



## WA State Parent to Parent (P2P) Newsletter: October 2019

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Parent to Parent Coordinators from around Washington State gathered in Yakima for our annual Coordinator training. This 2-day training included:

- Motivational Interviewing with Jonnae Tillman
- Presentations by the DD Ombuds, Office of the Education Ombuds, P2P USA and Informing Families
- 20/20 Visioning for WA P2P

We also had a special retirement celebration for Susan Atkins, who has led the Parent to Parent network for over 20 years. Susan's vision, support and tireless advocacy for Parent to Parent established a strong network in our state. We're so very thankful for Susan and her commitment to family support!

A special thank you to our training sponsors: Arc of Washington, Washington State Department of Health's CSHCN Program, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council, Yakima Children's Village

And, thank you to the Developmental Disabilities Administration for on-going support of Washington State Parent to Parent programs!

Welcome Nicki Solie (Snohomish County) & Goodbye Shawnda Hicks (Clallam County), Tamara Bartel (Lewis County)

~~Tracie, Theresa and Jackie  
State Parent to Parent





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## Calendar of EVENTS

### 2019

#### October

Down Syndrome Awareness Walks! October is here and it is now Down Syndrome Awareness Month! There are still some amazing Buddy Walks happening around the state! [To see a complete list of all walks](#)

10/15: SW Washington area families can start preparing for High School and Beyond with the [WISE training series](#) starting October 15th, 2019. This training series is for families and educators who live in Clark County. Each free two hour session will provide important information to help prepare students with disabilities for transition from school to adult life.

10/24: [Child Development and Parenting: Autism 101](#) - This lecture is intended for parents and families of children recently diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). There is no need to register in advance to attend. Oct. 24, 2019 7 to 8:30 p.m.

#### November

11/6: The Lewis County Autism Coalition will host its 9th annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference on November 6, 2019 - at Centralia College in Centralia, WA. - and invites you to share your experience and knowledge as a presenter.

Workshops will be aligned with our 2019 conference theme Inclusion: School - Work - Community and advancing the success of individuals with disabilities, families, and professionals. To participate, please complete the Call for Presenters form and send to [conference@lcautism.org](mailto:conference@lcautism.org) by April 15, 2019. Early submission is encouraged. [Download the Save The Date Flyer](#)

#### December

12/5-12/7: The 2019 TASH conference is December in Phoenix, AZ, <https://2019tashconference.sched.com/info>

### 2020

#### May

5/6-8: Please make plans to attend the 2020 Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC).

May 6, 7, and 8, 2020 at the Tacoma Convention Center

\*IECC plans to offer STARS Credit and Clock Hours for this event.

For general conference information please visit [www.ieccwa.org](http://www.ieccwa.org)

## 2020 Advocacy Day Schedule ([Advocacy brochure](#))

1/22	I/DD Briefing - Statewide Legislative Reception
1/29	Community Residential
2/5	Caseload Forecast DD Services
2/12	Families in Crisis
2/19	Workforce Shortage
2/26	Budget Overview
3/4	Self-Advocates/ Employment (Rally)

## RESOURCES

### 1. [Activities & Play Place for Children with Autism & Special Needs](#)

Chuck E. Cheese is proud to support families who have children with autism and other special needs. We offer a sensory-friendly experience on the first Sunday of every month at participating locations, opening our stores two hours before their normal opening time. Our Sensory Sensory events include a trained and caring staff that work to ensure each guest has a fun-filled visit. We realize that the Chuck E. experience can be very stimulating for any child, so our mission is to create an event that allows ALL kids to be a kid.

[Sensory Sunday Locations/information](#)

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### 2. [Centurylink field to offer sensory calming room](#) starting this season.

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### 3. Please make plans to attend the 2020 Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC).

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#### Call For Presenters

IECC is currently seeking proposals for its 2020 conference. The IECC Conference is well known within the State of Washington for providing high quality, evidence based training for families and professionals working with young children (ages birth to eight) and their families.

- If you or someone you know may be interested in submitting a proposal - Our submission deadline for presenter proposals is November 16, 2019. To apply online click here.

#### Exhibit Hall Registration

Our registration for our 2020 Exhibition Hall is currently OPEN. The 40th Annual Infant and Early Childhood Conference (IECC), attracts family members, professionals and supporters who are concerned with issues affecting young children with disabilities. Presentations will attract attendees from public and private schools, Head Start and Early Head Start programs, child development centers, childcare programs, ECEAP, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, universities and colleges, therapeutic and health care services and families. If you would like to attend as part of our exhibit hall please see the link below. All accepted presenters receive a complimentary exhibit hall space.

