\)](#) Password: Offshootz. There will also be an onboarding meeting for new council members to learn about this project and get up to date with where we are at. All council members and staff are welcome to come to that meeting. I will send an invite to you all once the date is confirmed.
8. Just one more reminder to sign up for our new monthly newsletter to stay informed and hear about cool things happening in our community: [WADDC Newsletter](#)

As always, please reach out if you have any questions about this information. Enjoy August and thanks so much for all of your contributions to the DDC.

Brandi Monts

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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.



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