



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 enjoying the merry month of May, we have an important workshop coming on May 30th—An Autism Workshop facilitated by autism specialist Monica Meyer, education units are available for continuing education. The topic is: “Don’t Let Fate Be In Control Of Their Destiny: Put Dreams Of Community Life Into Action” (info on page two).

There are some important issues going on legislatively, the House of Representatives in Congress just passed the American Health Care Act (AHCA), the future of health care for our most vulnerable citizens may be in jeopardy if Medicaid is impacted by cutting and capping the program. However you feel about the legislation, information will be provided in this newsletter on how to contact your legislators in WA DC and give them your opinion.

Our next Parent Coalition meeting is June 8th, it will be the second Thursday of the month due to the Start Now luncheon being held on June 1st.

Take care, and keep in touch, I hope to see you all soon!

Melissa Lund
Kitsap County Parent Coalition Coordinator

Melund@wa.easterseals.com

Silverdale: 360-373-2502, ext. 100

Port Orchard: 253-857-2108

C: 360-710-5389



INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY SERVICES (IFS) WAIVER SIGNUP STILL AVAILABLE!

--The IFS Waiver helps support families who have a member with a developmental disability who is 3 years or older, by providing a choice of services to help maintain and stabilize the family unit.

--You may be eligible to receive many services:

- *Respite Care *Nursing Services *Assistive Technology
- *Behavior Support *Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapy
- *Community Engagement Support *Supported Parenting Services
- *Therapeutic Equipment & Supplies *Transportation

---And many more.....

--There are still openings available through June, to read more about the IFS waiver, go to www.dshs.wa.gov/dda/consumers-and-families/individual-and-family-services-waiver, or www.informingfamilies.org/ifs-waiver-services. --You can also call 1-800-735-6740.

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.

--Kitsap County Parent Coalition Meetings/Events--



Community Autism Workshop

When: Tuesday, May 30th, 2017

Where: Olympic Educational Service District (OESD) #114,
105 National Ave. N., Bremerton, WA, 98312

Time: 10 AM to 2 PM---**Lunch Provided!**

Topic: **“Don’t Let Fate Be In Control Of Their Destiny: Put Dreams Of Community Life Into Action”**

Speaker: Monica Meyer, Autism Specialist

--This Course will focus on the importance of planning on the hopes, dreams, and desires of a person with Autism.

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



Kitsap County Parent Coalition Parent Support Meeting

--A support meeting for parents and family members of persons with disabilities, very informal, with a different topic or speaker each month.

Light luncheon provided, please RSVP if possible.

Where: Olympic Educational Service District (OESD) #114
105 National Ave. N., Bremerton, WA 98312

When: Thursday, June 8, 2017

Time: 11 AM to 1 PM

Speaker: Linda Cerbone, Home Care Referral Registry/Pierce & Kitsap
A representative from DDA may also be available to take some Questions (followup from the May KCPC meeting).

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



--Community Meetings/Events--

Kitsap Accessible Family Events @ The Movies

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

When: Saturday, June 3rd, 2017—Captain Underpants

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

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

Cost: Free, 1 caregiver ticket per special needs child. (children 3 yrs. & under are free, Children 3 yrs. and above are \$5.00 per ticket.

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



Arc Parent Caregivers of Adult Children w/DD Meeting

--Support for the unique issues associated with caring for an adult child with disabilities.

When: Tuesday, May 23, 2017

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

Topic: Developmental Disabilities Life Opportunities Trust, Laura Penn Speaker. Lunch provided.

Time: 11 AM to 1 PM

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



Disabilities Legislative Reception & Breakfast

--Local legislators will provide a brief overview of the year's legislative session, followed by a brief period for Q & A.

Where: McCloud's Grill House, Perry Ave Mall, Bremerton

When: Saturday, May 13th, 2017

Time: 9 AM to 11 AM

Cost: \$10 for breakfast, paid to McCloud's Grill House

Questions: Roxanne rbryson@hollyridge.org, or Chris ctibbs@arckj.org



**START NOW! LUNCHEON—SKHS Community Transition
Program Building—Thursday, June 1, 2017**

“Transition from Dependence to Independence”

-- Come learn how to plan for your child’s future. A light lunch will be provided.

Time: 10:30 to 1:30 PM

Information Will Be Provided Regarding:

- *WA State ID
- *DDA (Developmental Disabilities Administration)
- *DVR (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation)
- *Special Olympics
- *Guardianship

Hosted by: Community Transition Program

RSVP: Ms. Ronny Arnold 360-443-3705

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The Future of Medicaid is In Your Hands!!!

For your information:

--Medicaid is an important partnership of the federal government and the states. *Federal Medicaid funding enables our limited state funds to go farther and serve more low-income and disabled citizens.*

--Medicaid Touches All Our Lives. *People with developmental disabilities make up a part of the Medicaid population. Apple Health is Medicaid funded. Any DDA client receiving services is receiving Medicaid funding.*

--Nationally, the American Health Care Act (AHCA) proposal is to block grant Medicaid without making structural changes to the program, and cut billions from Medicaid over the next 10 years.

- *Less people served on Medicaid and Less services being offered.*
- *Lost enhanced revenue from the Community First Choice option that provides daily assistance to people with developmental disabilities.*
- *Funding will not be there to anticipate case load growth at the rate Medicaid is growing now.*
- *Everything funded by Medicaid will change at the state level.*
- *The state may lose \$1.5 billion a year at the proposed cut.*

~CONTACT YOUR CONGRESS PERSON AND TELL THEM HOW YOU FEEL~
(contact info for legislators at: www.kitsapcountyparentcoaliton.com)

Video link: www.informingfamilies.org/medicaid-is-our-lifeline/





Community Links to Resources for Individuals & Families:

--**Summer Camps Info:** www.cshcn.org/resources-contacts/summer-camp-directory -or- www.seattlechildrens.org/pdf/summer-camps-for-children-with-autism

--**Down Syndrome Support Group of Kitsap Peninsula:**
theupside@comcast.net

--**Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program Referrals:**
www.kitsapublichealth.org/cshcn

--**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)—Employment**
www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr

--**Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)—Navy**
www.navylifepnw.com

--**Olympic Peninsula Autism Center (OPAC)**
www.easterseals.com/washington

--**Kitsap Transit Low Income Reduced Fare Application**
www.kitsaptransit.com/access-and-vanlink/access

--**Kitsap County Parent Coalition Website:**
www.kitsapcountyparentcoalition.com

~Have a Magnificent May! See You Soon!~

