



Washington State Parent to Parent (P2P) Monthly Newsletter



The Arc has been the proud host of the Washington State Parent to Parent (P2P) Network for over 35 years, partnering with local agencies to bring community-based programming to families raising children with disabilities.

July 2026

**Find your Local
P2P Group**

**Join The Arc of
WA State**

**Join our P2P
Facebook Group**

Give Us A Call: (360) 357-5596 option 2



June 30 marked the end of Parent to Parent's fiscal year. We accomplished so much with the support of our amazing state and local partners! We would like to take this opportunity to thank our 26 Parent to Parent program sponsors:

Asotin County Public Health District (Asotin County Parent to Parent)
BOOST Collaborative (Whitman County Parent to Parent)
Clallam Mosaic (Clallam County Parent to Parent)
Holly Ridge Center (Kitsap County Parent to Parent)

Island County Human Services (Island County Parent to Parent)
 Joyce L. Sobel Family Resource Center (San Juan County)
 Kittitas Valley Opportunities (Kittitas County Parent to Parent)
 Lifeworks WA (Cowlitz/Wahkiakum County Parent to Parent)
 Moses Lake Community Health (Grand/Adams County Parent to Parent)
 Multicare Yakima Memorial (Yakima County Parent to Parent)
 Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare (Okanogan County Parent to Parent)
 Olympic Neighbors (Jefferson County Parent to Parent)
 PAVE (Pierce County Parent to Parent)
 PEACE Northwest (Clark/Klickitat/Skamania County Parent to Parent)
 RCAM/Boots and Brushes (Lincoln County Parent to Parent)
 Reliable Enterprises (Lewis County Parent to Parent)
 South Sound Parent to Parent (Thurston/Mason County Parent to Parent)
 SPARC (Skagit County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of King County (King County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of Snohomish County (Snohomish County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of the Tri Cities (Benton/Franklin County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of Grays Harbor (Grays Harbor/Pacific County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of Spokane (Spokane/Stevens/Ferry/Pend Orielle County Parent to Parent)
 The Arc of Whatcom County (Whatcom County Parent to Parent)
 The Brave Warrior Project (Chelan/Douglas County Parent to Parent)
 Walla Walla Valley Disability Network (Walla Walla/Columbia/Garfield County Parent to Parent)

These sponsors ensure Parent to Parent support is provided in all 39 Washington Counties (per RCW 71A.14.120 which establishes Parent to Parent in Washington legislative statute). We're also thankful to many Developmental Disability County partners who partner with Parent to Parent to assure local needs of families raising children with disabilities are being met.

From one thankful parent:

'Parent to Parent is not only a helpful program, it's a friendly hand always willing to help. The people leading the program care about our wellbeing as mothers. Parent to Parent makes you feel like you are not alone on this journey. It hugs you and guards your heart. A million thanks to Parent to Parent.' (translated from Spanish)

.....
 Welcome Jill McCormick , Pierce County P2P and Logan Lane the new Parent to Parent Coordinator for Spokane.

