2023 Advocacy Days

People with IDD Wait To Be Served!
Caseload Forecast DDA Services!

- Pre-session Advocacy Day
- Briefing of IDD Issues
- Statewide Legislative Reception
- Advocacy Day Schedule
- How to Testify in Committee
- Make Your Voice Heard!
November 9, 2022  10:00—11:30 am

Speaker of the House Laurie Jinkins
Representative Mia Gregerson
Senator Judy Warnick
Representative Frank Chopp
Representative Matt Boehnke
Senator Yasmin Trudeau
Representative Peter Abbarno

What are Committee Days? What does a caucus do? How does the Rules Committee work? What is the difference between the Operating and Capital budgets?

Washington State Legislators convene prior to each legislative session for Committee Assembly Days for both the House and Senate. They hold hearings, work sessions, and plan for the 2023 legislative session. Find out what Committee Days will mean for you! Attend this Virtual Advocacy Day so that you will be prepared and ready to go!

Did you miss this? Watch the recorded meeting by clicking here: https://arcwa.org/advocacy-days/

Find more information on the 2023 Developmental Disabilities Briefing, Statewide Legislative Reception and other Virtual Advocacy Days there!

The Arc of Washington State - 2023 Legislative Session - 888.754.8798 - www.arcwa.org
Developmental Disabilities Legislative Briefing
2:00—4:00 pm

Developmental Disabilities Statewide Legislative Reception
5:30—7:00 pm

People with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) live successfully in the community when they receive the services and supports they need to do so. These individuals, their families, providers and others will meet with legislators from across the state to discuss issues critical for them to live a whole life.

Invite your Legislators to Attend the Reception!

We have learned from past years, that legislators are much more likely to attend the Reception if they are personally invited by one or more of their constituents.

Reach out to your Senator and both Representatives NOW and ask them to put this event on their calendar. Let them know that YOU will be expecting them!

January 18th: Briefing on IDD Issues, 2:00 to 4:00 pm
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcuuoqDgvGtx8YBxiPsMFQ-lUUW569ZI9](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcuuoqDgvGtx8YBxiPsMFQ-lUUW569ZI9)

January 18th: Statewide IDD Legislative Reception, 5:30 to 7:00 pm
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdeCsqDgvGtdTeBb8wkoPnhrwrcTb6xGO](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdeCsqDgvGtdTeBb8wkoPnhrwrcTb6xGO)

Questions? Email [Diana@arcwa.org](mailto:Diana@arcwa.org)

Click here for the full Advocacy Days Schedule
Statewide Legislative Reception
Legislator Invitation

Here is a sample email you can use and modify to invite your legislators to the Developmental Disabilities Statewide Legislative Reception:

Dear XXX:

I am your constituent and I would like to invite you to attend the 2023 Developmental Disabilities Statewide Virtual Legislative Reception. It will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

This event includes people from many diverse backgrounds concerned with issues affecting children and adults who have intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families.

Last year’s virtual reception worked really well! Legislators could attend from wherever they were using their phone. We had breakout rooms where your constituents could talk with you and share their concerns without the noise of a crowded room. It also makes it easy for you to connect with your constituents as they know which breakout room you will be in. Some legislators stayed for 15 minutes, some stayed the whole time (Please stay long enough to hear from each of us!).

I really hope you will attend! If you can’t attend, please send a member of your staff to speak with me. I’m looking forward to seeing you at the reception to share my thoughts with you on the budget and other policy issues that affect me, my family and hundreds of thousands of other people with IDD in our state.

What: Developmental Disabilities Statewide Legislative Reception
When: January 18, 2023
Time: 5:30 — 7:00 p.m.
Where: Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtddeCsqDgvGtdTeBb8wkoPnhwrcTb6xGO

Please let me know if you can attend. I’m looking forward to talking with you!

Thank you,

Your Name

Questions: Email Diana Stadden Diana@arcwa.org
2023 Advocacy Day Schedule

**What to expect at Advocacy Day**

Advocacy Day begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays during the 2023 legislative session. We start with an hour and a half briefing on current issues and end with an afternoon of advocacy. While we feature a highlighted topic each week, the morning briefing will also cover late breaking news on budget items and bills of interest relating to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. You can register each Advocacy Day at [https://arcwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-days](https://arcwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-days).

