



October 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: An Elegant Fall Evening of Dinner, Wine & Giving



Mark your calendar for the evening of **Friday, November 6**, and join Walla Walla Valley Disability Network for our Dinner & Auction, an evening of delicious food, local wine, and community, all in support of families in our valley.

Come raise a glass with us and help make a difference right here at home!

Tickets and event details are coming soon.

Want to be part of the evening?

We're currently gathering auction items, sponsors, and volunteers. If you or your business would like to donate, sponsor, or lend a hand, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Laura Stevens at: admin@wwvdn.org

Spotlight: Dynamic Devils Softball 2026



Check out our highlights from the Dynamic Devils 2026 Softball Season!

Note From Parent to Parent

Happy October, P2P families! As the weather cools down and fall settles in, we're looking forward to another month of connecting with you. We're so thankful for the families who continue to show up, share their stories, and make Parent to Parent such a welcoming and supportive community.

We know that parenting a child with a disability can sometimes feel overwhelming, and it can make such a difference to connect with someone who understands. This month, we're offering a Virtual Parent Connection Meeting on October 15, with two options to make it easier to join: 10:00–11:00 AM or 7:00–8:00 PM. Come as you are, grab a cup of coffee or tea, and spend some time connecting with other parents.

One of the special parts of Parent to Parent is our Helping Parent program. Sometimes, the best support comes from talking with another parent who has been through something similar. Helping Parents are volunteers who offer a listening ear, share their experiences, and provide encouragement to other parents and caregivers.

If you're looking for someone who understands what you're going through, or if you've thought about becoming a Helping Parent yourself, we'd love to connect with you!

We hope you'll join us for some fall fun, including our Harvest Party & Potluck! Costumes are encouraged, and we'd love to see you there.

As always, if you need support, resources, or simply someone to talk to, please reach out. You don't have to navigate this journey alone. We're here for you!

Sincerely, Geneva Arevalo (P2P Coordinator)

Harvest Party & Potluck

Saturday, Oct 31 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

HARVEST PARTY AND POTLUCK



OCTOBER 31ST 11-1PM

Center for Children and Families Cafeteria/Gym

Join us for a fun-filled evening of fall festivities, good food, and connecting with friends and families! Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy a wonderful time together as we celebrate the season.

Costumes are encouraged! Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for some fall fun!

RSVP at WWVDN's Calendar of Events

Join us for a fun-filled evening of fall festivities, good food, and connecting with friends and families! Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy a

wonderful time together as we celebrate the season.

Costumes are encouraged! Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for some fall fun!

[More Info Here](#)

WWVDN Events

WWVDN OCT EVENTS OVERVIEW

October 2026



No cost to attend. For more information and to register for any event, visit www.dn.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 October

Monday, October 5, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.
Papás y Mamás Especiales

Thurs, Oct 15, 10:00 - 11:00 am /
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Virtual Support Meeting

Fri, Oct 16, 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Columbia County Potluck

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



Sat, Oct 17, 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Volunteer Appreciation

Join us Saturday October 17th from 1pm-2:30pm for our Volunteer Appreciation! We would like to thank our volunteers for their time and commitment with the Walla Walla Valley Disability Network.

Sat, Oct 31, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Harvest Party & Potluck

Costumes are encouraged! Come dressed in your favorite costume and get ready for some fall fun!

Join us for a fun-filled evening of fall festivities, good food, and connecting with friends and families! Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy a wonderful time together as we celebrate the season.

For children, teens, and adults with disabilities.



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

Wed, Oct 14, 4:00 - 5:30 pm
Children's Museum of Walla Walla

Wed, Oct 28, 4:00 - 5:30 pm
Pumpkin Party!

We have combined LIFT & RISE into one group in order to facilitate friendships and provide more opportunities to practice social skills and learn through play.



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

Saturday, Oct 3, 12:00 - 2:00 pm
Whitman Soccer Game

Tues, Oct 6, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
Whitman Buddy Program: First Buddy Event

Wed, Oct 7, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Movie Night (Transformers One)

Tues, Oct 13, 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Volunteer Appreciation Decorations

Wed, Oct 21, 5:00 - 7:00 pm
October Challenge Event

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

Calendar of Events

Volunteer Opportunities



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**Fridays Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, & Nov 13 - Challenger Basketball 2026
(Youth League)**

**Fridays Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, & Nov 13 - Challenger Basketball 2026
(Adult League)**

[Sign Up & More Info Here](#)

Community Offerings



\$260,000

1212
Lamb St.
Milton-Freewater,

Learn More at Our Information Session

Interested in owning a home? Come learn how the program works and what you need to do to apply.

- Saturday, September 26
- 3:00–4:00 PM
- VRS Online

To qualify you must:

- Have a household income at or below 120% of the Area Median Income.
- Be prequalified by a bank to purchase a \$260,000 CLT home.
- Be signed up to take a Homeownership Readiness Program course.
- Live in the home.
- Be a first-time home buyer.



See the Open House Info Sheet for additional details and the household income chart, available at the front desk. This is an optional personal opportunity for VRS staff. Attendance at the information session is unpaid.

Your Opportunity to Own a Home!

A Great Opportunity

Common Roots Housing Trust is selling its first Community Land Trust (CLT) home! With a CLT home, you own the house while Common Roots owns the land, helping make homeownership more affordable.