Goodbye Shawnda Hicks, Pierce County P2P; and sponsoring agency for Lincoln County P2P, RCAM/Boots and Brushes.

~~~Tracie, Theresa, Maria and Jackie

**'Por informacion en espanol, mirar hacia abajo en la pagina'**



Remember to check out our [Parent to Parent page](#) on The Arc of Washington's website

([P2P Map & Coordinator info](#) here or scan the QR Code to the left).

You can find up-to-date information about Coordinators and programs serving every County in Washington State!

[The Parent to Parent Family Stories](#) page on the website. [\(Spanish\)](#)



## Mission of Parent to Parent

We walk alongside those parenting children with developmental disabilities and/or special health care needs, connecting them with peer support and information so they can take the *next step*.

## Vision

All families of children with developmental disabilities and/or special health care needs deserve encouragement, inclusion and meaningful connections that support family well-being.

## Values

- *We believe parents and caregivers want the best for their families and have the creativity and capacity to overcome challenges and celebrate successes.*
- *We commit to creating safe spaces for reflection, vulnerability, questioning and ongoing learning for parents and caregivers.*
- *We practice inclusion and respect for all with a commitment to listen fully and learn from the diverse viewpoints of the families we serve.*
- *We honor the rewarding and challenging work of parents, caregivers and community partners.*
- *We engage community partnerships through outreach, listening and education to encourage inclusive communities where families can thrive.*
- *We promote building communities that are equitable, non-biased and socially healthy where all families and children can live inclusive, safe and fulfilling lives.*



# INFORMATION & RESOURCES



## 1.) A Message from DDA Interim Assistant Secretary Dana Phelps

On April 14, DSHS Secretary Angela Ramirez announced that the parts of DSHS that provide services and supports to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities would be coming back together under one administration as the Developmental Disabilities Administration.

We recently completed the work to implement that change, including a [high-level organizational chart](#) for DDA, beginning June 16. This updated organizational chart does not change the direct services and supports people are receiving, nor does it change the assigned case managers or points of contact for anyone in services.

### Priorities for Improvement

Over the last month I have been meeting with community partners to talk about DDA and the longer-term plans for services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I have also been meeting with staff groups to answer their questions.

Many people asked how DDA will continue efforts to improve services and simplify access to supports. It's a goal we all share as we continue to build on this past year's work to strengthen collaboration between the Home and Community Living Administration, Behavioral Health and Habilitation Administration and Developmental Disabilities Administration. We will also prioritize intake, eligibility and service approvals to make it less complex and time consuming.

We are committed to individual choice and inclusion by improving access to:

- The right services and supports (quickly).
- Participation in community activities when and where chosen.
- Choices for people as they decide where to live.
- Meaningful employment and careers.

## Looking Ahead: A 10 Year Strategic Plan

A 10-year strategic planning effort will launch in July, facilitated by an independent facilitator to guide us through the process. Self-advocates, parents, community partners, DDA staff and other interested parties will have an opportunity to provide their thoughts and ideas about what is next for DD services and supports in Washington state. This work is not just focused on services and supports provided by DDA. It will address the broader service and support needs people have.