“People with IDD Wait to Be Served! Caseload Forecast DDA Services”

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January 25th: Housing, Supported Living, Closing Rainier*
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqdeGqzpzsHdyyWPI2d8fNqtnWx3dfLyQc](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqdeGqzpzsHdyyWPI2d8fNqtnWx3dfLyQc)

February 1st: Employment Services & Rates
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlcOZoqDktGdTaDMwJsqGwRyai5IKOyEfo](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlcOZoqDktGdTaDMwJsqGwRyai5IKOyEfo)

February 8th: Community Inclusion & Day Programs
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltce-vqzuQGNMY2wskNORJVZxnuQ3e7jz](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltce-vqzuQGNMY2wskNORJVZxnuQ3e7jz)

February 15th: Residential Crisis: Finding a Home
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZE1c-ypq2MTdDqzVTx_H_SjksmuwEtE_7IX](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZE1c-ypq2MTdDqzVTx_H_SjksmuwEtE_7IX)

February 22nd: Out-of-Home & In-Crisis
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufu2rpjtnGNIxL_ObhmGX0QuZM4eMMV19](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufu2rpjtnGNIxL_ObhmGX0QuZM4eMMV19)

March 1st: TEFRA & Waiver Services
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkf-GqqD4rG9CeWwF294ic3M_V7onAT9](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkf-GqqD4rG9CeWwF294ic3M_V7onAT9)

March 8th: Education Cap & Restraints
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcuF-qujispGtang289WJcczzqhTaSjHEQoa](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcuF-qujispGtang289WJcczzqhTaSjHEQoa)

March 15th: Family and Senior Supports
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufuCtpjsjGtbX6VA3QqE7Fw3c1NJbR](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufuCtpjsjGtbX6VA3QqE7Fw3c1NJbR)

March 22nd: Caseload Forecast in the Budget
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdO2grj0qHd3WX5izcZHYhtp8J9bsbNW](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdO2grj0qHd3WX5izcZHYhtp8J9bsbNW)

March 29th: Workforce Shortage
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAbd-uupz4iHNC3b-shnWgFOsvjZZO6cP1F](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAbd-uupz4iHNC3b-shnWgFOsvjZZO6cP1F)

April 5th: Residential Habilitation Centers (RHC)*
Register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUdumgrs4iHd7KWiJxGVR25r2SCi-FFJ](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUdumgrs4iHd7KWiJxGVR25r2SCi-FFJ)

* Focus will be on the Rainier Lawsuit and downsizing with eventual closure

How was Your Experience?
We want to know how Advocacy Day was for YOU! After each Advocacy Day event you will be able to share your experience with us. Our evaluation form is short and easy to fill out, find it online by going to:

[http://arcwa.org/advocacy/advocacy_day](http://arcwa.org/advocacy/advocacy_day), click on Your Feedback Matters
Visit The Arc’s Action Center using **Voter Voice**. Sign up for easy-to-use action alerts at [https://arcwa.org/action-center](https://arcwa.org/action-center). Get your alerts by email or text and find much more to keep you up-to-date on what is happening in Olympia!

- Budget and Policy Alerts
- Advocacy Events including weekly Advocacy Days and Topics
- Background data about your elected officials
- Senate and House Committee memberships
- Petitions to gather online signatures about important issues
- An online bill tracker for both state and federal concerns
- And so much more!

You can let Legislators hear your **voice** as part of our “You KNOW Me…” (YKM) campaign. Click the YKM document here to see all the voices who are sharing what is important to them with their own legislators. The Arc of Washington State’s YKM campaign is intended to help legislators get some meaningful perspective from some of their constituents who have a developmental disability. You can do your part too!

Email [Diana@arcwa.org](mailto:Diana@arcwa.org) to learn how you can add your voice!
Make Your Voice Heard—Advocate!

Many legislators use technology to reach their constituents, share their views on issues and quickly work to inform and educate each other.

Be a Fan on Facebook. Sign in at www.facebook.com, search for The Arc—Washington State. Events including each Advocacy Day can be found on our page. Get weekly reminders so you don’t miss one!

Do you tweet? You can follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/TheArcofWA

Instagram gives you a picture into the life of advocacy! With photos of advocates making their voices heard, you can see how easy it can be to make your voice heard! www.instagram.com/thearcofwa/

Our Hot Tips booklet prepares you to be an effective and informed advocate in Olympia or at home using your phone or computer. The Advocacy Day Schedule is included with contact for information for important advocacy resources. View it in English or Spanish at www.arcwa.org/resource-library/publications or call us today for a copy!

