



WALLA WALLA VALLEY
**Disability
Network**



April 2026 Newsletter

Your partnership and support of our programs, activities, and the families we serve—those who have a loved one with an intellectual or developmental disability—mean the world to us.

[Donate to Support WWVDN Programs](#)

Save the Date: Ability Walk & Roll 2026

Saturday, May 16 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm



WALLA WALLA VALLEY
**Disability
Network**

ABILITY WALK & ROLL

Become a sponsor of this event to show your support and appreciation for the many ABILITIES of our friends, family, and community members with disabilities.

Deadline to become a sponsor is Friday, May 1

[Become a Sponsor](#)

Register For "Dynamic Devils" Adult Co-Ed Softball Team



Unified Softball gives teens and adults with and without disabilities the opportunity to play softball together in a fun, supportive, and inclusive environment. **Open to players ages 16 and up** of all skill levels and abilities, the team focuses on teamwork, friendship, and enjoying the game. Players build confidence, stay active, and connect with others while the community comes together to cheer them on. Parents/Caregivers or support staff are encouraged to attend as needed.

[Sign Up & Info Here](#)

Spotlight: P2P Family Bowling





Parent to Parent
**FAMILY
BOWLING**

"Our recent Parent to Parent Family Bowling at Bowlaway Lanes, was filled with laughter, cheering, and plenty of strikes! It was a great event for families to come together, relax and enjoy time with one another in a welcoming and supportive space." [Read More](#)

P2P Family Story: Uriel's Story



"I am Mary Carmen, Uriel's mother. He was born in the fall and they did not tell us that he had

Down syndrome. When he was about 4 months old he got sick. He had a fever and his chest was congested, so we took him to the hospital." [Read More](#)

Note From Parent to Parent

April is a month of connection, awareness, and coming together as a community. As we recognize Autism Awareness Month, it's a meaningful time to celebrate our children, honor their unique strengths, and continue building understanding and support around us.

We also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our World Down Syndrome Celebration and Our Easter Potluck and Adaptive Egg Hunt. It was so special to see families come together, share time, and build connections. These moments are what make our community so strong.

This month, we're excited to offer several opportunities for families to connect and learn. Join us for our Connect and Play Picky Eaters Presentation. Families can relax, build friendships, and let kids enjoy time together in a welcoming space. We're also looking forward to our Autism Awareness Celebration on the 11th. This event is a chance to come together, celebrate community, and uplift each other.

As always, Parent to Parent is here for you. Whether you are looking for resources, connection, or just someone who understands, you are not alone on this journey.

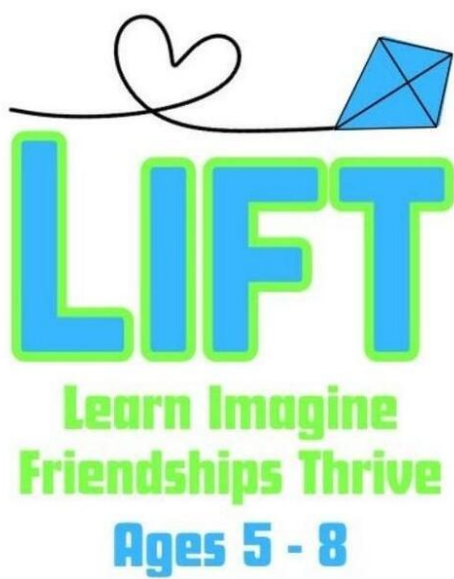
We hope to see you at a future event!

Warm Wishes,

Geneva

WWVDN Events

LIFT & RISE Programs Merge



&



We are combining LIFT & RISE into one group in order to facilitate friendships, offer activities for children 5-12 more frequently, and provide more opportunities to practice social skills and learn through play. LIFT & RISE are play- and experience-based, structured programs where children explore confidence, friendships, and early independence in a safe and supportive environment. Sessions run 90 minutes. Participation is encouraged, not forced.

WWVDN APRIL EVENTS OVERVIEW

April 2026



No cost to attend. For more information and to register for any event, visit www.vdn.org Calendar of Events or use the QR code pictured



For children, adolescents, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as their families, who may feel isolated, overwhelmed, and exhausted. We offer information and connection.

