

# DDC February 2025 Monthly Updates

February 6, 2025

Hello DDC Membership, we hope you are all doing as well as possible. I am sending along several updates for your information and review.

- I have forwarded the message Emily sent out yesterday as a reminder about the advocacy opportunity today. While the 10:00 target time has passed, that phone line still works and will be available to call into. You will also see us running a Medicaid Matters campaign in the next several weeks. That will include information about what Medicaid is, a video opportunity for people to tell their stories, and an effort to organize our community to schedule meetings with their elected state and congressional representatives. Please follow this work on one of the following platforms to see that information as it comes out: [News Webpage](#), Facebook, Linked In, [Informing Families News List](#). Reach out if you need assistance- right now is when our community needs to show up and be heard!
- Emily is also posting weekly legislative updates during session this year. You can find those on our [News Webpage](#) and Facebook as well.
- We are making one last call for co-chair nominations! Both co-chair seats will be open in July, so we plan to hold the elections and vote at our next meeting in April. Please remember that to be eligible, you have to be a member identifying as having a disability and/or a parent or guardian of someone with a disability AND have been on the DDC for at least one year. Please send a message to Linda and me if you are interested in running. If you'd like to nominate someone else, please check with them first to be sure they are open to running, then let us know if they agree.
- Like we discussed last month, support and emergency plans for each council member are super important to keeping everyone safe and able to fully participate. There was a question on the Travel Form at our last council meeting that asked for your emergency contact information. That form is attached to this email. If you did not fill that out already, please do so now and send it to Linda. If you need assistance, Linda can help. Also, Linda will be reaching out to see if you would like to talk through supports that would help you better participate as a council member, as well as update support plans that have already been developed.

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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- We recently learned that we cannot reimburse council members or staff for meals if they are not in "travel status" according to Washington State guidelines. In general, this means you have to be at least 50 miles away from your home and also have that meal within the travel time period the State outlines. So for example, if we are holding a council meeting that is 49 miles or closer to your home, we will not be able to reimburse you for dinner. Please reach out with questions and we are sorry for the inconvenience around this piece.
- Finally, thank you for all the help with getting the Five Year State Plan Survey out! We have already received over 700 responses, which is more than we got last time! Please share the survey information with your networks if you haven't already: [DDC 5 Year State Plan Survey | WADDC](#).

Alright, please take good care of yourselves and the folks in your lives. We are here to answer questions and offer support. Thanks for all of your contributions to our community!

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