## DDA:

## Ten Tips for Navigating the System

Rachel Nemhauser
Community and Family Support Program Manager
The Arc of King County







## Agenda

- 1) What is DDA
- 2) Why is it important?
- 3) Who can access DDA?
- 4) How does a person become "DDA eligible"?
- 5) What is a waiver?
- 6) How does a person enroll on a waiver?
- 7) What is respite care and how do you get it?
- 8) What is personal care and how do you get it?
- 9) What can you expect from you Case Manager?
- 10) Where do you go for help?

# What is the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)?



- ❖ The portion of our state government, within DSHS, responsible for providing support and care to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across their lifespan.
- \*Where people with developmental disabilities go to get help for in-home, out-of-home, and community-based services
- For those who will require long-term services and support, DDA will play a critical role.





#### **Short Term Services**

- Overnight Planned Respite (age 18 and older)
- Emergency respite
- Behavior Support Team (Ages 3-17)

#### **Long Term Services**

- Personal Care
- Respite Care
- Supported Employment
- Behavior Support
- Supported Living
- Waivers

#### Other Perks to being a DDA Client

- School to Work
- Housing or Rental Assistance
- Developmental Disabilities Life Enrichment Trust (DDLOT)
- Parkview Homebuyers Program
- South Mental Health DD Chemical Dependency program



For a complete list and description of available DDA services





## WELCOME TO THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION (DDA)















Long-term care is costly, and most people, even those with financial resources, can't afford to pay for it on their own.

- Although DDA is not a crisis agency, having them available during an unexpected crisis is a critical safety net.
- Being DDA eligible enables the state to more accurately count how many people with disabilities live in Washington in order to better prepare and serve them.



### Who can access DDA services?

- Anyone who has a developmental disability as defined by Washington State.
  - Not dependent on income
  - Exception: Immigration Status
- The disability must:
  - Have originated before you turned eighteen
  - Continue or can be expected to continue indefinitely
  - Results in substantial limitations

- ❖ Your diagnosis must be one of the following:
  - Developmental Delays (only until age 9)
  - Intellectual Disability
- Cerebral Palsy
- Epilepsy
- Autism (NOT Autism 1)
- Another neurological condition

**♦** A medical diagnosis is not enough.



## How do you become DDA eligible?

The first step to accessing services from DDA:

Become "DDA Eligible"

- Prove to the state that you meet their definition of developmentally disabled.
- DDA Eligibility is a yes or no question and is based almost completely on test scores and medical records
- The application for DDA eligibility takes less than 30 minutes to complete and cannot be done online.





Request for DDA
Eligibility
Determination (14-151)

Consent (14-012)



AR research	mer of holds Consent					
NOTICE TO CLIENTS: The Department of So- prolessionals that know you and your family. By use and share confidential information about you determine your eligibility. If you do not sign this about how DSHS shares client confidential infor- you this form.	signing this form, you are giving permission. DSHS cannot refuse you benefits if you form, DSHS may attli share information ab	on for DSHS and the agency do not sign this form unless out you to the extent allowe	es and individuals listed bel your consent is needed to d by law. If you have questi	one		
CLIENT IDENTIFICATION:						
NAME.	DATE OF BIRT	H IDEN	TIFICATION NUMBER			
West I	GTV	STATI				
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE			
TELEPHONE NUMBER (INCLUDE AREA CODE)	OTHER INFORMATION					
	Control Control Control					
CONSENT:						
I consent to the use of confidential information a or for other purposes authorized by law. I furthe information and disclose it to each other for the	grant permission to DSHS and the below	listed agencies, providers,	or persons to use my conflid	ential		
Please check all below who are included in this						
Health care providers:						
Mental health care providers:						
Substance use disorder service providers:						
Other DSHS contracted providers:				_		
				-33		
School districts or colleges:						
Department of Corrections:						
☐ Employment Security Department and its er	ployment partners:					
Social Security Administration or other feder						
See attached list	College Co					
Other:						
authorize and consent to sharing the following  All my client records  Records on a	ecords and information (check all that app	Ny's				
Only the following records	nacred ret					
Family, social and employment history	☐ Health care information					
Payment records	☐ Individual assessments	il assessments School, education, and training				
Other (list):						
PLEASE NOTE: If your client records inclu I give my permission to disclose the following re Mental health HIVIAIDS and ST	cords (check all that apply):			cords.		
- This consent is valid for ☐ one year ☐			(date or event).			
- I may revoke or withdraw this consent at a						
- I understand that records shared under th	consent may no longer be protected a	mder the laws that apply t	DSHS.			
- A copy of this form is valid to give my pen						
SIGNATURE	DATE WITNESS / NOT.	ARY (SIGN AND PRINT NAME	IF APPLICABLE) DATE			
PARENT OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATI	RE (F APPLICABLE) TELEPHONE NU	MBER (INCLUDE AREA CODE	DATE DATE			
If I am not the subject of the records, I am author			-			
Parent Legal Guardian (attach cour						
NOTICE TO RECIPIENTS OF INFORMATION: information without the client's specific per the following statement when further disclosing	ission. If you have received information r					
the tollowing susament when further disclosing. This information has been disclosed to you from		tundes (42 CER part 2) Th	e Earland niles probibit you	former:		
			e Federal rules prohibit you of the person to whom it pe			

