

Dear Candidate,

Could you please answer the 4 questions below for your constituents who want to know your interest/experience with developmental disability issues? We would like to receive your responses by July 1st in order for us to post them on our web page prior to the August primary.

This is a non-partisan questionnaire.

Developmental disability funding is required in our State's Constitution (Article XIII, Section 1).

The Arc assists individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, as well as service providers and their friends in the community, with making informed choices with their votes.

You can reply to this email with your responses (and a photo if you'd like us to include one). You can also take a video of your responses and email it back to us. Additionally, you can scan the QR code below and respond using the questionnaire form on our website. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities:

Name:

District:

Position:

1. If you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has a developmental disability, would you describe its impact on you?
2. What are your top three legislative priorities and how would you help people with developmental disabilities in them?
3. With the current economic crisis, how would you protect services that people with I/DD and their families need?
4. Is there other information you'd like constituents with developmental disabilities and their family and friends to know?



Diana Stadden

Policy & Advocacy Coordinator

For people with developmental disabilities

Change is made by those who show up!

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The Arc of Washington State is a non-profit organization that has advocated on behalf of individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families since 1936. Washington State defines a developmental disability as:



"a disability attributable to Intellectual Disability, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Autism, or another neurological or other condition closely related to intellectual disability or that requires treatment similar to that required for individuals with intellectual disabilities, which originated before the individual attained age eighteen, continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and results in substantial limitations to an individual's intellectual and/or adaptive functioning." (RCW71A.10.020(3))

The Arc does not endorse any candidates, but is committed to educating individuals with I/DD, their families and other community members about the issues that affect the lives of people with I/DD to help enable them to make informed decisions.

As of October 2019-

- 117,000 people estimated in Washington State with I/DD
- 48,422 clients enrolled with the Developmental Disabilities Administration
- 34,935 of those clients receive at least one paid service from DDA
- 13,487 of those clients qualify for, but receive No Paid Services from DDA

The primary demand for services focuses on:

- × Personal care to help individuals get out of bed, toilet, eat and get around each day;
- × Respite to give families a break from 24/7 caregiving of their adult children and prevent crisis and out-of-home placements;
- × Employment support to help individuals find and keep jobs and contribute to our economy;
- × Community residential services for individuals who need supervision and supports; and
- × Other Medicaid-funded services such as health care, therapies, dental, vision, etc.



80% of individuals with I/DD live in communities with their families, many with very significant disabilities. Residential Habilitation Centers (RHC) are now an outdated, costly way to support individuals with I/DD and many residents want to move out. Our state still operates 4 of its 6 original institutions, though the number of residents has declined from over 4,000 to fewer than 600. Part of Rainier School has been decertified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) and cannot receive federal funds now. For more information:

www.arcwa.org/advocacy/public-policy/rhc-or-community and www.disabilityrightswa.org/reports

Your perspective is critical:

In order to understand your vision for people with I/DD in our state, we invite you to fill out our short survey (below or online) as a way to give constituents your position on, and possible solutions for, some of their most important issues. We will share your responses on our web site (www.arcwa.org/advocacy/elections) with our statewide network of advocates who will choose the candidate to best represent them. Thank you!

Scan here to complete the questionnaire online using your smart phone!



Tip: Include your photo or video your responses!



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