



2023 State Legislative Priorities for Developmental Disabilities

Updated October 27, 2022

King County thanks the Legislature for its continued support for children with developmental delays or disabilities, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), and their families. King County's intentional efforts to become an anti-racist County includes a commitment to center its work on the communities of people with disabilities and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.

King County asks the Legislature to prioritize advancing equity in resource access and service delivery, honoring community voices by taking the following actions in 2023:

- 1. Increase funding for services that are linguistically accessible and culturally relevant.** Invest in interpretation, translation, cultural navigation, and other language and cultural supports so all people with I/DD and their families can access services in their language and culture.
- 2. Fund the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Employment and Day Rate Study recommendations,** which includes increasing rates to stabilize provider networks to ensure community members access to services and increasing the county administration rate.
- 3. Improve access and eliminate barriers to quality supports and services for families with young children (0-5) with delays and disabilities.** Invest in coordinated efforts across systems to support child and family needs, including eliminating family out-of-pocket costs for Early Support for Infants and Toddlers.
- 4. Fund services for students leaving high school.** Provide Basic Plus Waiver services for all State Developmental Disabilities Administration eligible students leaving high school in 2023-2025 to support their journey beyond school.
- 5. Invest in the Housing Trust Fund and other revenue sources to support community-based housing solutions.** These investments are needed to ensure people with I/DD and their families can live in accessible, equitable, safe, and affordable housing in their local communities.
- 6. Invest in I/DD behavioral health supports.** Individuals and families need a range of available behavioral health supports. The response to the growing behavioral health crisis must include I/DD informed comprehensive and accessible options in addition to out-of-home services.

For additional information, please contact:

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