Notice of Privacy Practices for Client Confidential Information (03-387)

Dansfarming Ever	(Needed when DSHS prov	ides direct health care treatment)
CLIENT NAME		CLIENT DATE OF BIRTH
	y of the DSHS Privacy Notice and h rsonal Health Information.	eve had a chance to ask questions about how DSHS will
CLIENT OR PERSONAL RE	PRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE	DATE
	FOR DSHS	USE ONLY
To b	e completed if <u>unable</u> to obtain sign	ature of client or personal representative.
Describe reason why a	Clinoeledgement was not obtained:	
	Clinowledgement was not obtained:  NO TITLE (PLEASE PRINT)	ACMINISTRATION/CHISCON

Washington State <u>Voter</u>
<a href="Registration">Registration</a> for applicants age
18 or older

	Instructions			ter Registratio	n Form		
1		Register online at	www.votewa.gov.	-			
	Use this form to register to vote or update your current registration.						
	Print all information clearly using black or blue pen. Mail this completed form to your county elections office (address on back).	last	first	middle	suffix		
		date of birth (	mm/dd/yyyy)		gender		
	Deadline This registration will be in effect for the next election if received by the elections office no later than eight days before Election Day.	residential ad	dress in Washington		apt#		
	Voting	city			ZIP		
	You will receive your ballot in the mail. Contact your county elections office for accessible voting options.	mailing address, if different					
	Public Information	city			state and ZIP		
	Your name, address, gender, and date of birth will be public information if you	8					
	are at least eighteen years of age.	phone numb	er (optional)	email address (options	if)		
	Notice	2 Qualificatio	axi A	1.0	2		
	Knowingly providing false information			902000			
	about yourself or your qualifications for voter registration is a class C felony		no, do not complete ti				
	punishable by imprisonment for up to	O yes O no		he United States of America			
	five years, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.	O yes O no		teen years old, or at least si	kteen years old and w		
	Public Benefits Offices vote only after I turn eighteen.						
l	If you received this form from a public benefits office, where you received the	3 Military / O					
ì	form will remain confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only.	O yes O no	Includes National Gu	ving in the military. and and Reserves, ndents away from home due to s	service.		
	Registering or declining to register will	O yes O no	I live outside the	United States.			
	not affect the assistance provided to you by any public benefits office. If you	4 Identification	on - Washington De	ver License, Permit, or ID			
	decline to register, your decision will remain confidential.						
	If you believe someone interfered with						
	your right to register, or your right to privacy in deciding whether to register, you may file a complaint with the	If you do not have a Washington driver license, permit, or ID, you may use the last four digits of your Social Security number to register.					
	Washington State Elections Division.	5 Change of I	Name or Address				
	Contact Information If you would like help with this form, contact the Washington State Elections Division.	This informati	on will be used to upd	ate your current registration	, if applicable.		
	web www.votewa.gov	former last na	ime	first	middle		
	call (800) 448-4881						
	email elections@sos.wa.gov	former reside	ntial address	city	state and ZIP		
	mail PO Box 40229 Olympia, WA 98504-0229	6 Declaration					
	For efficial use:	I will have lived election at while voting due to a	at this address in Washi th I vote, I will be at least	stration form are true. I am a ci ngton for at least thirty days in eighteen years old when I vote under Department of Correcti	mediately before the ne- , I am not disqualified fro		
		sign			date		



## What is a Waiver?

Becoming DDA eligible provides you with few direct services. In order to access certain resources, including respite care, personal care and employment support, you must also be enrolled on a waiver.

