

## 2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities

Name: Tim J Hickey

District: 48th Legislative District

Position: State Representative Pos. 2

**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 and have had a number of personal experiences with students and friends with developmental disabilities.*

*How they have impacted me? That's a great question.*

*I have always been impacted personally in a very positive and deep way in terms of personal growth. In each case I've learned so much about myself and more importantly about my friends with disabilities.*

*Presently I am involved helping a 44-year-old blind man. I occasionally take him fishing and we correspond a lot. We walk and talk about life and keep each other great company.*

*About twenty-two years ago I held a class in tap dance for a group of boys. One had ADHD, two were children with autism and another with an unidentifiable disability/challenge. This class taught me patience and in the end we had an excellent time!*

*Back in the mid-nineties I had a tap dance student named Ashlee. She was deaf at childbirth with 'cookie-bite hearing loss'. She was an amazing dancer and her parents helped me learn Exact Sign Language with books and practice.*

*I created an entire language of tap-dance terms so we could communicate, and Ashlee changed my life forever. I choreographed a dance for her with a live band to L.O.V.E. and her mom signed during part of the piece. It was a benefit performance for Kirkland Performance Center. It was an amazing and emotional experience.*

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

*My top three legislative priorities will be:*

*Recovery from the economic Corona-Virus pandemic without raising taxes;*

*The safety of our children and senior citizens in regard to their health, and well-being including access to needed health care and improvement in school environments;*

*The improvement of our transportation system and roads.*

*I can see how my 1st and 2nd priorities will help contribute to the well-being of people with developmental disabilities as it should help the supportive family and friends directly and indirectly with transportation.*

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

*This I will have to study, as I have no direct information regarding this question. That being said, I will work diligently to protect all citizens of the 48th and King County.*

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

*I thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to serving you in the House of Representatives in Olympia, WA.*