

Check out our latest newsletter!



## WA State Parent to Parent (P2P) Newsletter: March 2017

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### **WELCOME March 2017!**

Goodbye to Gabby Lopez in Skagit County and now Melissa Lund in Kitsap/Jefferson and Michelle Meyer in Walla Walla. Thanks to all of you for your assistance helping families. I know you are going on to continue this work in other counties or organizations. Thanks!~~Susan

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### **P2P Coordinator Spotlight: Pierce County Parent to Parent!**

All About Me -  
[Michele Lehosky](#),  
Coordinator



and  
[Doreen VanderVort](#),  
Co-Coordinator  
(family on left) ([Pierce  
County Parent 2  
Parent Facebook](#))

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## Calendar of Events

### 2017...

3/8 - 3/10: [General & Special Education Conference](#)-WA State Convention Center, Seattle. Course content age range: Birth-21 years of age.

3/11: [A Bi-lingual Conference for Families and Others Caring for Children with Developmental and Other Disabilities-flyer in Spanish](#)

Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:00 am - 3:00 pm Location: Sunnyside High School; 1801 East Edison; Sunnyside, Washington

3/17: [Moving Forward! Community Implementation of Washington Down Syndrome Information Act](#). Join us for a webinar on March 17, 2017 at 10:00 am. Register-6507824987533020163

3/18: [All Born In](#) Annual Conference in Portland at the Portland Holiday Inn.

3/31: [Duncan Seminar Seattle Children's Hospital- "The Juggling Act"](#) Developmental Disabilities, Behavioral Challenges and Mental Health. Friday March 31st 8 am - 4:30 pm Wright Auditorium, Seattle Children's Hospital. **Limited Scholarships Available** call Lena at 1.206.987.5318.

4/1-4/30: **Pinwheels for Prevention!** The Department of Early Learning (DEL) is observing **National Child Abuse Prevention** month in **April 2017** by raising awareness in communities about child abuse and neglect prevention. Please place your order for pinwheels using the [form attached](#) and send to [strengtheningfamilies@del.wa.gov](mailto:strengtheningfamilies@del.wa.gov). Pinwheels are available on a first come, first serve basis. Pinwheels will be available for delivery in March.

4/1: [2017 Voices of Children Contest](#) for children reared by grandparent or other relative not a parent (all entries must be submitted or postmarked by April 1st 2017). Questions call 1.877.813.2828 or email [Lynn@Familyess.org](mailto:Lynn@Familyess.org)

5/3 - 5/5: [Infant and Early Childhood Conference](#) - Greater Tacoma Convention Center, Tacoma, WA.

6/13-6/15: [Wenatchee 2017 "Impact Our Futures!"](#) June 13th-15th, 2017

Location: The Wenatchee Convention Center 121 North Wenatchee Avenue,  
Wenatchee, WA 98801 1.509.662.4411 Contact: Monica McDaniel at:  
[monica@gowise.org](mailto:monica@gowise.org) or 1.253.307.7475 - Registration opens in March 2017.

**6/23: [The WIN Leadership Symposium](#)** - one day symposium bringing together local community, business and government leaders to promote inclusion. Official public launch of the WIN Initiative : Microsoft Redmond Campus-more information to follow.

## 2018...

**7/1-7/8: [The Special Olympics USA Games](#)** held in Seattle 2018-more information to follow.

## 2017 Advocacy Days in Olympia

**NOTE: Advocacy Day is every Wednesday from February 1st through April 5th. It begins with an hour briefing at 10:00 am at the The United Churches (110 - 11th Avenue SE, Olympia). Contact Bean if need more information [bean@arcwa.org](mailto:bean@arcwa.org) or 1.888.754.8798 option 5.**

**3/1: Advocacy Day-Meet Your Legislators**

**3/8: Advocacy Day-How McCleary Affects You**

**3/15: Advocacy Day-Family Services and Parent to Parent Day!**

**3/22: Advocacy Day-Budget Overview**

**3/29: Advocacy Day-Self-Advocates / Autism and Down Syndrome Day!**

**4/5: Advocacy Day-Take Note!**

**If this is your first visit and you need a guide for the day, please let us know when you register. To register, please call: 1.888.754.8798, option 5, or e-mail: [bean@arcwa.org](mailto:bean@arcwa.org)**

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## New Resources

1) Seattle Children's [Support Group Information](#)

2) Great [Shout Out to P2P Programs](#) Statewide (stay and listen until the 2nd gentleman begins speaking) Autism Blogcast with Jim and Raphe

3) Video Series

- ["Sunshine After the Storm:"](#)-how Parent to Parent Support can help
- ["Writing an IFSP"](#)-an individual family services plan for your young child
- ["Siblings" and the Sibling Support Project](#)

4) [ParentHelp123.org](#) and [InformingFamilies.org](#) are great resources for families and they do a nice job of categorizing information by the age of the child.

5) The National Autism Association's [Big Red Safety Box](#) program. This is a free of charge safety tool kit for autism families in need of wandering prevention tools.

6) [Trips Inc.](#) All-inclusive vacation packages for travelers ages 18 and older with intellectual & developmental disabilities

7) ABLE Account - It looks like ABLE Account is to be implemented on July 1st 2017 in WA State.

- [What Expenses Can't a Special Needs Trust Pay For?](#)
- [ABLE ACT and THE DD ENDOWMENT TRUST](#)



*Pure Wow-20 Ways to Practice Self-Care in 2017 by Jenny Jin*

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## Links for Archived Newsletters

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

[September 2016](#)

[October 2016](#)

[November 2016](#)

[December 2016](#)

[January 2017](#)

[February 2017](#)

WA State Parent to Parent (P2P) | The Arc of Washington State | 1-800-821-5927 |  
parent2parentwa@gmail.com |  
[http://arcwa.org/index.php/getsupport/parent\\_to\\_parent\\_p2p\\_programs](http://arcwa.org/index.php/getsupport/parent_to_parent_p2p_programs)

**STAY CONNECTED:**

