

## Community Information and Referral

All individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are unique in what they need and how they live. However, many express a need for accurate and timely information to help support themselves and their family member to effectively access services and be active participants in the community.

The following are community information, education and support programs funded through the Whatcom County DD program using state and local funds.

### **Parent Coalition: (360) 715-0170 Arc of Whatcom County**

Provides leadership support for a broad-based coalition of individuals with developmental disabilities and their parents/guardians. Enables individuals with developmental disabilities and their parents/guardians to become effective and involved in accessing community services.

Click here for [past issues](#) of the parent coalition newsletter

### **Youth Self Advocacy Project: (360) 715-0170 Arc of Whatcom County**

The Youth Self Advocacy group helps young adults with developmental disabilities identify and communicate their needs and interests and become strong self-advocates. Program supports include monthly meetings, an annual community project and outreach to school districts and other community partners.

### **Parent-to-Parent: (360) 255-2056 Whatcom Center for Early Learning**

Parent-to-parent provides emotional support and information to families of children with special needs and/or disabilities. Program supports include creating parent matches with trained “helping parents”, support meetings, social and networking events and a quarterly newsletter.

### **Single Entry Access to Services: (360)715-7485 Opportunity Council**

Call SEAS for help with resources and service navigation for children ages birth to 21 who have (or may have) special needs. A SEAS navigator will listen carefully and help families connect with services that best meet their needs

**The Whatcom County DD program** also sponsors periodic training and workshops which are typically posted on the DD program’s webpage. For more information contact:

Jessica Lee, DD Program Specialist, 360-778-6047     [jlee@whatcomcounty.us](mailto:jlee@whatcomcounty.us)