Features

5 Bedrooms • 3 Bathrooms • Fully Accessible

APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 2

To apply, contact
kathryn@commonrootshousing.org



120% AMI	Household Size
\$70,275	1
\$80,325	2
\$90,375	3
\$100,350	4
\$108,450	5
\$116,475	6
\$124,500	7
\$132,525	8

Thank you for your interest in a home with Common Roots! The application for the home will open soon. Please follow the below steps to get ready for the application, or to learn more about being a Homeowner for this home or another one!

Throughout the process, please reach out to Kathryn Witherington (kathryn@commonrootshousing.org / 509-876-1871) with any questions or if you'd like to meet one-on-one to discuss Community Land Trust homeownership.

- Visit commonrootshousing.org/homebuyers and fill out the Common Roots Eligibility Survey located there. Completing the survey does not commit you to buying a home, but it lets us keep you updated on what comes next in the process.
- Build your homeowner readiness: You may not know yet if you're "homeownership ready". Luckily, there are free resources to help you out:
 - o Blue Mountain Action Council's Homeownership Readiness Program is here to help you build a stronger financial foundation and open the door to homeownership. Through guidance, education, and one-on-one support, they empower families to qualify, buy, and thrive in their own homes. Please visit <https://www.bmacww.org/programs/homeownership-readiness-program> to learn more.
 - o You can take a Homeowner Readiness Class online through the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. More information can be found here: <https://heretohome.org/homebuyer-education-classes-list/>
 - o Washington Homeownership Resource Center can help you navigate the exciting, complicated, and sometimes overwhelming process of buying a home. You can learn more about their program and how to reach them at <https://www.homeownership-wa.org/for-homebuyers/>.
 - o The State of Oregon offers Downpayment Assistance and other homeowner assistance. More info can be found at: <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/homeownership/Pages/index.aspx>
- Talk to a mortgage lender. These lenders are familiar with our program and are able to help you navigate the mortgage process.
 - o Banner Bank: Stacy Bergevin, AVP, Residential Loan Officer.
Stacy.bergevin@bannerbank.com, 509-524-5708
 - o Columbia Bank: Keyna Willett, VP Sr. Mortgage Loan Officer.
KeynaWillett@columbiabank.com, 509-780-1904

*Brought to you by Voices for
Disability Advocacy*

BENTON FRANKLIN LEGISLATIVE FORUM 2026

*Come advocate for our community members with
intellectual and/or developmental disabilities*



October 6th, 2026



6:30-8:30 PM



**The Arc of Tri-Cities,
1455 SE Fowler St,
Richland, WA 99352**



**Connect in-person with legislators and
candidates for:**

- The 8th, 14th, 15th and 16th State Legislative Districts
- The 4th US Congressional District

Learn about policy topics impacting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

***Please RSVP and submit your questions to
parent.coalition@co.benton.wa.us before the event
to ensure they are addressed during the forum.***

RSVP appreciated, though not required.

Connecting Spanish-speaking families with free language development support for their young children

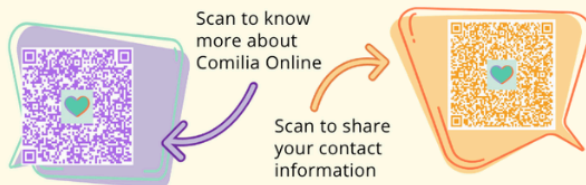


Our team of researchers from the Universities of Oregon and Western Washington have created the **Comilia Online** program to support children between 18-36 months of age who have difficulty speaking.

We invite families to participate and learn new strategies in our **free 8 to 13-week** program, **virtually from home!**

Join us!

Receive up to \$900/year, depending on how much of the program you complete.



Get in touch with:
The Comilia Online Team
ComiliaOnline@uoregon.edu
(503) 985-8348



Conectando a familias hispanohablantes con apoyo gratuito para el lenguaje infantil

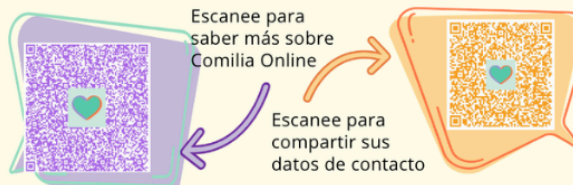


Nuestro equipo de científicos de las Universidades de Oregon y Western Washington ha creado el programa **Comilia Online** para apoyar a niños entre 18 y 36 meses de edad con dificultades para hablar.

Invitamos a familias a participar y aprender nuevas estrategias en nuestro programa **gratuito de 8 a 13 semanas**, **¡virtualmente, desde su casa!**

¡Únase!

Reciba hasta \$900/año, según el tiempo que participe.



Póngase en contacto con:
El equipo de Comilia Online
ComiliaOnline@uoregon.edu
(503) 985-8348



- [Wildfire Smoke - Protect Your Lungs Factsheet](#)
- [Introduction to Autism Video Series](#)
- [BMAC Housing Application Clinic](#) - Every Wednesday 10:00 am
- [Developmental Disabilities Administrative Appeal Project](#)
- [Food Pantry Resources](#)
- [WA Developmental Disabilities Council History & Visioning Project](#)
- [Walla Walla Food Resources](#)



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