1. If you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has a developmental disability, would you describe its impact on you?

I have a very personal relationship with someone who has a developmental disability. The impact is immense. They show me how important and valuable all people are that everyone has something to contribute to society. Their lives are important and ones to be cherished.

2. What are your top three legislative priorities and how would you help people with developmental disabilities in them?

My focus is on helping families. I work to support our foster care system so children in our care have the best outcomes possible. This includes people with developmental disabilities. My work also focuses on helping our local businesses. They have an economic impact on everyone in our community.

3. With the current economic crisis, how would you protect services that people with I/DD and their families need?

As a member of the Human Services and Early Learning Committee I am very familiar with the programs that help our I/DD communities. It is important we review spending across all programs however programs that did not receive significant funding increases in the 19-20 biennium should not have their levels cut. Our increased spending in the current biennium should be reviewed as our current revenues in this crisis are in line with the 17-18 biennium.

4. Is there other information you’d like constituents with developmental disabilities and their family and friends to know?

It has been an honor to work with the I/DD community in Olympia. I appreciate having their voice and advocacy. Being involved in our government is crucial.