

## Walla Walla DD Subcommittee Meeting

March 1, 2019

Present: Alisha Walker, Kate Propst, Emily, Libby McCaw, Amanda Hinrichs, Olivia Baez, Shamra Baez, Nancy Riggle, Cindy Wolski

### Cooking/Healthy Eating Update - Nancy:

- The last class has less participation; hoping it was due to the bad weather.
- Next class will be on March 7<sup>th</sup> and they will be making wraps.
- You can sign up for the class at [www.wvvdn.org](http://www.wvvdn.org)
- Nancy will meet with Jeanne Walter in Dayton next week to help them get their cooking classes started and share picture recipes.
- Will be doing a crock pot prep and taste class soon. Let Nancy know if you have any good, easy recipes.

### Craft Classes Update - Nancy:

- The last project was a colorful hanging made from folded scrapbook paper.
- The Series of Craft Classes is held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month.
- Celeste (teaches class) said this was the highlight of her week! She loves it!
- You can sign up for the class at [www.wvvdn.org](http://www.wvvdn.org)

### Residential Update – Nancy:

- Working on accepting one referral – if all goes well. It is a local individual.
- The Union-Bulletin is doing a story on Nancy's 40-year anniversary with Valley Residential Services (WOW!!!). Not sure when it will be published.
- The bad weather has not been too challenging for VRS. Staff has been getting to work and have not had to cancel many client activities.
- DDA has a new billing system (effective January 1). It is a tiered-system and pays individual support cost based on tier and outcomes versus number of hours in a house. Nancy is optimistic that this system will be easier to track and puts the focus back on the clients. She and her counterparts in other Counties have been advocating this change for a long time. (yay!)

### Community Health Advisory Board Update – Alisha:

- The monthly meeting has been changed to the second Thursday of each month from 3:30 pm. To 5:00 p.m. The new meeting location is at Son Bridge, 1200 SE 12<sup>th</sup> Street, College Place.
- There are some upcoming board openings if anyone is interested.

### County Update - Cindy:

- We received five applications for the Accessible Communities Advocacy Committee (ACAC). We discussed the possibility of combining the ACAC with the DD Sub-committee to have enough members; with the ACAC being a quarterly meeting focus. The DD sub-committee was open to this. After discussing with Meghan DeBolt and hearing of other interested potential committee members, we will reach out and try to get the other four applicants needed to have a separate ACAC.

- The Governor’s Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE) has selected Walla Walla as a site for their 2019 Community Outreach Project Committee. Connie Taylor-Randall, a local GCDE member, nominated Walla Walla for this Outreach Project.
  - GCDE members came to check out potential venues. While they were her on February 21 & 22, they attended a Transition Expo planning meeting, a VRS Cooking Class, met with Bobbie Sue Arias, Disability Support Services Coordinator at WWCC and visited several potential meeting sites to ensure accessibility.
  - The GCDE will come to Walla Walla in April or May (TBA) and host a Town Hall-style meeting to celebrate the achievements toward improving accessibility and the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. Also discussed will be barriers and concerns. The top three areas where improvement can be made will be noted. A Leadership breakfast will be held the following morning with key leaders in the community will be held. An action plan will be written up following the visit.

County Update – Amanda:

- The Family Support Team (FST) meeting in February was cancelled due to the bad weather and the ESD-123 being closed.
- The next scheduled FST meeting will be on Wednesday, March 13 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Ruthelle Martinez was just hired by ESD-123 in the birth-to-three program. She will be a great asset.

Senior Center Update – Libby:

- Senior Center Board has received positive feedback about hosting the VRS cooking classes. Some seniors have expressed an interest in participating. This would be a good way to further integrate the classes.
- We discussed the possibility of the UB doing a story on the cooking classes and their success.
- Senior Center will host the Transition Expo this year for Walla Walla Valley Disability Network.
- The Salon is open in the Center and does accept private pay. They do hair and nails. All are Welcome. Weekly hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- The Home and Garden show is coming up in May. All are welcome.

WWVDN Update - Shamra:

- Events tab on the website ( [www.wwvdn.org](http://www.wwvdn.org) ) has been changed to “Calendar” on the website. There are LOTS of activities going on in March. A few are:
  - Deaf Culture (Better Together Series) Rescheduled from February
  - Healthy Relationships Training
  - Various Support Groups
  - Family Activities
- World Down Syndrome Day is March 21<sup>st</sup>. WWVDN will have a *Silly Socks Day*...with Wii, Bingo, dancing (while on video), and educational materials.
- Transition Expo will be on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. Theme is **Get “fired up” for your future!** Exciting vendor addition: WSU ROAR Program!

**Next Meeting: April 5th at 3:00 p.m. at Valley Residential Services**