Everyone has been very interested to know whether being back together as DDA is permanent or temporary. There is still not a definite answer to this question. We will gather input on this topic in the near future.

As we continue the work to make services better, you can share your ideas or ask questions by emailing [reimagine@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:reimagine@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Dana Phelps, Interim Assistant Secretary  
Developmental Disabilities Administration

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## 2.) New Release: Home and Community Based Services Waiver Overview Video

Did you know that many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive support through Medicaid programs called Home and Community Based Services waivers, or waivers for short? Washington's five DDA waivers currently support more than 25,000 people with I/DD to live and participate in their communities. Each of the five DDA waivers has its own menu of services and eligibility requirements.

Learn more by watching our new HCBS Waiver Overview video, a new addition to our Waiver

**Services video library**

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist...>

**Watch the Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-hwnpl-rQc>

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## 3.) Please check out our newly translated publications!

**New translations:**

**IF Resource Guide:**

- Spanish: [6a272c302b3e64774848b15d\\_Resource\\_Folder\\_Flyer\\_26 UP.C.1\\_SP\\_FINAL.pdf](#)
- Vietnamese: [6a272c2d4754a907351da02b\\_Resource\\_Folder\\_Flyer\\_26 UP.C.1\\_VI\\_FINAL.pdf](#)

**IF Program flyer:**

- Spanish: [69bc6233e60d0025ae60b3ba\\_IF Program Flyer Spanish.pdf](#)
- Vietnamese: [6a27237df80136d573cf5e47\\_IF Program Flyer English\\_VI\\_FINAL\\_REV.pdf](#)

**Funding Notice:**

Also, the DDC has a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for our Legislative Engagement Information and Tools program, learn more at [Notice of Funding Opportunity: Legislative Engagement, Information & Tools \(LEIT\) Program | WADDC](#)

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## 4.) Washington Remains Committed to Protecting Student Civil Rights Among Trump Administration's Transfer of Authority

[Click Here for OSPI NEWS RELEASE](#)

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## 5.) Special Education Moved from ED to HHS

Take Action Click Below

[Legislative Action Center | Council for Exceptional Children](#)

## 6.) Transforming Washington's Children & Youth System of Care Report on System Changes and Innovations Office of Washington Governor Bob Ferguson

[Click here for the Transforming\\_WA\\_Children\\_Youth\\_System\\_2025\\_0.pdf](#)

## 7.) Dad's Make a Difference: Male Caregivers as Engaged Parents

Click for the Complete Bulletin from Informing Families:  
<https://www.informingfamilies.org/bulletins/dads-make-a-difference-male-caregivers-as-engaged-parents>



## 8.) Navigating the News: A Guide for Families

[Click here for Navigating the News: A Guide for Families | Informing Families](#)

Click here for more [Info & Resources - Washington State \(arcwa.org\)](#)

# CONFERENCES / SEMINARS & SPECIAL EVENTS



### POSITIVE PARENTING: PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR

We are inviting parents and caregivers of children ages 3-12 years old in the Pacific Northwest with suspected or diagnosed delay or disability who want to learn strategies to understand, support, and respond to challenging behavior and connect with other parents to take part in a 10-week remote research series. We use the [Project ECHO](#). All Teach All Learn mind set, so everyone learns together.

**We Hope to:**

- Share evidence-based strategies to understand, support, and respond to challenging behaviors
- Develop a confidential, community safe space
- Support each other

**We Provide:**

- Experienced multidisciplinary team of experts
- Computer-based language translation
- Live Spanish language support

