

❄️ **January 2024** ❄️

Klickitat-Skamania Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board Resource Round-Up

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Join the PeaceNW team! Here is a great part-time opportunity for a parent local to Klickitat or Skamania County to provide support and resource information to families of children with disabilities in our area. Full job description at <https://peacenw.org/p2pklickitat-skamania/>

\$ SAVING FOR THE FUTURE

In Washington State, persons with developmental disabilities and their families are able to save and spend money on a wide variety of expenses from education and transportation to vacations without jeopardizing state or federal benefits: [The Washington State Achieving a Better Life Experience \(ABLE\) plan and the Developmental Disabilities Endowment Trust Fund \(DDETF\)](#).

There are key differences between the programs, including eligible expenses (e.g., food and housing are allowed under ABLE but not DDETF) and how monies are dispersed (ABLE funds can be electronically transferred from the account into a bank account or added to an ABLE debit card, or a direct check will be issued, while DDETF uses a reimbursement system after a disbursement request and receipts are submitted). A side-by-side comparison of the two programs, compiled by the ARC of Washington, is available [here](#). Updates to ABLE include:

- \$18,000 contribution limit for the 2024 calendar year
- Funds may be rolled from 529 college savings into ABLE (same annual contribution limits) and
- An additional \$14,580 may be contributed from beneficiary's wages

DDETF Trust Office 1-888-754-8798, email: etfinfo@arcwa.org or web: ddlot.org

ABLE Call Center 1-844-600-2253, [email](#), or web: washingtonstateable.com

Public Transportation

Did you know that both [Skamania Transit](#) and [Mt. Adams Transit](#) (Klickitat County) buses will deviate up to ¾ mile from their established stops if given 24 hours notice? In Skamania County, call 509-427-3990, in Goldendale 1-800-774-1699 and in White Salmon 1-800-493-7606. All buses have ramps or lifts and drivers are trained to assist riders with disabilities. For additional accommodations or information, call (833) 3GO-PASS.

Mid-Columbia Gorge residents have access to a Travel Trainer who can help you learn to navigate the bus system. Fill out a request for a Travel Training [online](#) or call 541-296-2266. (The webpage says Wasco and Hood River County residents only; that has been changed!)

Once you are ready to ride, you can purchase a **Gorge Pass** (\$40 for adults, \$20 for kids ages 17 and under) for unlimited rides on four connected bus systems in 2024. Individual fares are cash only.

[Skamania County Dial-a-Ride](#)

Dial-a-Ride serves individuals with disabilities, seniors and low-income residents. Rides are available to individuals with or without Medicaid coverage. All rides, regardless of age of passenger, are arranged through Senior Services. All ages welcome.

Reservations must be made **at least 3 business days** before the desired trip, but best to make reservations as early as possible. Depending on location, two weeks or more advanced notification may be needed.

Non-Medicaid: For fare-based rides to medical and social service appointments as well as essential shopping, call 509-427-3990. For those 60 years and older, rides to medical appointments and essential services and shopping are by donation (pay as you can). Call 509-427-3990. You will need the address and phone number of your destination.

For those with Medicaid, rides must be arranged and approved by the Medicaid Transportation Brokers at Community in Motion at 1-800-752-9422. (See below)

[Community in Motion](#) Klickitat and Skamania County Medicaid Clients

Community in Motion has several options for non-emergency medical transportation, including door-to-door service, bus or train tickets, or gas vouchers/mileage reimbursement. Non-emergency includes primary care visits, behavioral/mental health care, dentist appointments, physical therapy, etc..

Fill out a ride request for [here](#), bus pass request [here](#), or call 1-800-752-9422 (Option 1) to make a reservation.



We recommend www.informingfamilies.org as your go-to source for all things I/DD in Washington State

ABOUT US

Klickitat-Skamania DD Advisory Board 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.

Visitors are always welcome to join Board meetings! Meetings are held every other month on the first Wednesday, from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm, on Zoom. Contact Heather Trollier for an agenda and the link.

We are currently seeking new Board members. Ask for a Board Application today!

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