- Exhibitors - early bird registration this year is through March 31, 2020. [To apply online.](#)

Please feel free to share this invitation with your colleagues.

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### 4. [News Flash from OSPI](#)

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5. Established in 2016, the Dementia Action Collaborative (DAC) is a group of public-private partners committed to preparing Washington State for the growth of the dementia population. The DAC is currently working on a project to develop education/training for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) and case managers of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and dementia. This is a very important project because individuals are living longer and developing dementia. (Aging is the biggest risk factor for developing dementia).

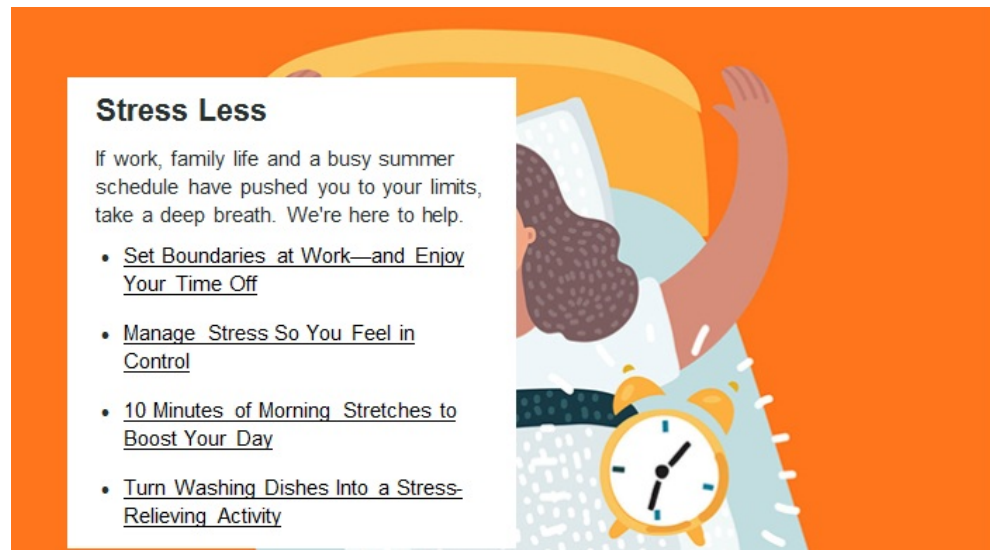
The DAC would like to learn from families of and individuals with I/DD and dementia about what needs they have. This information will assist us in developing education and training. The link below is to a Survey Monkey survey. If you are a family member of an individual with I/DD and Dementia, please consider following the link and taking the survey. The information you provide is valuable and will inform our training of Direct Support Professionals.

6. Support group for family members who are caring for a loved one with Down Syndrome and dementia (diagnosed or suspected). We recently opened up the group to include members who would like to [participate remotely via phone or video chat](#).

7. Challenges and Issues for Special Needs Children-Special needs is an umbrella term for a wide array of diagnoses, from those that resolve quickly to those that will be a challenge for life and those that are relatively mild to those that are profound. It covers developmental delays, medical conditions, psychiatric conditions, and congenital conditions that require accommodations so children can reach their potentials. No matter the reason, the designation is useful. It can help you obtain needed services, set appropriate goals, and gain an understanding of your child and the stresses your family may face.... ([See article](#))

"Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life."

Amy Poehl



## Links for Archived Newsletters

(Click to read [archived past editions](#) through August 2016 of the P2P Newsletter!)  
[Past Newsletters Parent to Parent \(bottom of the page\)](#)

WA State Parent to Parent (P2P) | The Arc of Washington State | 1.888.754.8798 x-2 | [parent2parentwa@gmail.com](mailto:parent2parentwa@gmail.com) | [info@arcwa.org](mailto:info@arcwa.org)

Website: [http://arcwa.org/index.php/getsupport/parent\\_to\\_parent\\_p2p\\_programs](http://arcwa.org/index.php/getsupport/parent_to_parent_p2p_programs)

For a current listing of Washington State Parent to Parent programs, please contact:  
The Arc of Washington State at [info@arcwa.org](mailto:info@arcwa.org) or call the above phone #.

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