

WWVDN 10-Year Anniversary - 2024



**Parent to Parent**  
Inform | Support | Connect



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## October 2024 News

*October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month*

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### Parent to Parent Family Story: Cody



"Cody was born September 13, 2005 at Walla Walla General Hospital. He was born with Down

syndrome and had holes in his heart which required him to have open heart surgery sixteen days after he was born. Cody's first few days in this world were hard. The doctors told us it was highly unlikely Cody would ever learn to walk on his own or communicate." [Read More](#)

## A Note From Parent to Parent...

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This is the season of elections and we hear all sorts of promises from those running for an office whether it be locally or on the big stage. A couple of parents and I went to Tri-Cities to talk with legislators from districts 8, 14 and 16th. We addressed issues covering DDA, Education, Caregiving, and housing. It was so good to be able to speak our truths with other families struggling with different issues and share our successes as well with these very important topics. You as families have a strong voice to advocate for your loved ones in many ways. Whether it is attending a legislative forum to listen or share, testifying before lawmakers, writing letters, or making calls. It can really bring people together when they are advocating for their loved ones. Advocacy means to support or argue for a cause, or policy. An advocate means supporting another person to express your views and wishes and helping stand up for that person's rights. To me, the most important piece of advocacy is sharing our world with someone else so they can get a peek into our lives and maybe understand the world we live in. It is also important for us to understand the laws, policies and procedures and why they were created and hopefully understand the roles of the case managers, teachers, caregivers and others who work in areas of social services that benefit your family. Most people in these roles have a heart to serve others and may themselves be tied down by bureaucracy themselves. It would be a great world if we could all come to the table and work together for the common goal of making our loved ones with disabilities successful and included in our community. I encourage you to attend the Legislative Forum at the Community College Performing Arts building on October 1st from 5:30-7:00 PM to listen, share your stories, and to learn. We may not have chosen this world but it really is a gift to love someone with a disability and create a better world for them. You are their best advocate!

Sincerely,

Angie and Ysabel, Your Parent to Parent Coordinators

## Spotlight On: Mexican Fiesta Night

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**Mexican**

# Fiesta Night



WWVDN and Parent to Parent hosted a Mexican Fiesta Night in September to celebrate Mexico's Independence Day (Sept 16) [Read More](#)



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

**Open for registration:**

**Monday, Oct 14 - Costume Contest & Comic Book Night**

**Sunday, Nov 3 - Rockwall Climbing**

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

[Visit the SOAR Events Page](#)

# **Kids Playgroup at Klickers Pumpkin Patch**

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**Tuesday, Oct 8 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm**



WALLA WALLA VALLEY  
**Disability  
Network**

# October Kids Playgroup

Kids 0-12 with disabilities, their  
siblings, & caregivers

**Tuesday October 8, 4:00-5:30 pm**



## **Klickers Pumpkin Patch**

3300 E Isaacs Ave, Walla Walla

One free pumpkin per family

**RSVP @ [wwvdn.org](http://wwvdn.org) on the calender**

Kids Playgroup possible from a grant by the Sunny Day Foundation

[More Info Here](#)

## **P2P at the Corn Maze**

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**Saturday, Oct 12 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**



## P2P AT THE CORN MAZE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH AT  
2:00PM

853 5 MILE RD. WALLA WALLA



ADMISSION IS 0-3 FREE  
4-11 IS \$10.00 PER PERSON  
12+ IS \$15.00 PER PERSON

[More Info Here](#)

# Challenger Basketball

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**Every Friday, Oct 18 to Nov 22, 2024**



**STARTING FRIDAYS IN OCTOBER 2024**

# **CHALLENGER BASKETBALL**

A BASKETBALL PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR STUDENTS  
AGES 4 - 21 (WHO ARE STILL IN SCHOOL) WITH DISABILITIES.