Opportunities to advocate from your home computer are just one click away when you visit The Arc’s online action center - Voter Voice. Sign up for easy-to-use action alerts by email, text message at https://arcwa.org/action-center

See our web site at www.arcwa.org, click the ADVOCACY tab where you will find useful information including the links above and:

- Advocacy Day information is under this tab with dates and topics, a list of our elected officials and much more, just a click away!
- Join The Arc’s Action Center to get notified when legislators need to hear from YOU to help them decide how to vote on a bill or budget item. Your voice does make a difference!
- 2023 Annual Legislative Notebook for Advocates containing one-page information sheets on current issues as well as associated data and charts is under the Advocacy/Legislative Notebook tab. The current version is posted each December.
  - Find Bills and Budget charts that provide a brief summary of and links to legislative bills and budget overviews, as well as hearings on our bills updated weekly during legislative session.
- NOW IN SPANISH! Get these booklets:
  - Consejos Prácticos, Hechos Sobre Los Cinco Programas de Exencion en el Hogar y en la Comunidad, Beneficios Federales y Servicios Estatales, Tutela: Preguntas Frecuentes, La Historia de Actividades, Eventos y Políticas Estatales y Nacionales as well as a number of brochures: The Arc—Para personas con discapacidades intelectuales y de desarrollo, Proyecto de Abogacía en Alianza, Proyecto de Abogacía en Alianza, Centro de Acción Legislativa de The Arc, Sea un Defensor Eficaz, ¿Ahora qué Sigue?, Su Idea Puede Ser una Ley del Estado.

If you need help or more information, email Diana@arcwa.org
How to Testify in Committee

Washington State has one of the most open legislatures in the country. A bill has a public hearing before Senate and House committees before being considered on the floor of the House and Senate. Your opportunity to testify comes at the committee hearings. If you cannot appear before a committee, contact your legislator, making your position on a bill known. Write a letter or an e-mail, call the legislator's office or the Legislative Hotline at 800.562.6000.

Committee Hearings:

Legislative hearings are conducted informally. The rules are somewhat relaxed, but are intended to help preserve decorum and allow respectful, courteous debate. (Reminders of hearing room rules are [here](#) for the House and [here](#) for the Senate.) Anyone can testify; you do not need formal training. To find out when a hearing is scheduled:

- Click [Schedules of committee hearings](#) to obtain electronic copy of the weekly and daily schedules.
- Call the toll-free Legislative Hotline number (1.800.562.6000).
- Subscribe to the [Legislature's Committee E-mail Notification Service](#).

Before the Hearing:

- **Prepare Your Remarks.** Time is usually limited to 2 minutes or less, so be brief and direct. Committee staff will distribute copies of written testimony to members of the committee if you email it to them. Writing your comments in outline form will be helpful when you speak, and you should summarize your written testimony.
- **Avoid Duplication.** If other persons will be offering similar testimony at the hearing, try to coordinate your testimony and avoid duplication. Well organized testimony is the most effective.

At the Virtual Committee Meeting:

- **Be punctual!** Usually there is only one public hearing at which testimony is taken on a particular bill.
- **Sign-in** is now done electronically in all committees.
- **Check to see if proposed amendments or substitute bills are available.**

How the Meeting Is Conducted:

Be present at the beginning of the hearing. The committee chair will open the hearing on a particular bill. Frequently, opening comments will be made by the bill's sponsor or by committee staff. Sometimes, however, the chair will ask for testimony from proponents and opponents immediately. The chair will organize the hearing to ensure that the committee members hear relevant information, that interested persons are given the opportunity to express their positions, and that the hearing does not exceed the time available.

Most committee hearings are limited to two hours and may have several matters pending. The chair will attempt to be fair and provide each person an opportunity to testify. It may be necessary, however, to restrict testimony so that everyone is given an opportunity to express his or her opinions. You may be called to testify with others to save time.

Making Your Remarks

1) Begin by introducing yourself to the chair and committee members and stating your purpose. For example, “Mr. or Madam Chair and members of the committee, I am John Doe from Spokane. I am here representing myself. I support this bill because . . .”

2) In your opening remarks, make it clear whether you are representing other citizens or a separate group.

3) Be brief and be sure your remarks are clear. Avoid being too technical and do not repeat previously made remarks. You do not need to be nervous or worried about how you present your testimony.

4) Be prepared for questions and comments from committee members. These are designed to gain additional information, but don't answer if you are not sure of the answer. Tell the members you will send a written answer to the committee, and then follow through.

How to Submit Written Testimony:

If you are unable to attend a hearing, you may use the following method for submitting written testimony:

- **In the House.** Email your written testimony directly to all committee members as well as to the Committee Chair or the Chair's LA. Be sure to include the bill number and your position on the bill. A list of Committee Chairs can be found at this website: [http://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/CommitteeMembersByCommittee/](http://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/CommitteeMembersByCommittee/House).

- **In the Senate.** You may email your written testimony directly to committee members as well as to the Committee Chair or the Chair's LA. Be sure to include the bill number and your position on the bill. Another option is to email your written testimony to committee staff, as an alternative or in addition to submitting testimony to committee members. A list of Senate committees and staff can be found at this website: [http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/Pages/default.aspx](http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/Pages/default.aspx).

More information will be available in January 2023. Check online at [https://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Participating.aspx](https://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Participating.aspx)