

The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) advocates for better services, supports, and policies for people with developmental disabilities and their families. We collaborate with agencies, train advocates, and push for positive change through policy work and statewide initiatives. Guided by our core values of self-determination, inclusion, and independence, we work to create a more equitable future for people with IDD in Washington State.

2025-26 WADDC Project and Program Highlights

Bridge Forward Conference

In summer 2025, the DDC hosted Bridge Forward, a free four-day virtual event focused on the future of intellectual and developmental disability and behavioral health (BH) supports in Washington.



- » **423** people attended the conference
- » **92%** said presentations were useful for advocacy in Washington
- » **94%** learned more about IDD and behavioral health challenges
- » **95%** felt presentations supported progress for IDD/BH needs

Informing Families

The Informing Families (IF) program is a collaboration between the DDC, the Developmental Disabilities Administration and community partners. IF provides information, support, and resources to families across Washington State.



2348

Families and individuals received one-on-one support

17,700

Connections made between coordinators and families

30

Counties across Washington served by coordinators

13

Coordinators serving diverse communities throughout the state



History & Visioning

The History and Visioning Project honored 50 years of disability advocacy in Washington State while looking ahead to plan for the future. The project included a historical archive, 50-year timeline and community event.

Self Advocates in Leadership (SAIL)

- » 260 members across Washington
- » Members serve on 12 statewide committees, workgroups, or councils
- » Hosted and engaged more than a dozen Washington State Lawmakers in 2025
- » Supported key legislation, including SB 5393, SB 560, HB 1217, and HB 1130

Allies in Advocacy

- » 13 part supported decision making training created
- » 621 people reached through supported decision making presentations
- » Connected at least eight advocacy networks to share resources, protect rights and elevate self-advocate leadership.

Advocacy Partnership Program

APP helps people with developmental disabilities, their families and guardians, and other community members get involved in shaping public policy.

863

People attended Advocacy Days in 2025

30%

Were first time attendees

99

People wrote a message to their legislator