



Clallam Connection

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March—April 2017

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

“Life Side by Side”

Since 1987, March has been “Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month”. During this month we highlight inclusion, contributions and togetherness. This year our theme is “Life Side by Side”.

Thirty years ago President Reagan, following the deinstitutionalization movement of the seventies and early eighties which had laid the foundation for significant social change, issued the first presidential proclamation calling upon Americans to provide the “encouragement and opportunities” necessary for people with developmental disabilities to reach their potential.

Today we see that individuals with developmental disabilities are productive and valuable citizens, neighbors and family members. We know they are deserving of respect and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, independence and personal growth. We are aware that developmental disabilities do not impede individuals from realizing their full potential at school, work, home, or as members of their communities. We have found that we all can work together, play together, worship together, learn together and grow together.

In an ever-changing America, we have many challenges ahead if we are going to continue our progress. We do know that the most effective way to change attitudes and beliefs about the abilities of individuals with developmental disabilities is through everyone’s work and active participation in community activities and being personally open to learn and acknowledge each individual’s contribution.

We are all a part of this task. We are all up to this task. What can the community or YOU do?

- Participate in a unified sport with Special Olympics or coach a sport or mentor an athlete in a leadership role.
- Become involved at Mosaic by teaching classes, supporting events, mentoring or developing friendships.
- Invite an individual with developmental disabilities to participate in your faith community.
- Encourage your schools to be inclusive of all students in the best ways possible.
- Invite individuals with developmental disabilities to your service club or to help on your community service project.
- Invite individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in your bowling, church athletic or community recreation league.
- Hire an individual at your business or support them as a co-worker at your place of employment.
- Patronize businesses that recognize the contribution of individuals with developmental disabilities and that hire them for real jobs in the community.

Spring
Ahead
March
12th



Spring
Begins
March
20th

Tough
times
never
last,
but
tough
people
do.

- Robert H.
Schuller

CLALLAM COUNTY HIRING & RESOURCE EVENT

The annual Hiring & Resource Event will be on Wednesday, March 22nd, from 10:00am to 1:00pm at Vern Burton Memorial Community Center in Port Angeles. Anyone interested in getting a job or thinking about getting a job should attend. All High School Transition Students and their parents are encouraged to come. Lunch will be provided. This is a free event for all Clallam County!

The workshops at the event are listed below.

WORKSHOPS	
<i>Room 1</i>	
(Closest to 4 th Street – North room)	
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Work First Customer Check In</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Tracy Hagberg, DSHS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check in for Work First Participants from the DSHS Community Services Office
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Image & Employment</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Tracy Hagberg, DSHS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What works and doesn't work when it comes to job search, interviews, retaining employment and meeting employer expectations.
11:15 AM – 12:00 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Finding and Applying for Jobs Online</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Jim Allen</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A brief introduction on where to find the jobs using the Internet and how to apply for them.

WORKSHOPS	
<i>Room 2</i>	
(Closest to Registration – South room)	
10:00 AM – 10:45 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>How To Ace Your Interview</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Morningside</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Afraid of those tough interview questions? Learn how to answer them correctly and get that job!
11:00 AM – 11:45 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Positive Work Behaviors</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Michael Lomuscio– Concerned Citizens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When businesses consider hiring a person with a disability, they want to know you can learn the skills to do the job. This class will give pointers on how to be successful in work, production and social behaviors in the workplace.
12:00 PM – 12:45 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>College to Career Connection</u></p> <p><i>Leader: Brian Kneidl – Peninsula College</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How going back to school can lead to more career opportunities. Representatives from various programs will be available to discuss options for paying for school, followed by an open forum to address any questions or concerns you may have about returning to school.

Upcoming Court-
house
Closures:
None



For more information about what YOU can do, go to www.nacdd.org

DON'T FORGET

- **DDAC Meetings** — March 2nd, 2017, 5:30-7:30pm at Clallam County Board of Commissioners room, Clallam County Courthouse, Port Angeles. May 4th, 5:30-7:30pm, Dungeness Valley Community Church, 45 Eberle Lane, Sequim.
- **BLAC Meeting**—"Business Leadership Advisory Committee", a subcommittee of the DDAC, meeting dates are listed at: www.clallam.net/HHS/HumanServices/blac
- **Clallam County Commissioners Meeting**—Every Tuesday at 10:00am in the Clallam County Board of Commissioners room, Clallam County Courthouse, Port Angeles
- **Sequim School Board Meetings**—Every First and Third Monday of each month at 6:30pm. For current listing go to: www.sequimschools.wednet.edu
- **Port Angeles School Board Meetings**—Every First and Fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. For current listing go to: www.portangelesschools.org/administration/school_board/school_board_meeting_schedule/
- **Crescent School Board Meetings** - Fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. For current listing go to: www.crescentschooldistrict.org/school_board/board_meetings/
- **Quillayute Valley School Board Meetings**—Every Second and Fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm. For current listing go to: www.qvschools.org/pages/Quillayute_Valley_SD_402
- **Cape Flattery School Board Meetings** — For current listing go to: www.capeflattery.wednet.edu/board-agendas

HOLIDAYS:

April 16th—Easter



Town Hall Meeting with Representative Derek Kilmer—Monday, March 6th, 5:30-7:00pm, Sequim High School Auditorium, 503 N. Sequim Avenue.

