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Do you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has an intellectual/developmental disability? (I/DD) If so would you describe its impact on you? How would it affect you in this job?

I served on the board of New Horizons School in Renton from 2019 - 2021 as treasurer. The schools focus is working with neurodiverse students from various districts. I was profoundly impacted, by how a customized learning plan can exponentially increase the long term impacts of a child's life.

Subsequently my grandson was diagnosed on the autism spectrum, as a family we have learned to advocate on his behalf and he is doing exceptionally well. As a result it has made me cognizant of others with various intellectual/developmental abilities to be accommodating.

What are your top three priorities and how would you ensure people with developmental disabilities and their families are included in them?

1. Supporting foster youth by ensuring federal benefits are restored to them and not going to the state agencies.
2. I would work to strengthen federal funding for special education and allow funds to follow the child, should they need to move to schools that accommodate them. I would want to work with families and advocates to ensure that we are providing the funding in a way that will best benefit them and their students educational needs.
3. Maintaining federal lands to ensure that we can reduce the impact of wildfires by cleaning up our old growth forests and maximize the use of it for our citizens.

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) are essential for individuals with I/DD. Currently, HCBS services are optional but nursing home services are an entitlement. Do you support making Community-based care (HCBS) an entitlement? Why or why not?

It should be an entitlement after certain criteria are met, because various jurisdictions (cities, counties and communities) have different services that are accessible to those that need it.

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program has not been updated since 1984. The asset limit continues to be \$2000, and married couples can only have \$3000. Do you support raising the asset limit, and eliminating the "Marriage penalty" for recipients of SSI? Why or why not?

Yes, the asset limit should be raised in accordance with inflation year over year so that we are not forcing people into poverty to receive benefits.

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

As a mother and grandparent, it will be the lens that I use when evaluating legislation in front of me in Congress. Those with developmental disabilities have been overlooked, by our elected leaders, I will work to uplift their voices and ensure that they are heard.