



Progressive Revenue Resolution to Support Inclusive Communities

Whereas, The Arc of King County loudly advocates for the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), as we are entitled to a just society that welcomes, supports, protects and respects all people; AND

Whereas, we believe people with I/DD belong in the community and have fundamental moral, civil, and constitutional rights to be fully included and actively participate in all aspects of society; AND

Whereas, the supports people with I/DD rely on to live and participate in the community are woefully underfunded¹; AND

Whereas, Washington state has the most regressive tax code in the United States² – putting undue burden on those least able to pay more, AND

Whereas, Washington’s regressive tax code disproportionately harms people with I/DD as well as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; AND

Whereas, The Arc of King County finds Washington’s inadequate, regressive tax code is an example of racist and ableist policy that deems people with I/DD, especially Black, Indigenous, and People of Color with I/DD, as “less than”³;

Therefore be it resolved: That The Arc of King County supports the passage of state level progressive revenue measures to address the inequality embedded in our tax code and to increase funding to support inclusive communities that benefit people with I/DD of all ages, especially Black, Indigenous, and People of Color with I/DD.

We want progressive revenue that ensures people with I/DD thrive in their community with active and healthy lives. We want to see real change in our community, so that we are no longer pushed to the margins. Progressive revenue must ensure equitable, community-based services, including but not limited to: early learning and childcare; child welfare; education; family and caregiver supports; affordable housing; healthcare, including mental/behavioral health and long-term supports; employment and residential supports; transportation; and public safety.

The Arc of King County Board of Directors

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The Arc of King County

Tel 206-364-6337
Fax 206-364-8140

233 6th Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Website: www.arcofkingcounty.org
Email: info@arcofkingcounty.org

¹State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, 2017, University of Colorado. Washington ranks 41st in spending on Home and Community Based Services waivers for people with I/DD; 39th in spending for community-based supports for people with I/DD (includes personal care); and 38th in total funding for people with I/DD (waiver, personal care; institutional care) <https://stateofthestates.org/create-idd-chart/idd-comparison-chart>

²The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, “Who Pays? 6th Edition, State by State Data. Washington is ranked No 1 for most unfair state and local tax system in the country. <https://itep.org/whopays-map/>

³ Data points for disabilities:

EDUCATION: Washington is one of the most segregated states for students with disabilities. 41st Annual Report to Congress, 2019. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/osep/2019/parts-b-c/41st-arc-for-idea.pdf>

- For preschool, 42% of students with IEPs are served in segregated classes or schools; this is 5th most segregated in the nation, including DC, Puerto Rico and BIE schools. Only 19% are served in a regular class, at least 10 hours a week, with at least 50% non-disabled peers and with push-in supports; this is 3rd least inclusive. The state is also 3rd least inclusive for English learners with IEPs in preschool
- For children ages 6 to 21 with IEPs, 56% spend 80% or more of their day in a regular classroom, with at least 50% non-disabled peers; this is 6th lowest in the nation. That drops to 51% for English learners with IEPs; this is 4th lowest in the nation. That drops to 6% for students with intellectual disabilities; this is 3rd lowest in the nation
- 65% of Washington students with IEPs graduated high school with a regular high school diploma in 2019 (compared to 86% without IEPs); 32% dropped out

Nationally, in 2019:

- 76% of American Indian or Alaska Native students with IEPs and 66% of Black students with IEPs graduated with a regular high school diploma compared to 73% of all students with IEPs
- 25% of American Indian or Alaska Native students with IEPs and 20% of Black students with IEPs dropped out, compared to 16% of all students with IEPs
- 4% of American Indian or Alaska Native students with IEPs and 12% of Black students with IEPs received a certificate, compared to 10% of all students with disabilities. <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/osep-fast-facts-american-indian-or-alaska-native-children-with-disabilities-20/>

ACCESS TO LONG-TERM SUPPORTS FOR I/DD:

- 71% of the I/DD population do not have access to supports designed for them. 1.58% of the population meet the federal definition of I/DD. In 2019, this was 120,315 Washington state residents, yet only 34,935 people with I/DD receive paid services through the state Developmental Disabilities Administration in 2019 (29% of the I/DD population, and 0.5% of the statewide population). Sources: Census, 2019 Fast Facts; DDA Caseload Report, <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/DDA/dda/documents/2020%20DDA%20Caseload%20and%20Cost%20Report.pdf>

ECONOMIC STABILITY

- In Washington, people with disabilities earn about one-third less and are twice as likely to live in poverty as people without disabilities. Lower earnings are attributable to both low hourly wages and less than full-time work. Source: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/dvr/2019CSNAFinal.pdf>

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- Labor force participation is lower for Black people with disabilities (17.7%) compared to those who are white (21%). Source: The Arc of the United States. (2019, August 23). <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Empower--COVID-19-Advocacy-Update--Airbnb-Online-Experiences---more-.html?soid=1125064766967&aid=-DtFc5UkOnM>
- 64% of the King County homeless population had some form of disability in 2019, up from 53% in 2018, and 50% in 2017. Source: Count Us In, 2017-2019 reports.

TRAUMA

- Adults with developmental disabilities experience sexual violence at 7 times the rate of the general population. Source: Federal crime data, U.S. Justice Department, as reported by NPR. <https://www.npr.org/2018/01/08/570224090/the-sexual-assault-epidemic-no-one-talks-about>
- Autistic adults are 9 times more likely to attempt or complete suicide compared to the general community, and suicidal ideations are more likely to go undetected. Source: "A 20-year study of suicide death in a statewide autism population" <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/aur.2076>

POLICE INTERACTIONS

- The cumulative probability of arrest by age 28 is 55.17 for Black individuals with disabilities, compared to 39.7 for white individuals with disabilities. Source: The Arc of the United States. (2019, August 23). <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Empower--COVID-19-Advocacy-Update--Airbnb-Online-Experiences---more-.html?soid=1125064766967&aid=-DtFc5UkOnM>

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