

I Have Disabilities and I Want to Work: Benefits Advisors

Should I read this?

Yes, if all these are true:

- You live in Washington state.
- You have Social Security disability-based benefits, Medicare, SSI-related Medicaid or long-term care services, or other disability-based benefits.
- You want to work.

What is a benefits advisor?

Social Security and other programs have trained advisors to give expert advice on your benefits so you do not do something to put them at risk.

How do I find a benefits advisor?

The list attached is the last publicly available version of this list. For an updated list, contact Technical Assistance at [the Washington Initiative for Supported Employment \(WISE\)](#). Their website is

www.gowise.org.

Some programs are available only for specific groups. These are the program categories:

- You have a **developmental disability**.
- You get **SSI** or **SSDI**.
- You are a client of the Department of Services for the Blind.
- You use a behavioral health specialist.
- A few other categories.

❖ The Social Security Administration funds Community Work Incentives Coordinators. You can use one of them if there is no other category that describes you or is not as appropriate.

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Washington Benefits Planning Network (listed by program and area)

State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Services
 Technical Assistance
 Community Work Incentive Coordination (CWIC) Services – SSA
 State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Services and Others

DD Benefits Specialists

REGION/COUNTY	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
REGION 1: Benton/Franklin	Tamah Ruth Columbia Industries 900 S. Dayton Kennewick, WA 99336	509-582-4142 Ext. 214 E-mail: tamahr@columbiaindustries.com
Chelan/Douglas	Kerri Harris Walsh and Associates/Ambitions P.O. Box 2563 Wenatchee, WA 98807	509-670-8870 E-mail: k.harris@ambitions.org
		509-888-2377 Fax: 509-888-2378 E-mail: cmoomaw@co.douglas.wa.us
Lincoln	Cathy Christian Lincoln County Developmental Disabilities Program 707 13 th St. Davenport, WA 99122	509-725-1086 Fax: 509-725-5851 E-mail: cchristian@co.lincoln.wa.us
Spokane	Brian Nichols Spokane County Community Services 312 W, 8 th Spokane, WA 99204	509-477-2029 Fax: 509-477-6827 E-mail: Bnichols@spokanecounty.org
Stevens/Ferry	Erika Thompson Stevens/Ferry County Developmental Disabilities Program 165 E. Hawthorne Ave. Coeville, WA 99114	509-685-0680 Fax: 509-684-5286 E-mail: ethompson@co.stevens.wa.us

REGION/COUNTY	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
REGION 2:		
King	Scott Leonard King County Developmental Disabilities Division Dept. of Community & Human Services 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 520 Seattle, WA 98104	206-263-9049 Fax: 206-205-1632 E-mail: scott.leonard@kingcounty.gov
King	Richard Wilson School-to-Work Coordinator King County Developmental Disabilities Division 401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 520 Seattle, WA 98104	206-263-9044 Fax: 206-205-1632 E-mail: richard.wilson@kingcounty.gov
Snohomish	Melinda Bocci Snohomish County Developmental Disabilities 3000 Rockefeller, M/S 305 Everett, WA 98201	425-388-7259 Fax: 425-388-7304 E-mail: melinda.bocci@co.snohomish.wa.us
REGION 3:		
Clallam	Randi Jones Pierce, Jones and Associates LLC 210 Center Parkway Sequim, WA 98382	360-582-9965 Fax: 360-457-1105 E-mail: Randi@piercejones.net
Clallam	Karen Pierce Pierce, Jones and Associates LLC 210 Center Parkway Sequim, WA 98382	360-582-9965 Fax: 360-457-1105 E-mail: Karen@piercejones.net
Clallam	Barbara Ward Clallam County Health & Human Services 223 E. 4 th Street, Suite 14 Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015	360-417-2487 Fax: 360-417-2519 E-mail: bward@co.clallam.wa.us
Clark	Brenda Bertram Make Ends Meet PO Box 10632 Portland, OR 97296	360-609-9722 FAX: 503-914-0398 E-mail: BBer211925@aol.com
Grays Harbor	Dee Dee Garman 320 E. Kamilche Ave. Montesano, WA 98563	360-589-4073 E-mail: ddg@centurytel.net

REGION/COUNTY	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Grays Harbor	Loretta Marlow The Arc of Grays Harbor P.O. Box 1794 Aberdeen, WA 98520	360-537-7000 FAX: 360-537-8816 E-mail: lorettamarlow@comcast.net
Pacific	Judy Jones Pacific County Health and Human Services P.O. Box 26 South Bend, WA 98586	360-875-9300 ext. 2645 Fax: 360-875-9323 E-mail: jjones@co.pacific.wa.us
Thurston	Kim Jensen Program Specialist Thurston/Mason County Developmental Disabilities 412 Lilly Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98506-5132	360- 867-2518 Fax: 360-867-2601 jensenk@co.thurston.wa.us
Thurston	Kathy Goldenberger Creative Employment Consultants P.O. Box 13095 Olympia, WA 98508	360-539-5960 Cell: 360-870-5157 E-mail: kgoldenberger@comcast.net

Community Work Incentives Coordinators

Community Work Incentives Coordinators (CWIC) are funded by the Social Security Administration to assist SSI and SSDI recipients to make informed choices about working.

AREA	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
All WA Except: Pacific, Lewis, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla	Emma Henselbecker Community-Minded Enterprises 25 W. Main Avenue, Suite 310 Spokane, WA 99201	(509)-209-2602 emmah@community-minded.org
	Stacie Collier Plan to Work—Community- Minded Enterprises 25 W. Main Street, Ste 310 Spokane, WA 99201	509.209.2608 staciec@community-minded.org
	Brenda Perez Community-Minded Enterprises 25 W. Main Avenue, Suite 310 Spokane, WA 99201	(509)209-2621 brendap@community-minded.org
Pacific, Lewis, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla	Main Office Contact Information Disability Rights Oregon 610 SW Broadway, Suite 200 Portland, OR 97205	Phone: 503.243.2081 1.800.452.1694 Fax: 503.243.1738
	Arlene Jones, WIPA Project Coordinator CWIC Disability Rights Oregon 610 SW Broadway, Suite 200 Portland, OR 97205	Phone: 503.243.2081 x205 Fax: 503.243.1738 ajones@DROregon.org
	Barbara Dirks, CWIC Disability Rights Oregon 610 SW Broadway, