

2020 State Official Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities

Name: Sarah Reyneveld

District: 36th LD

Position: Candidate for State House

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

Yes, I have a good friend with a developmental disability who is also a Democratic party leader and active volunteer on my campaign. I have so much respect for this person and he has had such a positive impact on my life. I have learned that to be an ally to this person I have to listen to my friend, and to help to elevate his voice and other voices of people with developmental disabilities.

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

My constituents are concerned with the impacts of the COVID 19 crisis to their safety and economic future. I want to lead in the legislature by investing in workers, working families, vulnerable populations, and small businesses to prioritize public safety and economic growth to lead us out of this recession. I will work to create family wage union job opportunities, healthy, affordable, and safe communities through investment in affordable housing and a social safety net for our vulnerable neighbors, a quality education system including increased investments in apprenticeships, and Green New Deal to create the jobs of the future. Throughout this work, I will be sure to prioritize the needs of people with developmental disabilities and bring them to the table. We have begun reimagining many aspects of our lives during the COVID crisis, and policies to adapt to a new normal must include the needs of the developmental disability community.

1. Creating healthy, affordable and safe communities through investment in more affordable housing, family wage union jobs, health care for all, services for our most vulnerable neighbors and people with developmental disabilities, and fixing our unfair and regressive tax system.
 - i. I want to invest in affordable housing to help people with developmental disabilities. The Legislature should invest more in affordable housing, rental subsidization, and diversion programs. The Legislature should allow counties the authority to tax business to raise revenue without preempting cities authority.
 - ii. Creating family wage union jobs to help grow us out of the recession.

- iii. Universal health care. Pass the recommendations of the Universal Health Care Workgroup to establish a pathway to universal healthcare and increase funding for mental health and behavioral health treatment. Universal healthcare will provide coverage and access to healthcare for every need.
 - iv. Making our tax system fairer. We must pass a capital gains tax and income tax and reduce reliance on regressive taxes such as sales tax and property taxes.
2. Investing in universal child care, quality K-12 education and increased access to quality higher education, workforce training and apprenticeships for all kids and prioritize support to vulnerable populations and those with developmental disability.
- a. The legislature should create a universal yet voluntary early learning system for all kids and prioritize providing services for our most vulnerable and those with developmental disabilities.
 - i. Child care is accessible and affordable and no family pays more than 7% of their income towards the cost of care.
 - ii. Child care is high-quality, culturally competent, and encourages home language development.
 - iii. Child care providers earn a living wage, benefits, and opportunities for advancement.
 - iv. Preschool for 3 and 4-year olds is available to every child.
 - b. The Legislature should amply and equitably fund Basic Education to end the school to prison pipeline and ensure all kids can thrive.
 - i. Creating supportive classrooms with sufficient mental health counselors, nurses, paraeducators, and support staff.
 - ii. Decreasing class sizes consistent with the voter approved mandate.
 - iii. Fully funding special education and removing the cap from special education services.
 - iv. Ensuring that teachers are paid a living wage and reflect the diverse communities they serve.
 - c. The Legislature should make higher education accessible for all by:
 - i. Ensuring college, apprenticeships and workforce training are affordable and accessible for all students.
 - ii. Expanding investment in workforce training and degrees in high demand fields our economy needs.
 - iii. Decreasing student debt.
3. Tackling the climate crisis by expanding public transit, and investing in a clean energy economy through a Green New Deal.
- a. Creating and implementing greenhouse gas standards to get to net zero emissions by 2050.
 - b. Adopting a progressive and stable revenue source to fund transit projects to deliver more mobility options to the 36th District, transit projects connected to affordable housing, and help fund Ballard and Magnolia bridge replacements;

c. Holding polluters accountable by adopting funding sources that require polluters to pay for the harm they cause.

Applying an environmental justice and equity lens to solve climate change and to the prioritization of environmental projects, including education and training for workers.

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

It is critical that we protect services for people with I/DD and their families during COVID 19. Most people with I/DD are already in the high-risk category of contracting COVID-19. We must prioritize services for I/DD and their families and ensure they are provided with vital services during the COVID 19 crisis. COVID 19 has exacerbated the challenges in ensuring that those that need the assistance of a caregiver or live in a community home can be equitably provided services under social distancing guidelines. I will fight to protect I/DD by 1) preventing cuts and prioritizing the delivery of services that people with I/DD and their families need, 2) providing sufficient funding for PPE equipment for all staff and caregivers serving I/DD people and all essential front line healthcare workers, 3) ensuring equitable access to the internet for use of remote communications technology for individuals with I/DD and their families, and 4) guaranteeing sufficient funding for equitable delivery of education, wrap around and meal service to I/DD students.

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

I will be a strong advocate for the I/DD community and want to work with you and for you in the legislature.