MOSAIC EVENTS:

"Windows of Creativity" Art Exhibit showcasing the work of Mosaic's participants over the past year: Opening 2-4 pm April 8 with refreshments; show runs from April 8 through 29 at the Landing Mall's First Floor Open Space (115 E Railroad Ave, Port Angeles)

Snappy Player's "A Mid-Summer Forest" Theater Performances: May 25 & 26 @ Olympic Theatre Arts (414 N Sequim Ave, Sequim)

Mosaic's Monthly Dances: March 11, April 8, May 20, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 16, October 14, November 11, December 9 @ the Sons of Norway's Scandia Hall (131 W. 5th St., Port Angeles)



Clallam
Mosaic

*Empowering people with developmental disabilities
for a more viable community*

UPDATE

Wow - what an amazing beginning we have had to 2017! The flurry of activities leading up to the February 10th Night to Shine prom showed how Clallam Mosaic staff and volunteers could work effectively with regional partners to pull off an unforgettable event for 72 individuals in our community with developmental disabilities! (check out pictures and video from Clallam NTS at www.clallamosaic.org) We would like to thank Hillcrest Baptist Church for their foresight in securing funding from the Tim Tebow Foundation for this event. We are also thankful to many others:

- Planning partners: The Crossing Church, Camp Beausite NW & Wilderness Escapes
- Local Funders: Hillcrest Baptist congregation members, Kiwanis Club of PA, Jayme Wisecup
- In-kind Donors: barbecue (PA), Beautiful You Make-up, Bliss Salon Co. & Apparel, Budget/Heckman Motors, Common Grounds Café, Domino's Pizza, Elwha Klallam Heritage Training Center, Gordy's Pizza, Janet Caruth, Lucky Star Consignment, Olympic Paper and Janitorial, Olympic Peaks Photo Club, Red Lion Hotel, ROTC (PAHS), Safeway, Shirley's Restaurant, Skin Care Suites Spa & Steam, Smith Productions, Snow Ghost Digital, Spotlight Tan and Apparel, United Way of Clallam County, Westside Pizza, YMCA of the Olympic Peninsula
- The 188 volunteers key to pulling off the amazing evening!

We hope to repeat the event again in February 2018, so if you missed it this time, make sure to keep it in mind for next year. But, first, there are a few things to look forward to in 2017:

Parent to Parent (P2P)

March 11, 5-7 pm: Parent's Night Out @ Sergio's, Port Angeles

March 20, 9-10:30 am: Coffee Chat @ New Day Eatery

March 25, 11 am-noon: VIMO Dental & Counseling Services presentation @ Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Additional P2P Coffee Chats and Parents Night Out are in the planning, keep an eye on www.clallamosaic.org/P2P for up-to-date information.

Day Programs

Spring Term: April 3 – June 22

Summer Sessions: July 17 – August 24

Fall Term: September 11 – December 14

To stay up to date on programs, you can go to www.clallamosaic.org/Classes

Finally, a reminder that Clallam Mosaic is one of the local providers of Community Guide & Engagement and Peer Mentoring services. When you work with your DDA caseworker, be sure to ask about how you may be able to tap into these services. If you are eligible, please contact us to get started on accessing services and activities in the community.

**SAVE THE DATE! The 2017 Community Summit in Wenatchee will be
June 13th–15th, 2017.**



UPDATE

A fantastic basketball season ended far too quickly - but on the positive side, spring is on the horizon (perhaps still under some snow) and that means we will be starting swimming and track and field. Swimming is set to start on March 10th, at William Shore Pool in Port Angeles from 3:30 - 5:00.

Special Olympics Washington made an error when they scheduled the regional swim meet about a year ago, as they scheduled it for Easter Sunday. When it was brought to their attention they decided to change it and are still working on alternatives. I will get the information out as soon as I have it.

Track and Field will start on March 11th at the Port Angeles High School track at 10:00 am. We typically go until 11:30. Please watch the weather and come dressed appropriately to be outside for an hour and a half. Usually the first few weeks of practice are cold, sometimes rainy, sometimes snowy. Dressing in layers is the best idea but be sure to wear comfortable shoes. Also, we are in need of someone who can serve as the head coach or at a minimum, stand in as the designated head coach for track, at least on Saturday, June 3rd, for the Summer Games [from this point on known as the Spring Games] to be held at JBLM. If you are interested or know someone who would be fantastic, please have them get in touch with Wendy at 360-477-4134.

Finally, we have been very blessed by kind folks who have donated a great deal of money to our program. We are so thankful for them, as they allow us to function well. Funds donated go to transportation, which is a large expense for us because we live so far out. It also pays for practice venues that require payment, for equipment and for the stylin' new uniforms that our basketball players sported this year. No one in our organization is paid so all donations are used to benefit the athletes.

Oh and one more thing. Special Olympics is about more than sport - it is about helping athletes to be successful members of their community. We have a good group of athlete leaders and we would like to see that expand. There are opportunities for athletes to be involved in governance and also many opportunities to provide information about Special Olympics and developmental disabilities. Our athletes who want to be involved in leadership positions, need mentors. It is a rewarding opportunity to work one on one with an athlete and help him/her achieve a goal. Please call if you are interested. - Wendy Bonham



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Clallam County Health & Human Services
Developmental Disabilities
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Got a Story? Got News? Contact Tim Bruce at
360-417-2428 or tbruce@co.clallam.wa.us

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TO END THE WORD
www.r-word.org