- A waiver is a package of services that increase in levels of support and services, depending on the individual's level of need.
- ❖You must use (or try to use) the services they give you and show that it isn't enough help before they'll give you more.
- \*When enrolled on a waiver you become eligible for Medicaid, regardless of income. Medicaid can be used as a secondary insurance, and to access personal care.

#### Why is it called a Waiver?

It is an agreement to waive the option to receive services in an institutional setting and choosing instead to receive the same or similar services in their own home and community.



## How do you enroll on a Waiver?

- \*"I'd like to request a needs assessment in order to be enrolled on a waiver."
  - To request a needs assessment:
     R2ServiceRequestB@dshs.wa.gov or 1-800-974-4428
  - Expect a response in 1-2 weeks
- ❖ Needs assessment: TIME TO GET REAL
- ❖ Most waivers are at capacity so likely you will be denied initially. Work with your case manager to decide when it's the right time to reapply.
- ❖ When requesting a waiver, be sure to explain exactly why you need that wavier and why the other services you currently receive are not adequate.

Waivers are awarded based on urgency of need, not first come first serve, and there is no waitlist.
Keep in very close contact with DDA, notifying them of anything new or different including:

- Increase in challenging behaviors
- New diagnosis or medical condition
- New care/support needs
- Pictures and videos are your friends



## What is respite care?

Purpose: To allow the primary caregiver a break so that they can continue being the primary care giver, preventing out of home placement.

- Short-term, intermittent relief for parents/caregivers, where the person with a disability receives care from another person so that the main caregiver can take a break.
- \*Respite care is NOT "Child Care" while the parent is at work.
- ❖ The many forms of Respite Care:
  - One-on-One care in your home or the local community for a few hours at a time
  - After-school care, camps, adult day centers, specialized classes, etc. offered by a DDA contracted organization
  - Overnights, weekends, or longer care at a friend/relative's house or licensed facility



## What is personal care?

Purpose: To provide
DIRECT assistance to a
person with disabilities
with their Activities of
Daily Living (ADLs)

## What a Personal Care Provider CAN do:

Bathing Dressing
Toilet Use Eating

Meal Prep Essential Shopping
Telephone Use Personal Hygiene
Bed Mobility Travel to Medical
Transfer Ordinary Housework

Wood Supply Locomotion

Body Care Meds Management

- Can't provide childcare, supervision, or skilled nursing
- ❖ Can be provided in the client's home, an Adult Family Home, Assisted Living Facility, or Nursing Home. It can also be provided in the community if it meets the client's care needs.
- Only parents of clients 18 and over can become paid caregivers.

# What to expect from your DDA Case Resource Manager (CRM)





- ❖CRMs hold caseloads of ~75 people.
- ❖You have the right to call or email any time. Allow 48 hours for a response. Don't expect the CRM to reach out to you except for the annual assessment. Therefore, if you are having challenges, need more services, or have questions, you must be the one to seek help.
- If you do not hear back from your CRM or are concerned about their work, contact their supervisor.
  - You can find out who the supervisor is by calling the DDA front desk at 206-568-5700
- CRMs should know about the DDA services available to you. They have limited knowledge about non-DDA services.



## Where do you go with concerns?

CRMs are doing their best, but DDA is a complicated and ever-changing system so it is easy to make mistakes. If you suspect the information you receive is inaccurate or you are turned down for services, you have a few options:

- Ask for clarification from the CRM
- ❖ Talk to their supervisor
- ❖ Work your way up the supervisory chain
- ❖Contact The Arc of King County





### Contact Us

#### The Arc of King County

Information and Family Support

English: 206-829-7053 OR Ask@arcofkingcounty.org

Spanish: 206-829-7030 OR <a href="mailto:Preguntas@arcofkingcounty.org">Preguntas@arcofkingcounty.org</a>

#### **Rachel Nemhauser**

Community and Family Support Program Manager

RNemhauser@arcofkingcounty.org or 206-829-7046