



WALLA WALLA VALLEY  
**Disability  
Network**



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## July 2025 Newsletter

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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](#)

### What is Parent to Parent?

I wanted to take a moment to share what Parent to Parent truly is, as it's often misunderstood or confused with other services. Parent to Parent is a support program for families who learn their child has a disability or special need. The Parent to Parent Coordinators are not just staff. They're parents, siblings, or close relatives of individuals with disabilities themselves. We understand that learning about your child's diagnosis can be an incredibly isolating experience. That's where Parent to Parent steps in, to support you as you navigate this journey.

We offer emotional support, access to resources, information on specific medical conditions, referrals, social events, trainings, and connections to Helping Parents - trained volunteers who have walked this path before. These Helping Parents are matched with new parents based on similar diagnoses, age of the child, and shared experiences. Whether you're facing a new diagnosis or an ongoing challenge, you'll find someone who truly gets it.

Parent to Parent in Walla Walla was founded in 1991 by Teri Hough. It began in her basement, later became a program under Walla Walla County, and in 2014, Walla Walla Valley Disability Network was created to continue the program. Today, Parent to Parent of Washington State is recognized as one of the strongest networks in the nation, with over 50 Coordinators across the state. When you reach out, you're connecting with someone who has been in your shoes - someone who once felt lost, overwhelmed, and unsure where to turn. Our mission is to make sure no parent feels alone. We work hard to simplify the overwhelming amount of information and connect you to what matters most. We aren't experts (you are, as the parent) but we do know a little about a lot of the resources available in our community and across the state.

Through my own journey as a parent of a child with a disability and as a Parent to Parent Coordinator, I've had the privilege of meeting some incredible advocates - parents, teachers, agency representatives - and I can confidently say our community is truly blessed to have such a strong and caring support network.

You are not alone. We're here to walk alongside you every step of the way.

Sincerely your Parent to Parent Coordinators,  
Angie Witt and Ysabel Fuentes

## **WWVDN Kids Summer Camp 2025**

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**Monday thru Friday, August 4-8, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm**



# KIDS *Summer* CAMP

**August 4<sup>th</sup> - 8th**  
**9:30 am to 1:30 pm**

**Ages 8 - 21**

**Registration**  
**\$50**



**1150 W. Chestnut St.**  
**Walla Walla, WA**



**fun arts &  
crafts**  
**outdoor  
play**

Join us for a fun-filled summer day camp designed for creativity, connection, and play! Campers will enjoy a variety of arts and crafts, hands-on activities, engaging games, outdoor play, and a calming corner for quiet time and relaxation. Each day offers a balance of movement, imagination, and meaningful social interaction in a safe and inclusive environment.

**Register online at [www.vdn.org](http://www.vdn.org)**



(Registration deadline is July 28 and is limited to 25 participants)

[More Info Here](#)

## Spotlight: SOAR Lakeside Lunch & Lures



**Saturday, June 7th, 2025** SOAR travelled to Bennington Lake for “free fishing day.” Despite the intense heat everyone was excited to take advantage of this opportunity to learn how to fish. You could say they were “hooked” on the idea. [Read More](#)

## Spotlight: Haley Goes To Regionals!





Haley got the opportunity to go to the Special Olympics regional track meet for the first time this past May and I got the opportunity to be a chaperone with Haley. We had so much fun. The coaches Tracy Gaines and Jennifer Johnson are so much fun and well organized. It is so nice to ride up to Cheney as a team together and hear the chatter from the athletes. The athletes sat together at meals and went to the street dance together that they were having in downtown Cheney. [Read More](#)

## Papás y Mamás Especiales

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**Monday, July 7 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**



# Summer

Monthly Meetings

## *Papas y Mamas Especiales*

JULY 7TH - ADA DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH  
AUGUST 4TH - LET'S TALK ABOUT  
MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY  
SEPTEMBER 1ST - DEAFNESS  
COME TO TALK AND MEET NEW PEOPLE

**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

1150 W. Chestnut Suite 113 Walla  
Walla, WA 99362

[More Info Here](#)



# July Birthday Celebration & Potluck

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Friday, July 11 at 5:30 pm



# JULY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND POTLUCK

**FRIDAY JULY 11, 2025**

**5:30 PM**

**WILDWOOD PARK**

**7 S. DIVISION ST.**

**WALLA WALLA**

If you last name begins with A-O-Bring a Main Dish  
If your last name begins with P-Z bring a side dish  
Cupcakes will be provided

Whether you have a July birthday or want to celebrate those with July birthdays, come join us for this celebration. The playground is fenced and has a soft surface. You will also get a chance to welcome our new P2P Coordinator

RSVP at [www.wvvdn.org](http://www.wvvdn.org)



[More Info Here](#)

# P2P at Lyons Ferry

Saturday, July 26 at 10:00 am



**Parent to Parent**

*Inform | Support | Connect*

# **PARENT TO PARENT AT LYONS FERRY**

## **620 MARMES RD WASHTUCNA WA**

**Saturday July 26th**  
**10:00 AM**

Enjoy the water with friends. Bring a sack



lunch, floaties, sunscreen and maybe even  
a fishing pole to fish.

**RSVP**

509.255.3727 | [www.wvvdn.org](http://www.wvvdn.org)



[More Info Here](#)



**SOAR Events - For age 13 and over**

**Open for registration:**

**Monday, July 7 - Movie Night (Jurassic World Rebirth)**

**Monday, July 14 - Challenger Indoor Soccer (Trial Night)**

**Friday, July 25 - Adaptive Swim & Picnic**

**(Registration deadline is the Sunday before the event @ 6:00 PM)**

[Visit the SOAR Events Page](#)

# 2025 Summer Activities



There's a lot happening this summer at WWVDN and in the community. Check our Calendar of Events and the link to this webpage frequently as we're always adding things as we learn what's being offered in the area.

[More Info Here](#)

**From the Developmental Disabilities Council**



# BridgeForward

A Free Virtual Event to Change the Future of  
Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Support in Washington

## To Better Disability Care in Washington State

Bridge Forward is a free, virtual event for anyone working to improve support for people impacted by Washington's developmental disabilities and behavioral health systems.

### FREE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**July 24-25, 2025**  
10:30am – 3:30pm PT  
Online

### POST-CONFERENCE PLANNING SESSIONS

**July 31 or August 1, 2025**  
10:30am - 2:30pm PT  
Online

## Featured Speakers



### WA State Leaders Panel

*Leaders from Across  
Systems*



### Anita Cameron

*Disability  
Justice  
Advocate*



### National Leaders Panel

*Leaders from  
Across  
Systems*



### Whit Downing

*Mental  
Health & I/DD  
Leader*

[Register Now](#)



Questions? Contact [wabridgeforwardconference@gmail.com](mailto:wabridgeforwardconference@gmail.com)



You're invited to Bridge Forward – a free, virtual event for anyone working to improve support for people impacted by Washington's developmental disabilities and behavioral health systems.

[More Info Here](#)

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## Community Bulletin

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- [Parent Education Series on Supporting Challenging Behavior](#)
- [My Washington Benefits](#)
- [WA Developmental Disabilities: New Name, Same Mission!](#)
- [Pre-ETS Summer Workshop](#)
- [Advocacy Workshop Series](#)
- [Five Year State Plan Survey](#)



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