For parents and caregivers of children and adults with disabilities



Parent to Parent in April

Sat, April 11, 2:00 to 3:00 pm
Autism Acceptance Celebration

Mon, April 13, 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Papás y Mamás Especiales: Día del Niño

Fri, April 17, 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Parent to Parent Columbia County

Thurs, April 23, 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Guardianship Workshop w/BMAC

Parent-to-parent coordinators are available to provide one-on-one assistance with paperwork or to answer questions about disability services and support agencies.



Caregivers connect while children (12 years old or younger) play

Tuesday, April 14, 4:00-5:30 pm
Picky Eaters & Healthy Choices

For Parents: We are excited to welcome a presenter from the Department of Health who will be sharing practical strategies for supporting children with picky eating.

For Kids: Children will learn about healthy food choices through engaging, hands-on activities that connect directly to what parents are learning.

Wednesday, April 29, 4:00-6:00 pm
Frozen: The Musical

For children, teens, and adults with disabilities.



LIFT & RISE: For children with disabilities aged 5 to 12

Mon, April 6, 3:30 to 5:00 pm
Leaders in Action

Mon, April 13, 3:30 to 5:00 pm
Challenge & Confidence

Wed, April 29, 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Frozen: The Musical

We are combining LIFT & RISE into one group in order to facilitate friendships, offer activities for children 5-12 more frequently, and provide more opportunities to practice social skills and learn through play.



SOAR: For adolescents and adults with disabilities aged 13 and over

Fri, April 3, 6:00pm
Super Mario Galaxy Movie

Tues, April 7, 5:30 to 6:30pm
Whitman Buddy Program:
Spring Picnic

Fri, April 10, 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Book & Game Night: Dress-Up Edition

Tues, April 21, 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Macchia's & Chandelier Sculptures: Art
Inspired by Dale Chihuly

Wed, April 29, 4:00 to 6:00 pm
Frozen: The Musical

For more information on all of these events and to RSVP, please visit the Calendar of Events (button below)

Calendar of Events

Lunch & Learn April 29, 2026

ECHO AUTISM WA Presents Ross Green, PhD

5th Wednesday Session

"Kids do well if they can."

Dr. Greene

ECHO AUTISM WA PRESENTS ROSS GREENE, PHD

Child psychologist Ross Greene developed the Collaborative and Proactive Solutions model, an evidence-based, non-punitive approach focusing on solving problems that cause challenging behavior in children. It emphasizes skill-building, empathy, and collaboration over rewards and punishments, and is proven to reduce suspensions, detentions, and restraints.

Dr. Greene is the author of the just published *The Kids Who Aren't Okay: The Urgent Case for Reimagining Support, Belonging and Hope in Schools*. Earlier books include *The Explosive Child*, *Lost at School*, *Lost & Found*, and *Raising Human Beings*. Dr. Greene spent over 20 years on the Harvard Medical School faculty and is now Founding Director of the nonprofit Lives in the Balance. Dr. Greene and his colleagues consult widely with families, clinical programs, juvenile detention systems and schools, including the WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Questions? Orville@uw.edu



Date: April 29, 2026



Time: Noon - 1:30 PST

Co-sponsored by WA INCLUDE and the Washington
State Medical Home Partnerships Project

www.wainclude.org
www.medicalhome.org



Lunch is provided for all who choose to attend in person. If you wish to join the webinar virtually, register to have the link sent to your email address.

[Register for Lunch & Learn](#)

Volunteers Make a Difference



Opportunities Available:

Fridays, April 17, 24 and May 1, 8, 15 & 22 - Challenger Baseball: Buddy

[More Info Here](#)

Community Offerings

- [Autism in Indian Country](#)

- [BMAC Housing Application Clinic](#) - Every Wednesday 10:00 am PST
- [DDCS: Community First Choice Video Playlist](#)
- [Department of Housing Task Force Survey](#)
- [ECHO Autism Communities Symposium](#) - Thursday, April 2 8:00 am CT
- [Food Pantry Resources](#)
- [Parenting, Patience, and Disability Study](#)
- [WA Developmental Disabilities Council History & Visioning Project](#)
- [Walla Walla Food Resources](#)
- [Washington State ABLE Savings Plan](#)



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

P.O. Box 1918 | Walla Walla, WA 99362 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.