



Our Purpose: *To provide information and resources for children & adults with different abilities living in Kitsap County.*

Hello to Everyone!

I hope you are all keeping cool during this fine weather we are having, please take time to relax and enjoy the Summer; caring for our loved ones with disabilities is a full-time job, but take time to stop and smell the watermelons! (One of my favorites!).

As you may know, there are many issues concerning the health care bill that is being worked on in Congress right now, be sure to let your views be known to your Federal legislators (more info in the following pages).

There are still some summer activities for families to sign up for, you will also find special events, military discounts, and important community contact info in this newsletter; please enjoy and pass on to other families, friends, and agencies as you deem appropriate.

Take care,

Melissa Lund :)

Kitsap County Parent Coalition Coordinator

[Mlund@wa.easterseals.com](mailto:mlund@wa.easterseals.com)

Silverdale: 360-373-2502, ext. 100

Port Orchard: 253-857-2108



KCPC Advisory Board Recruitment

*--We are currently recruiting parents interested in charting the course for our Kitsap County Parent Coalition, and advising on such things as meeting topics, legislative issues, & current local needs of families in the DD community, etc. **There will be 3 Advisory Board meetings per year, occurring after regularly scheduled Parent Coalition meetings.***

Contact: Melissa Lund, KCPC Coordinator, mlund@wa.easterseals.com



~Have a Jubilant July!~

Visit our KCPC Website: www.kitsapcountyparentcoalition.com

Kitsap County Parent Coalition Events



Kitsap County
Parent Coalition

Kitsap County Parent Coalition Parent Support Meeting

--This will be a special trip to the **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium (PDZA)**. **Boxed lunch provided** (vegetarian, ham or turkey), **please RSVP with lunch choice.**

--Melissa and her twin sons (all three are zoo volunteers) will host a tour of PDZA, **the zoo allows for two free entries**—one for the person with disabilities, one for the caregiver. Melissa has a limited number of extra tickets for non-disabled and non-caregiver family members, please contact her for further information.

--Additional tickets can also be purchased online or at the gate.

--Nick Abel will present information about **Trips, Inc.** This program provides tours for people with developmental disabilities that caters to their needs.

Where: Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium (Front Gate)
5400 N. Pearl St., Tacoma, WA 98407

When: Tuesday, August 15, 2017

Price: Free

Time: Noon

What: Zoo Tour and Presentation by Nick Abel w/Trips, Inc.

RSVP/Questions: Melissa Lund, mlund@wa.easterseals.com
360-373-2502, ext.100

Future Parent Coalition Save The Dates:

~Sep. 14, 2017, Info TBA

~Oct. 12, 2017, ABLE Accounts, Info TBA



Our Goal:

To get parents & families connected with the appropriate resources and services available in our community, and offer opportunities for networking, training, and education.



Community Meetings/Events

Kitsap Accessible Family Events @ The Movies

--Lights dimmed, sound turned down, usual movie restrictions are not enforced.

When: Saturday, August 19th **Movie:** The Nut Job 2

Where: SEEFilm Theater, 655 4th St., Bremerton, 98337

Time: Doors open at 9:30 AM, movie starts at 10 AM

Questions: sensoryfriendlyevent@gmail.com or 360-990-7001

Parent to Parent Caregivers of Adult Children w/DD Meeting

--Support for caring for an adult child with disabilities.

When: Thursday, July 25, 2017

Where: The Arc of Kitsap & Jefferson County, 3243 Perry Ave., Bremerton, 98310

Time: 11 AM to 1 PM, lunch provided.

Contact and RSVP: Amanda Smith, P2P Coordinator asmith@arckj.org

For Gamers! Minecraft Club at The Arc (8 Openings Available)

When: July 24, 31, Aug. 7, 14

Where: The Arc of Kitsap & Jefferson County (address above)

Who: Ages 13 to 17

Cost: \$6 per session, \$20 for all 4 sessions

RSVP/Questions: Amanda Smith, 360-516-8689, asmith@arckj.org

Exceptional Family Member Program--- (EFMP Military)

(2017 Special Events are hosted by Fleet & Family Support Center—EFMP in partnership with MWR).

What: Bangor Cinema Plus Theater, Sensory-Friendly Movie

When: Thursday, July 27, 2017

Time: 1 to 3 PM

---And---

What: Bangor Aquatics Center event

When: Thursday, August 10, 2017

Time: 1 to 3 PM

Info (Reservations recommended): 360-396-4115

www.navylifepnw.com



RECREATION/OTHER PROGRAMS ENROLLMENT INFO

Summer Block Party—Bremerton Family YMCA

--Summer games & activities, BBQ dinner, **Free to YMCA & Community members**, valid ID required for non-YMCA members. Bring your friends & family!

When: Tuesday, August 1

Time: 4 to 7 PM

Contact: Chris Sargent, csargent@ymcapkc.org 360-307-4060



Children With Special Needs—Courageous Kids

Climbing Event!

--Children with special needs will be invited to climb the tower at Camp Colman as guests of the camp. **The event is Free, but reservations are required!**

When: Sunday, August 13, 2017

Where: YMCA Camp Colman

Time: 10 AM until Noon

Reservations/Questions: please email jeffriechmann@cs.com

Please like Courageous Kids Climbing on facebook!



Boys & Girls Clubs—Summer Activities

--Lunch is served at Noon, and a snack at 3 PM. Each site has their own set of field trips. Clubs usually consist of art, gym games, and weekly themed activities, such as Disney week.

Contact: Mitch Trump 360-830-6947 trumpm@bgcsps.org

Bremerton Teen Center (For Teens who just completed 6th-12th grades)

Time: 12 to 6 PM



Bremerton Branch @ Naval Ave. Elementary (For youth who just completed K-5th grades).

