

Check out our latest newsletter!



## WA State Parent to Parent (P2P) Newsletter: July 2018

[P2P Programs by County](#)



**Happy 4th of July!**

**Goodbye Erin King-Luce & Cynthia Ortiz (Chelan-Douglas), Sara Palm-Son (Lewis County) and Liz Cruz (Yakima)**

**Welcome Melody Porter (Lewis County), Amber Cook (Pacific)**

**~~Susan and Jackie**

### **Highlight State P2P Office**

**SUSAN ATKINS, State Coordinator -**  
**([All About Me](#))**

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Alexa age 34. Terry age 70,  
passed away 2017,  
Carly age 29 and Molly age 25.  
And me- Susan

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## Calendar of EVENTS

### July

7/1-7/6: Held in Seattle 2018 - [The Special Olympics USA Games](#)

The USA Games staff run all the events including opening ceremony-you can find all the [details here](#). Husky Stadium and tickets are \$20.

The 2018 Special Olympics USA Games will be held in Seattle, Washington July 1-6, 2018. More than 4,000 athletes and coaches representing 50 state Programs and the District of Columbia, along with the support of tens of thousands of volunteers and spectators, will compete in 14 Olympic-type team and individual sports.

- [Law Enforcement Torch-run](#) representatives nationwide carry the Special Olympics Flame of Hope that will light the cauldron at the Opening Ceremony (June 28th-July 1st 2018)
- [Events and Ceremonies](#)
- [View The Sports](#)

### August

8/5-8/10: [Youth Transition Summer Workshop](#)

The FREE Youth Transition Summer Workshop is for youth with all disabilities who are planning to live independently someday and have career or educational goals. Youth who have or had a 504 plan or IEP are encouraged to apply. **This is for ages 16-21 years old.** The individual who is interested in attending must be the one to call and request an application. Once we receive their application they will be contacted for an interview in June.

The workshop focuses on preparing for college and/or employment, and developing independent living skills including self-advocacy, financial management, etc. This is a great opportunity for youth to get connected with community resources and meet other youth with disabilities who plan to live independently. We'll have motivational speakers, many of who lead productive and successful lives despite having disabilities. For a glimpse of our previous workshops please see our short video below. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXX14H6Wct0&feature=em-share\\_video\\_user](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXX14H6Wct0&feature=em-share_video_user)

8/6-8/10: University Autism Hiring event August 6th - 10th focused on [Software Engineer](#) candidates. Please apply by [sending resumes](#)

8/17-8/19: Summer Games August 17-19 Everett WA-Volunteer Positions available for new "Wellness Coordinators" to do health screenings at events and direct families to needed health services and supports. Contact-[Samantha Thompson](#) for information and application.

### October

10/1-10/3: [35th Annual Pacific NW Institute on Special Education and the Law](#) will be held in Portland, Oregon at the Oregon Convention Center. Our headquarter hotel will be the [Hilton Portland Downtown](#).

10/26: [8th annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference in Centralia \(9-3\)](#)



## RESOURCES

### [National ABLEResource Center](#)

ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) accounts allow people with disabilities to save money without jeopardizing their Social Security benefits. To learn more about ABLE accounts or to open an account in a different state, visit the Nation Able Resource Center at [www.ablenrc.org](http://www.ablenrc.org)

[Ben's Fund](#) is expanding their mission to offer grants for young adults (19-23) on the autism spectrum. Finding meaningful and age-appropriate daytime activities and employment options and the funding for young adults in maintaining a quality of life they need, and deserve.

[Let's ALL Play](#) is an inclusive programming model that provides recreational programs the foundation and the framework they need to offer a fully inclusive experience to ALL children in their communities.

[Power in Friendship Toolkit](#) - Designed for families of children with disabilities and those with typically developing children, this toolkit provides parents the resources to help their child build inclusive friendships.

[Inclusive Playgrounds in Washington State](#) - Playgrounds and parks across Washington State that offer inclusive and barrier-free elements for children regardless of their age and ability. Features may include adapted play equipment, increased access, quiet areas and programs for children with special needs.

[Baseball: Little League Challenger Division](#) - Adaptive baseball program for youth with physical and intellectual challenges. Visit [LittleLeague.org](http://LittleLeague.org) to find a Challenger Division near you.

[Horse Assisted Therapy - PATH International](#) - The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH) promotes safety and optimal outcomes in horse-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. Visit their "[Find a Center](#)" to find a therapeutic center near you.

[Soccer: TOP Soccer](#) - The Outreach Program for Soccer (TOP) is for players age 4 and older who have developmental and physical disabilities. The program is based on skill level, not age. Players are paired with volunteer buddies who help them with the game. Twenty three programs are located throughout the state.

[Special Olympics of Washington](#) - Sports programs for children and youth with intellectual disabilities. Youth are eligible at age eight with no upper age limit. The "Young Athletes" program is for children with and without intellectual disabilities, ages 2 to 7 years old. It introduces basic sport skills such as running, kicking and throwing.

[Outdoors for All Programs](#) - Year-round adaptive outdoor recreation. Programs include snowboarding, snowshoeing, cross country, downhill skiing, cycling, hiking, yoga, kayaking, day camps, rock-climbing, camping, military programs and custom events.

[C.A.S.T. for Kids](#) - C.A.S.T for Kids Foundation hosts annual fishing and boating events for children with special needs. [Visit their calendar](#) to find an event near you.

[Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife](#) - List of ADA compliant water access sites across Washington.

[Youth Outdoors Unlimited](#) - Washington based non-profit organization dedicated to take youth diagnosed with life threatening illnesses or physical disabilities hunting or fishing.

[ADA Accessible State Parks](#) - List of accessible state parks and campgrounds in Washington. Includes parks with accessible trails, restrooms and other services.

[Passes for Washington State](#) - Passes that reduce or waive camping, moorage, watercraft launch fees and day use for people with disabilities. Passes are valid only at Washington state parks.

[National Parks, Monuments, Forests, Wildlife Refuge & Fishing Services-Access Pass](#) - Free, lifetime pass to many public recreation sites in the U.S. Available to citizens or permanent residents that have a permanent disability. The pass also provides a discount on fees at many sites (such as camping, swimming, boat launching, and guided tours)

swimming, boat launching, and guided tours).  
NEW resources from [Seattle Children's Center for Children with Special Needs Inclusive Playground Directory](#)

- Our NEW Inclusive Playground Directory lists ten ADA accessible inclusive playgrounds in Washington State
- View photos, accessible features, location and more
- Accessible features may include adapted play equipment, increased access, quiet areas and special programs for children with special needs
- Search the map for the playground nearest you

#### [Recreation and Sports](#)

- Our NEW Recreation and Sports page features information on adaptive sport organizations, adaptive outdoor recreation and accessible camping and state parks
- Use the links to find a program near you
- Find information on free and discounted passes for Washington State and National parks

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## 7 Home Lessons We Learned From Mister Rogers



### "Won't You Be My Neighbor"

Always Take Your Shoes Off  
Be a Good Neighbor  
Show Your Sweaters Some Respect  
Use Your Imagination  
Less Can Be More  
Make Room for Learning  
Let Your Style Shine Just the Way You Are



### Links for Archived Newsletters

(Click to read [archived past editions](#) through August 2016 of the P2P Newsletter!)

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