

DDC May 2025 Monthly Updates

May 8, 2025

Hello Council Members, can you believe it's already May? Thanks for a great meeting last month! I am still feeling energized as I reflect on all the work we did together. With that in mind, here are a few additional pieces of information to start you off this month:

- **CONGRATS:** Please help us celebrate and congratulate Emily Rogers on recently receiving a Community Amplifier Award from the Community Services Division here at Commerce! We are pretty sure Emily is the first DDC employee to get an official Commerce award! The Award recognizes Emily's ongoing efforts to collaborate with Commerce and to better amplify the DD community's priorities. We are proud of the work and excited for how we can gain Commerce's support for our efforts going forward.
- **REAL ID:** Like we have been discussing, the new rules around airplane travel went into effect yesterday. [Real ID](#) is a new law about boarding a plane, and you'll see on their website there are some different types of identity like passports and Global Entry cards that are accepted. Please check this information out and get prepared for our July meeting in SeaTac.
- **LEGISLATIVE SESSION:** The legislature is finished with their work unless the Governor tells them to come back for a special session. The Governor has until May 20th to sign and/or veto all or parts of the budget that the legislature gave him. If you want to hear more about the end of session, check out [Emily's Session Wrap Up video](#).

Just a few reminders I want to call your attention to. You'll also see these in our monthly newsletter coming out next week:

- **[Medicaid Matters Campaign:](#)** Please help us share far and wide! You may have seen yesterday and today there is a 24 hour vigil on Capitol Hill in DC to protect Medicaid, and the stories on our Medicaid Matters website were read at that event early this morning. You can see more about the vigil [here](#).

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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- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will celebrate 35 years this July. We are helping to raise awareness around the ADA alongside some partners here in Washington. This effort will ultimately help more people in our communities understand the importance of the ADA later on in the summer. Please help us share this information with your networks and consider providing your quote on what the ADA means to you [here](#).
- If you are not signed up for our monthly newsletter, you can go [here](#) to do so.

Alright, we are here to help so please reach out with questions or concerns. Take good care out there today and please know how much we appreciate your contributions to the Council and our community.

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