



Each Fall brings spectacular color and special opportunities to celebrate the bonds we create through inclusion. Just for starters:

El Grito, a fun and lively afternoon commemorating Hispanic culture, history and interconnections through music, food, art, and community resources, including KSDDAB;

The **Autumn Social**, an annual event hosted by Big River Grill, where the honored guests are anyone with special needs, family and friends; and

The **Annual Developmental Disabilities Employment Celebration**, honoring individuals with disabilities and their employers for their contributions to our community.

Check out Happenings on page 4 and the [KSDDAB.org](https://ksddab.org) announcements and calendar for more details and additional 2026 Fall events.

KSDDAB COMMUNITY



**Klickitat
Skamania
Developmental
Disabilities
Advisory
Board**

Supporting Skamania County Community Health in
providing developmental disability services to
Klickitat and Skamania County residents



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KSDDAB NEWSLETTER FALL 2026

All in with Jonna Wingert: Parent, Teacher, Board Member

We are very happy to introduce Jonna Wingert as a new KSDDAB board member. As a Special Education teacher and parent of three amazing humans — one of whom has a significant developmental and intellectual disability – Jonna brings a valuable combination of professional and personal experience to KSDDAB.

Jonna describes academics as just the beginning in the Life Skills classroom at Wind River Middle School/Stevenson High School. Beyond completing all core subjects, days include hands-on learning in cooking, job skills, money management, and navigating our community with confidence. There's also swimming at the pool, art with CASS Mobile Arts, and working or volunteering in our community.

Jonna's students include those who have met graduation credit requirements and need additional support reaching their post-high school IEP goals. These transition services provide individualized adult-living skill development up to age 22, empowering students to thrive outside of a school setting.

Beyond the classroom, Jonna's works to connect students with vital services and support from WA State Developmental Disabilities (DDA), Divisional of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), local businesses, social opportunities, and resources. "By bridging school, home, and community support, we help students access their community fully and lead the lives they want," Jonna explained, emphasizing, "I understand firsthand what it means to be part of a family that needs lifelong support.

Jonna's son, Tristan, was born with Dandy Walker Syndrome. Today, Tristan works at Beneventi's Pizza with ongoing employment support from Walt Ronish, a contractor for DVR and DDA and fellow KSDDAB board member. Jonna continued, "Tristan will always require significant resources from both our family and community agencies. I am deeply grateful for the services that support families like ours, while also aware of the gaps that still exist."

"Through KSDDAB, I hope to help improve access, awareness, and advocacy for the vital services that make life meaningful for people with disabilities. I am grateful to my fellow board members for their work, and I look forward to growing together and continuing to be a strong force in our community."

Welcome, Jonna!



Jonna Wingert is always on the lookout for enthusiastic community partners who want to host new learning opportunities for students. "I truly believe my classroom is one of the most fun places to be!"

There's room at the table! Request a Board Application today

No special expertise is required -- just a desire to find ways to ensure that people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families can easily and locally access resources, services, and support. Board members must reside or work in Skamania or Klickitat County.

For more information, email heather.trolier@skamaniacounty.gov.



KLICKITAT-SKAMANIA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

Visitors are always welcome to attend Board meetings! Meetings are held every other month (February, April, June, August, October, December) on the first Wednesday, from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm. Participate using Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2152417075> or come join us in person.

Meetings alternate between Skamania and Klickitat County locations.

Contact [Heather Trollier](#) for an agenda and location details.

Community Art Studio of Skamania (CASS)

**Creating art with community
Creating community through art**

You've likely seen the CASS Mobile Art Van, and now CASS has a new home base, sharing space with Skamania Kids and Youth (SKY), in Stevenson.

Dedicated to bringing together people of all abilities, ages, and backgrounds, CASS provides opportunities to create and connect for individuals and families from throughout the Gorge. In 2025, CASS was honored as the Skamania County Chamber Nonprofit of the Year.

So how does one get started? There are open studio hours ("Art Hives"), Mobile Art events including regular visits to Club E, a lending library, and CASS workshops. All are welcoming, non-judgmental, accessible spaces for artistic expression and community-building.



To help CASS continue to offer free and low-cost art supplies and opportunities, come to the Gorge Speakeasy Story Gathering at The Ruins in Hood River on November 4.

Admission is by donation. Doors open at 6:00, with story-telling from 7:00-9:00pm. Share a story or just sit back and listen.

HAPPENINGS

- Sundays, 11:00-3:45 and Thursdays, 4:00-7:00: **Art Hive/Open Studio**. All ages; 12 and under with responsible adult. CASS, 198 SW 2nd St., Stevenson.
- Third Tuesday monthly, 6:30-8:30: **AWetism We Embrace**. For neurodivergent and neurotypical adults in the same space—bridging understanding, fostering connection, and reducing isolation. Online. Link available from ShastiM@autismempowerment.org
- Wednesday Sept. 9, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Oct. 28, Nov. 18 and Dec. 9, 5:30-7:00: **Club E: Having fun and making friends**. Elks Club, White Salmon.
- First Thursday monthly, 2:00-4:00: **Senior Parent Planning Group**. Parents and caregivers of adults with disabilities connect, share experiences, and plan for the future. Online option.
- Fridays, 9:00-11:00 (kids and caregivers) and 11:00-1:00 (adults and caregivers): **Adaptive Art**, Calm + Fun. \$10/session. 416 Oak St #4, Hood River.
- Tuesday Sept. 15, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1, 3:00-4:00. **Advancements in Research and Care for 16p11.2 Genetic Syndromes**. Online.
- Thursday, September 17, 5:00-8:00: **Autumn Social**. An evening designed especially for our Honored Guests—anyone with special needs. Dinner, music, dancing, karaoke, bingo, crafts, laughter, and maybe even some surprises. Big River Grill, Stevenson.
- Saturday, October 17, 11:00-7:00: **Klickitat County Harvest Festival**. Parade, food, wildlife show and petting zoo, bouncy house, hay rides, Trunk-or-Treat, costume and pumpkin carving contests, and more. 205 S. Columbus Ave., Goldendale.
- Saturday, October 24, 3:00-5:00: **Tweens & Teens Crow Party**. Swap trinkets and shiny treasures with fellow collectors, and craft your own unique mask. Goldendale Library.
- Wednesday, October 21, 6:00-8:00: **Annual Developmental Disabilities Employment Celebration**. Public welcome! Hegewald Center, Stevenson, and online.
- Tuesday, November 3, 4:00-5:30: **Special Olympics Bowling Regional competition**. Come cheer on the athletes! Orchard Lanes, Hood River.
- Tuesday, November 10, 5:00-7:00: **A Panel on Adult Life and Possibility**. Stories and insights about life after high school. Discover what's possible and how to plan for a meaningful future.
- Saturday, November 21, 2:00-3:00: Documentary screening and discussion, **The Art of Belonging: Seen, Heard, and Included**, Click here for information and more Fall offerings.
- Thursday, November 19, 4:00-6:30: **DSHS Region 3 Community Engagement Forum**. Talk directly with local DDCCS staff to share concerns and solve problems. Online.

EVENTS ARE FREE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

MORE EVENTS & DETAILS AT KSDDAB.ORG.

Klickitat-Skamania Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Our mission: To support Skamania County Community Health in providing high quality, comprehensive and effective developmental disability services to Klickitat and Skamania County residents in an efficient and respectful manner.

With the support from both the Klickitat and Skamania Board of Commissioners, the Developmental Disabilities services for both counties were joined to form one department in 2021. The Klickitat-Skamania DD Advisory Board was formed soon thereafter.