

Quality Training, Quality Care

Delivering on Caregivers' Continuing Education Priorities

Why it matters

SEIU 775 Benefits Group Continuing Education (CE) equips caregivers to provide high-quality, personalized care across a range of needs—from autism and dementia to home safety and communication. CE helps caregivers grow their skills while improving outcomes for the people they support.

Caregiver input drives new courses

Based on DSHS partnership and caregiver feedback from the SB 5811 stakeholder workgroups, **SEIU 775 Benefits Group is launching 49 new CE courses in October and November 2025, with more courses planned for release in winter 2025.**

To ensure the content is credible, engaging and locally relevant, we collaborated with subject-matter experts from Open Future Learning, Northwest Autism Center and the University of Washington Institute of Human Development & Disability.

New courses reflect caregiver priorities and include topics such as:

- Children with Autism
- Down Syndrome
- Social and Emotional Support for Clients with Cerebral Palsy
- The Fatal Five: Preventable Causes of Death for People with IDD
- Trauma-Informed Care for People with Disabilities
- Supporting Client Self-Advocacy

As a result of advocating alongside caregivers in the community, DSHS simplified their rule so that **caregivers can now retake CE courses across years** to support learning reinforcement.

Contact: Jennifer Barron

Manager of Strategic Partnerships
jennifer.barron@myseiubenefits.org
206-604-6062

IMPACT:

Continuing Education is a proven, cost-effective way to increase caregiver skills, improve client health outcomes and support Washington families. Past caregiver satisfaction surveys have found:

76-78% Satisfaction Rating

76% of family caregivers and 78% of parent providers, report satisfaction with SEIU 775 Benefits Group training.

“I learned how to make my grandmother’s room safer... there’s a lot of things I wasn’t aware of that would be dangerous”

— Sieterra H., Family Caregiver, Puyallup

73% Relevance Rating

73% of all family caregivers say CE topics are directly relevant to their work.

“My brother is autistic, so the CE course helped me understand him better...it made me more aware of his nonverbal cues and special needs.”

— Cecilia C., Family Caregiver, Zillah

Conclusion:

This major release of over 40 new course topics demonstrates our ongoing commitment to responding to and acting on caregiver feedback.