

The background features a complex, abstract design of concentric circles and arrows. The circles are rendered in white and light gray, with some having solid black outlines. Arrows, also in white and light gray, point in various directions, creating a sense of motion and interconnectedness. The overall effect is a futuristic, digital, and somewhat abstract representation of data or a network.

PROTECT OUR RIGHTS TO THE COMMUNITY

SHAWN LATHAM

SELF ADVOCATES IN LEADERSHIP



What is Self-Advocates in Leadership (SAIL)

- SAIL is a membership coalition for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) that is interested in shaping public policy in Washington State and the United States.
- SAIL offers the information, training, and other assistance people with I/DD need to speak up and be heard by government lawmakers.
- SAIL holds monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday.

Those with intellectual and developmental disabilities want



Preserving State Core Services

- Federal changes and cuts plus State deficit issues means we all need to say “Protect our right to live in the community”
- Cutting services to individuals and families makes it harder for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to stay independent and lead meaningful lives.
- Services like waiver services, education and employment assistance, Community inclusion, Community engagement, and residential services should not be cut.



People belong in the community not in Institutions

There are 429 individuals in institutions

vs

4,700 individuals alone who uses supported living services

Cost per day by Residential Setting

- Assisted Living: \$173.44
- Adult Family Homes: \$180.68
- Supported Living: \$662.73
- State Only Living Alternative (Adults): between \$993.05 to \$1,340.00
- State Only Living Alternative (Kids): \$1,386.06
- Lakeland Village (Nursing Facility): \$1,270.73
- Lakeland Village (ICFs): \$2,250.00
- Fircrest School (ICFs): \$2,100.00
- Fircrest School (Nursing Facility): \$1,400.00
- Yakima Valley School: \$1,499.53
- Rainier School (ICFs): \$2,4000.00

* ICF means Intermediate Care Facility

* This data is based on the 2025 DDA Caseload and Cost Report

What Do We Need Going Forward

Work with the Department of Social and Health Services to make sure they create plans to phase out all DD institutions and build community capacity for long-term supports.”

We need our State and Federal lawmakers to realize that community-based services should be the right not institutional services.

Work with State and community partners to make sure transitions are happening and are person centered.

Work with the Department of Social and Health Services to make sure that any emergency/crisis care and/or enhanced behavioral support services can be delivered safely in a true temporary setting.

Increase housing and residential options



- We want to see more low-income, accessible housing options. This includes providing money for the DD part of the Housing Trust Fund each year.
- We also need improved services to assist people with housing transitions.
- We also need a variety of residential options in the community, from Adult Family Homes, Companion Homes, and State Operated Living Alternative.
- We also need to support services like Supported Living to support people in their homes.
- We also must make sure all providers are paid a living wage, so there is enough support workers in the community.



Access to Transportation

- We want access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation across Washington State.
- Don't forget those in the rural areas.
- We would like to see more funding for public transportation.
- We need more accessible and affordable options in the private sector.