**10 WEEK VIRTUAL SERIES  
THURSDAYS  
JULY 30- OCTOBER 1  
11:30-12:45**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE  
CONTACT SUE ADELMAN  
[ADELMS@UW.EDU](mailto:ADELMS@UW.EDU)  
[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)

**REGISTER NOW**





[pwsaorwa@gmail.com](mailto:pwsaorwa@gmail.com)  
360-609-5197

**Prader-Willi**  
SYNDROME ASSOCIATION | Washington/Oregon  
SAVING AND TRANSFORMING LIVES  
[pwsa-or-wa.org](http://pwsa-or-wa.org)  
1101 NE 219 Street, Ridgefield, WA 98642



**SOLENO**  
THERAPEUTICS

### Coming to a city near you

**Tri-Cities, Washington**  
Saturday, June 20, 2026 at 5 pm-8 pm,  
Gesa Carousel of Dreams, Richland

**Bend, Oregon**  
Saturday, June 27, 2026 at 1-4 pm  
Comfort Inn Redmond Airport

**Spokane, Washington**  
Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 1 pm-4 pm,  
DoubleTree by Hilton Spokane City Center

**Medford, Oregon**  
Saturday, July 18, 2026 at 1-4 pm  
Best Western Crater Lake Highway

**Albany, Oregon**  
Saturday, August 22, 2026 at 2-5:30 pm  
Historic Carousel & Museum, Albany

**Olympia, Washington**  
Tentatively scheduled for Sept 19, 2026



**Families, Physicians, Nurses  
-Are all welcome-**

- Meet local PWS families
- Ask the Expert panel & connect with PWS professionals in your area
- Find out about new and potential future treatments for hyperphagia (extreme unsatiable hunger)
- Connect with Soleno PACE for product support and resources

**Your PWS Village Starts Here!**



**For more information &  
To register:  
[pwsa-or-wa.org](http://pwsa-or-wa.org)**

# SURVEYS



WSCC is partnering with WSU to strengthen how data informs children's behavioral health in Washington State.

What do you wish our state knew about our children, families, and the barriers we face?

Your voice is important!

*[Click here for the survey.](#)*

# WHAT WOULD HELP LOOK LIKE FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY?

**Your voice belongs in the conversation about children's behavioral health in WA State**

We're building stronger communities — and we need your input.  
Share what's working, what's not, and what matters most to you.



**SCAN ME!**



**WASHINGTON STATE  
COMMUNITY CONNECTORS**  
Connecting Families, Resources & Ideas

WSCC's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee is collecting anonymous feedback to better understand how families access and experience children's behavioral health services.

**SURVEY CLOSES ON JULY 31ST**

[www.wscsupport.org](http://www.wscsupport.org)



## WADDC 5 Year State Plan 2027-2031 Public Comment Period Open

The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) has released its draft 2027–2031 State Plan, and we are asking for public feedback.

Every five years, the DDC creates a new plan that guides our work. Over the past 18 months, we gathered information from the 2025 survey, reviewed statewide data, and talked with Council Members to understand what issues matter most. Now we want to hear from you.

Please take a moment to look at the drafted State Plan (link below), complete the survey and share your thoughts.

## ***WADDC 5 Year State Plan 2027-2031 Public Comment Period Open | WADDC***

***Take the Survey Click Here***



### **MCHBG Public Comment Survey**

Thank you for reading our Maternal and Child Health State Action Plan [\[Link: Washington's Plan to Support Women, Children, and Families \(2025–2030\)\]](#). This plan guides the work of Washington State Department of Health (DOH), local health jurisdictions, and other public health partners. Our goal is to connect families to helpful programs and services.

We want to hear from you. Your feedback will help us make sure this work meets the needs of all Washington families.

This survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete. We will not collect any personal information unless you choose to share it.

Information collected via this survey may be subject to release in accordance with [RCW 42.56](#) (Public Records Act).

***Click here for the MCHBG Public Comment Survey***



**TAKE OUR P2P SURVEY! Please tell us how we're doing!  
Use the QR Code or Click on a link below.**