Time: 7 AM to 6 PM



Port Orchard @ East Port Orchard Elementary (For youth & teens who just completed K-12th grades).

Time: 7 AM to 6 PM

Holly Ridge Center—Early Learning Playgroups

--While Holly Ridge provides early intervention services to families of children with special needs, it is their strong belief that **children of all abilities benefit from playing and learning together.**

- Playgroups are open to all children who are between 20 and 36 months of age.
- Certified special education personnel provide play-based classrooms that address all areas of development.
- Playgroup is 2 days per week, for 90 minutes.
- Activities include: Learning through play, Hello circle, Outside play, Snack, Music & Story Circle, and much more!
- Cost of participation is \$60 per month
- Scholarship application is available upon request.

Times: Varies throughout Kitsap County

Locations: Varies throughout Kitsap County

For More Information: Education Department Coordinator, 360-373-2536

elp@hollyridge.org www.hollyridge.org



West Sound Tech—Now Enrolling For Fall 2017

--West Sound Tech has openings for individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

Contact Info: www.westsoundtech.com call 360-473-0550, or talk to your child's high school counselor.



Linquist Dental Clinic—Accepting Dental Clients

--Lindquist Dental is a non-profit that provides dental care to Puget Sound children in need.

- Takes Apple Health (Medicaid) & Tricare Dental (Military), no out-of-pocket costs for covered services for families who meet income qualifications.
- Under-and uninsured clients pay on sliding fee scale
- Payment plans available, no credit checks
- Bilingual services available

Contact Info: 253-539-7445 or 360-377-0559

www.lindquistdental.org



Legislative/Government Program Info

Washington State ABLE Savings Plan

--ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience Act) allows individuals with disabilities to save money for qualified disability expenses* without losing their federal benefits.

--The Kitsap County Parent Coalition will be hosting Christina Gagnon from the Department of Commerce on **October 12, 2017** to present more comprehensive information about this plan. **Meeting info flyer will be sent in September.**

*Qualified Expenses include:

- * Education *Transportation *Housing
- *Assistive Technology *Financial Management
- *Basic Living Expenses *Personal Support Services
- *Employment Training & Support *Legal Fees
- *Health, Prevention, and Wellness *And Much More!

More info: www.washingtonstateable.com



The Future of Medicaid is In Your Hands!!!

--Advocacy will continue while Congress works and votes on a Health Care Bill.

--Medicaid represents \$1 out of every \$6 spent on health care in the US.

--Persons with Developmental Disabilities make up part of the Medicaid population.

--Thousands of Washingtonians with DD (adults & children) depend on Medicaid-funded services.

--Apple Health IS Medicaid, **any person receiving DDA Services receives Medicaid funding.**

~CONTACT YOUR CONGRESS PERSONS~

Let them know how you feel about Medicaid, share your personal stories!

Contact info at: www.kitsapcountyparentcoalition.com under "Resources"



Health Care is A Human Right—Activist Toolkit

--Health Care is a Human Right-WA is collecting testimonials and patient stories in support of comprehensive health care for all.

For more Info/Website: www.healthcareisarightwa.org

To email stories: healthcareisaright@gmail.com



Federal Bill Updates:

--The Social Security Caregiver Credit Act was introduced into the Senate on May 25, 2017.

--Because Social Security Benefits are based on earnings, family caregivers currently face cuts in their own Social Security benefits when they have to reduce their hours of paid work, or leave the work force entirely, to provide ongoing support to a child or adult family member with a significant disability.

--This bill will provide a Social Security earnings record to family caregivers in these situations.

UPDATE: The bill is still in the Senate Finance Committee.

--RAISE (Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage) Family Caregivers Act was introduced in the Senate on May 11, 2017.

--This bipartisan bill was introduced to implement the recommendation of the federal Commission on Long-Term Care, for the development of a national strategy to support family caregivers.

--The bill would create an advisory body to bring together relevant federal agencies and others from the private and public sectors. The advisory body would be charged with identifying specific actions that government, communities, providers, employers, and others can take to recognize and support family caregivers.

UPDATE: The bill has been seen in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pension Committee, and the Senate Aging Committee.



Community Links/Individuals & Families:

--Summer Camps for Children w/Disabilities (Info):

www.cshcn.org/resources-contacts/summer-camp-directory

--Camp Fire Day Camp (Port Orchard)

www.campfireseattle.org/camp-fire-day-camps/

--Camp Stand By Me (Vaughn)

campadmin@wa.easterseals.com 253-884-2722

www.easterseals.com/washington/

--MDA Summer Camp West (Gig Harbor)

206-283-2183 www.mda.org/summer-camp

--Dr. Alex Kraft (Autism Spectrum, other DD related health issues)

www.trilliumnaturalmedicine.com

Medicaid Premium Payment Program (Medicaid recipients show the cost of their private insurance premium, and Medicaid sends them a monthly reimbursement check for that amount).

www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/premium-payment-program

--Hydranencephaly Foundation (For the cephalic disorder where cerebral hemispheres are absent, replaced by sacs filled w/cerebrospinal fluid)

president@ghf.life

www.hydranencephalyfoundation.org

--Community Guide/Engagement (Supports to help persons with different abilities engage in the community)

www.cmandcsservices@gmail.com 360-443-6704

Military Discounts

--Reward Expert (The ultimate guide to airline benefits for military families)

www.rewardexpert.com

Deal Hack (Discounts for military families)

www.dealhack.com/blog/military-discounts-guide

The Simple Dollar (Guides to provide credit awareness & responsible financial habits for students & parents).

www.thesimpledollar.com/guide-to-securing-your-childs-credit-future/

www.thesimpledollar.com/guide-to-securing-your-college-students-credit-future/