## **DATES**

**OCTOBER: 18TH & 25TH**

**NOVEMBER: 1ST, 8TH, 15TH & 22ND**

## **TIME**

**YOUTH LEAGUE (SCHOOL AGES)**

**5:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**ADULT LEAGUE**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

## **PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN:**

- **TEAM BUILDING**
- **GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP**
- **WARM UPS / STRETCHES**
- **DRIBBLING, PASSING, & SHOOTING TECHNIQUES**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[WWW.VDN.ORG](http://WWW.VDN.ORG)**

**EDISON ELEMENTARY GYM  
1315 E ALDER ST, WALLA WALLA, WA 99362**

**REGISTRATION FEE \$30 PER PARTICIPANT**

**FOR MORE INFO, INQUIRE ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS, OR TO REGISTER,  
PLEASE VISIT : [WWW.VDN.ORG](http://WWW.VDN.ORG)**

[More Info Here](#)

# Paperwork Party

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**Tuesday, Oct 22 at 6:00 pm**



DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT DDA, CDWA,  
HOW TO FIND CAREGIVING OR NEED HELP WITH  
FILLING OUT PAPERWORK?

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

## **PAPERWORK PARTY**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

AT 6:00 PM

AT 1150 W. CHESTNUT ST .

REPRESENTATIVES  
FROM: DDA, CDWA,  
CARINA CARE, AND  
MORE.

RSVP AT [WWVDN.ORG](http://WWVDN.ORG)  
CHILDCARE PROVIDED

More Info Here

# Harvest Party

Saturday, Oct 26 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm

# HARVEST PARTY

OCTOBER 26TH

3:00-5:00 P.M.

CCF GYM & CAFETERIA

1150 W. CHESTNUT ST.

CARNIVAL GAMES

SNACKS

CANDY

PRIZES

COSTUMES WELCOME



RSVP @ [WWVDN.ORG](http://WWVDN.ORG)



More Info Here

## Volunteers Needed



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Sign Up Here

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## Community News & Activities

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### 2024 Candidate Forums

Tuesday, Oct 1 from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

# 16TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT WA STATE SENATOR & REPRESENTATIVES

OCT 1 • 5:30-7:00 PM • PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT WWCC

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM

# CANDIDATE FORUMS

Scan to submit a  
question for the  
candidates  
*no registration or  
email needed*



# Festival De Cultura Viva

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**Sunday, Oct 6 from 10:15 PM to 4:00 pm**

**TEATRO  
POPULAR**



Color Our Community on Awareness

**PRESENTAN**

A circular graphic containing various musical instruments and notes: a blue and white maraca, a yellow musical note, a green musical note, a blue star, a green maraca, a blue star, a blue star, a yellow musical note, and a yellow saxophone. The background is a pattern of red and white floral motifs.

# **FESTIVAL DE CULTURA VIVA!**

**Celebrando el arte y la cultura Hispana en el Valle de Walla Walla  
Celebrating Hispanic cultural arts in the Walla Walla Valley**

**Sunday, October 6  
Domingo, 6 de Octubre**

**10:15 Parade starts at the corner of Palouse & Main St  
11:00-4:00 Festival at Gesa Power House Theatre**

**¡GRATIS!**

**FREE!**

**Would you like to participate? join us!  
¿Te gustaría participar? ¡Únete a nosotros!**

**509-676-9141**



[Learn More Here](#)

# 2024 Transition & Resource Expo

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Wednesday, Oct 16 from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm



# 2024-2025 TRANSITION AND RESOURCE EXPO

**THIS IS A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT THAT WELCOMES  
INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES, THEIR FAMILIES,  
CAREGIVERS, TEACHERS, EMPLOYEES, AND OTHER  
INTERESTED COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