***<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2KCJHF2> (English)***



***<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M5JZWW8> (Spanish)***

—❖—

**Know someone that would benefit from receiving our  
Parent to Parent newsletter and is not on our mailing list?**

**Share our new QR Code for signing up  
to receive our monthly Washington State  
Parent to Parent (P2P) newsletter.**



—❖—

### **Misión de Padre a Padre**

Caminamos junto con los padres de niños con discapacidades del desarrollo y / o necesidades especiales de atención médica, conectándolos con el apoyo y la información con el compañerismo para que puedan dar ***el siguiente paso***.

### **Visión**

Todas las familias de niños con discapacidades del desarrollo y / o necesidades especiales de atención médica merecen el ánimo, la inclusión y las conexiones significativas que apoyen el bienestar familiar.

### **Valores**

- Creemos que los padres y cuidadores quieren lo mejor para sus familias y tienen la creatividad y la capacidad para superar los desafíos y celebrar los éxitos.
- Nos comprometemos a crear espacios seguros de reflexión, vulnerabilidad, fuera de cuestionamiento y de aprendizaje continuo para padres y cuidadores.
- Practicamos la inclusión y el respeto por todos con el compromiso de escuchar atentamente y aprender de los diversos puntos de vista de las familias a las que servimos.
- Honramos el trabajo gratificante y desafiante de los padres, cuidadores y aliados comunitarios.
- Participamos en asociaciones comunitarias a través de la publicidad, escuchando para fomentar la educación con inclusión en las comunidades donde las familias pueden prosperar.
- Promovemos la construcción de comunidades que sean equitativas, sin prejuicios sociales y saludables donde todas las familias y los niños puedan vivir vidas con inclusión, seguras y satisfactorias.

—❖—

## **IMMIGRATION SAFETY**

**DCYF: *In Case of Family Separation: Placement Process Flow Chart | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families***

**Desde DCYF:** Recursos para familias impactadas por preocupaciones relacionadas con inmigración Diagrama de Flujo de Separación Familiar de Inmigrantes  
<https://youtu.be/EyRF4m7BXMU>

—❖—

*Haz clic aquí para el documento con Recursos en español del boletín.*



## CRIANZA POSITIVA: EDUCACIÓN Y APOYO A LOS PADRES ANTE CONDUCTAS DESAFIANTES

Invitamos a padres y cuidadores de niños de 3 a 12 años en el noroeste del Pacífico con retraso o discapacidad sospechados o diagnosticados, que deseen aprender estrategias para comprender, apoyar y responder a conductas desafiantes y conectar con otros padres, a participar en un ciclo de investigación remota de 10 semanas. Utilizamos la mentalidad "Todos enseñan, todos aprenden" del Proyecto ECHO, para que todos aprendan juntos

### Esperamos:

- Compartir estrategias basadas en evidencia para comprender, apoyar y responder a comportamientos desafiantes.
- Desarrollar un espacio comunitario seguro y confidencial.
- Apoyarnos mutuamente

### Ofrecemos:

- Un equipo multidisciplinario de expertos con amplia experiencia
- Traducción de idiomas por computadora
- Asistencia en español en vivo

**SERIE VIRTUAL DE 10 SEMANAS  
JUEVES**

**DEL 30 DE JULIO AL 1 DE OCTUBRE  
11:30-12:45**

SI TIENE ALGUNA PREGUNTA, CONTACTE  
CON SUE ADELMAN  
[ADELMS@UW.EDU](mailto:ADELMS@UW.EDU)

**[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)**

REGISTER NOW



# BEN'S FUND

Helping People with Autism Reach Their Full Potential

Ben's Fund brinda apoyo financiero a familias y adultos jóvenes en el estado de Washington para ayudar con los costos de los servicios y equipos relacionados con un diagnóstico de autismo. Subvenciones de hasta \$1,000 están disponibles cada año por niño o adulto joven que califique.

Período de solicitud

Se aceptan solicitudes y las subvenciones se otorgan trimestralmente.

Cómo aplicar

Las solicitudes se aceptan en línea. Nuestra solicitud se administra a través de una plataforma segura que cumple con HIPAA (Salesforce), lo que le permite presentar una solicitud en línea, guardar borradores y realizar un seguimiento de su historial de solicitudes. Si desea presentar su solicitud por correo, póngase en contacto con nosotros para obtener una solicitud en papel.

Asistencia con la solicitud

Por favor, póngase en contacto con Ben's Fund si necesita ayuda con su solicitud. Las familias deben presentar la solicitud por sí mismas, aunque los proveedores de servicios pueden ofrecer asistencia. Tenga en cuenta que los proveedores de servicios no pueden presentar solicitudes en nombre de la familia.

## **Elegibilidad**

- Diagnóstico de autismo: El solicitante debe tener un diagnóstico documentado del espectro autista.
- Edad de 25 años o menos: El solicitante debe tener 25 años de edad o menos en el momento de la presentación de la solicitud.
- Residencia en el estado de Washington: El solicitante debe residir en el estado de Washington, como se indica en su documento financiero.
- Necesidad financiera

Los solicitantes deben demostrar necesidad financiera, según lo indicado por los documentos financieros y las circunstancias atenuantes. Incluso si tiene seguro médico, aún es elegible para esta subvención.

- Solicitudes elegibles relacionadas con la salud

El equipo o servicio solicitado debe estar directamente relacionado con el tratamiento del autismo del niño, como se recomienda en la carta de referencia.

Visite: <https://www.bensfund.org/>

La información se encuentra en Inglés

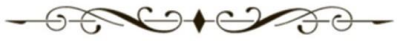
Si no tiene acceso a una computadora también solicitar una aplicación llamando al:

**(206) 957-7708 Ext 188** [Text Link](#)

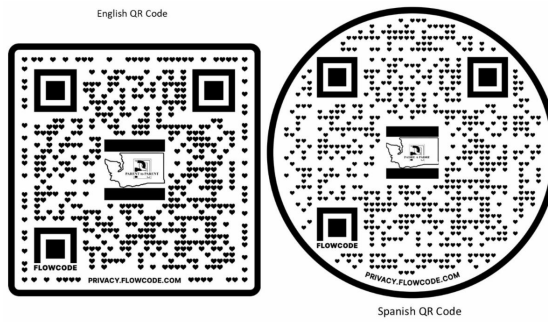
**Haga clic aquí para obtener más información...**

***Espanol Recursos***

**Para compartir sus comentarios o historias participación en el programa de Padre a Padre, acceda al enlace o código QR que aquí les compartimos!**

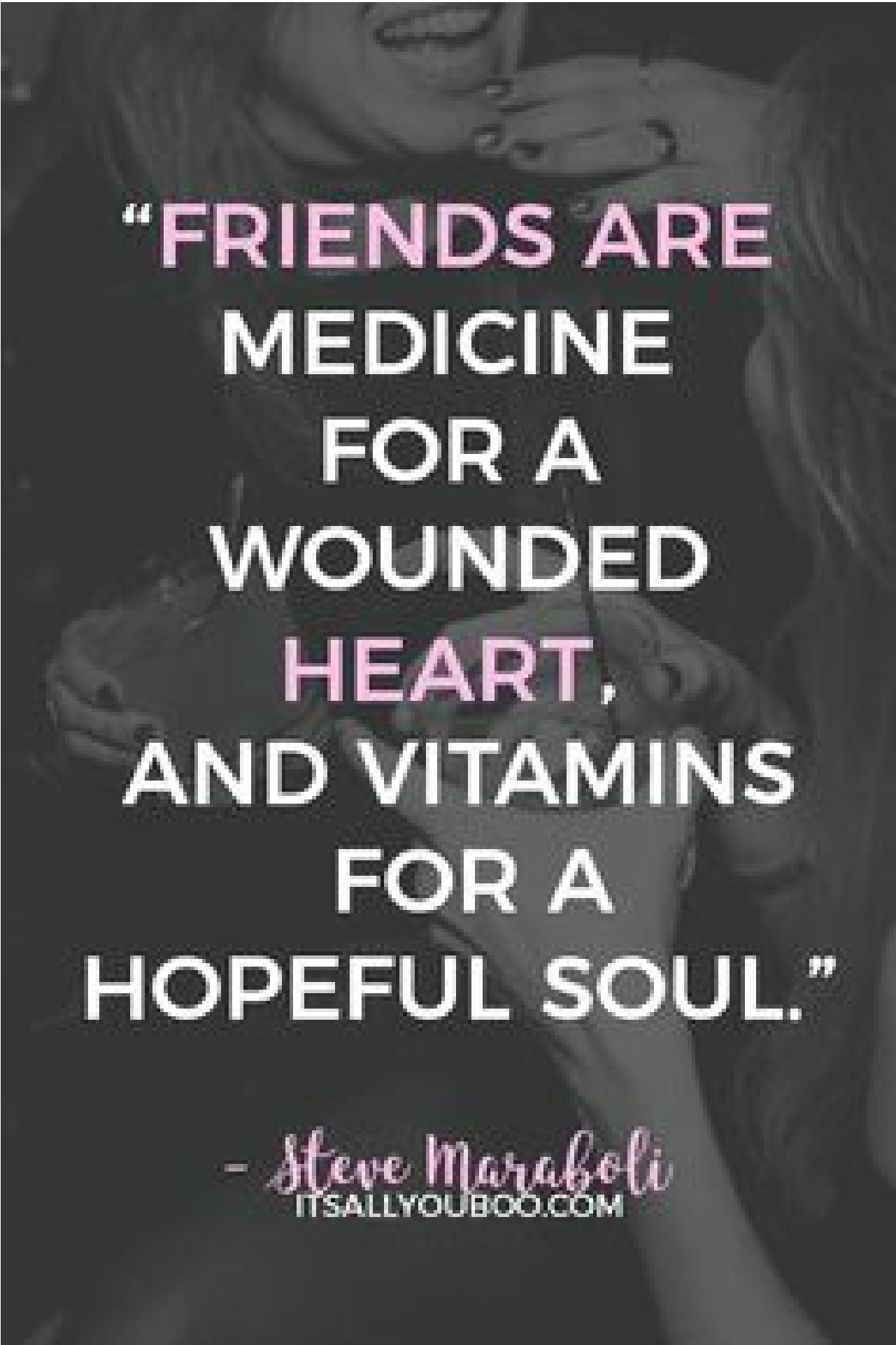
**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M5JZWW8> (Spanish)**



**If you or your family is experiencing distress and needs support call:**

- ***National Parent & Youth Helpline 1-855-4 A PARENT or 1-855-427-2736***
- ***Info Children /Parent Helpline 1-778-782-3548***
- ***National Suicide Prevention 9-8-8***

***9-8-8 services will be available for Native Americans, in Spanish, or interpretation services in over 250 languages.***



“FRIENDS ARE  
MEDICINE  
FOR A  
WOUNDED  
HEART,  
AND VITAMINS  
FOR A  
HOPEFUL SOUL.”

- Steve Maraboli  
ITSALLYOUBOO.COM

*Fun and Easy 4th of July Treats  
to Make with your Kids ...[click here!](#)*



USA

ALLIANCE MEMBER

Committed to Parent to Parent  
USA Endorsed Practices

### Mission of Parent to Parent (P2P)

We walk alongside those parenting children with developmental disabilities and/or special health care needs, connecting them with peer support and information so they can take the *next step*.

### Misión de Padre a Padre

Caminamos junto con los padres de niños con discapacidades del desarrollo y / o necesidades especiales de atención médica, conectándolos con el apoyo y la información con el compañerismo para que puedan dar *el siguiente paso*.



Email P2P



### For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

The Arc of Washington State advocates for quality services and necessary funding to meet the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc has been the proud host of the Washington State Parent to Parent (P2P) Network for over 35 years, partnering with local agencies to bring community-based programming to families raising children with disabilities.

Become a Member of the Arc today for free and ensure that your voice is heard!

Find your Local  
P2P Group

Free  
Memberships  
Join The Arc of  
WA State

Join our P2P  
Facebook Group

**Give Us A Call:** (360) 357-5596 option 2

The Arc of WA/Parent to Parent | 2638 State Avenue NE | Olympia, WA 98506 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



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