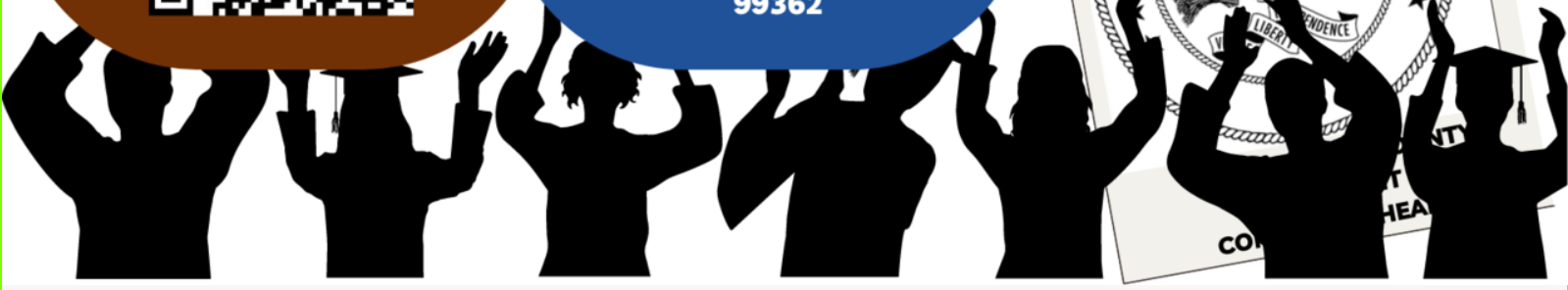
**THE EVENT WILL HOST COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND A  
VARIETY OF WORKSHOPS THAT WILL PROVIDE  
INFORMATION ON SERVICES, COMMUNITY CONNECTION,  
AND ACCESS TO THE PEOPLE AND TOOLS AVAILABLE TO  
HELP EVERYONE PURSUE THEIR EMPLOYMENT AND  
CAREER GOALS**



**SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER**

**DATE: OCTOBER 16TH, 2024**  
**TIME: 4:30PM-8PM**

**LOCATION: WALLA WALLA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
500 TAUSICK WAY  
WALLA WALLA, WA  
99362**



[Register Now](#)

# Simplified SSI Application

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*Washington State*  
**Department of Social  
& Health Services**

**Developmental Disabilities Administration**

**September 23, 2024**

## **Simplified SSI Application (Effective December 2024)**

The Social Security Administration is making changes to simplify the process for SSI applicants. The first phase will be making the iClaim available to applicants who are applying for both Disability Insurance Benefits and SSI benefits, if they meet certain criteria:

- The applicant must be between the ages of 18 and 64.
- A U.S. citizen.
- Never been married.
- Never filed for SSI or named as a parent on a child's SSI record.

**This will go-live in December 2024. A notice will be sent at a later time when the link to the new iClaim is live.**

The new version of the iClaim will have fewer questions and will prepopulate information from the existing SSA record. The iClaim will also include an electronic version of the SSA-827, so applicants may sign online instead of printing and mailing a paper form. Additionally, third parties can submit the iClaim on behalf of a client, and a copy of the iClaim will be mailed to the applicant to review, sign and return to the SSA office.

These changes are intended to simplify the SSI application process and reduce the need to mail additional documents or go to the SSA Field Office.

Anyone interested in applying for Disability Insurance Benefits can complete the current iClaim at

<https://secure.ssa.gov/iClaim/dib>. Anyone interested in applying for SSI benefits only should contact their local SSA Field Office to schedule an interview, or submit the completed paper application by mail or in-person.

For detailed information regarding the changes visit:

<https://blog.ssa.gov/social-security-administration-announces-new-efforts-to-simplify-ssi-applications/>.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/27/2024-19185/agency-information-collection-activities-proposed-request>.

For further questions please contact Tabitha Mackey, Social Security Program Manager, [tabitha.mackey1@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:tabitha.mackey1@dshs.wa.gov), phone 360-462-7704.

## It's Election Season!



On November 5th, there will be an important election that will determine the future of our state, and our country. Elected officials make laws that impact YOU! They determine, how much money will be spent on benefits, services and supports that you need. Voting allows you to have a say in the future--- YOUR future.

## Can I Vote?

Yes, if you meet the [Following Criteria](#):

- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of Washington state
- At least 18 years old
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order. If you are under guardianship, you can still vote, as long as the court has not taken that right away.
- Not currently in prison for a felony or federal or out-of-state felony conviction

If you are 16 or 17, you can sign up as a [Future Voter](#) and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

# How Do I Register?

Register to Vote and Track Your Ballot

If you need help to vote contact your [County Elections Department](#).

To learn more visit our [Website](#).

## Important Dates & Deadlines

Election Day	November 5 <sup>th</sup>
Ballots mailed out	October 18 <sup>th</sup>
Online and Mail registrations must be received 8 days before the election	October 28 <sup>th</sup>
In person voting only registration deadline	November 5 <sup>th</sup>

## Resources

[The Arc's Voter's Guide](#)

[Disability Rights Washington](#)

## Learn More About The Candidates

The Arc of Washington's Candidate Questionnaire



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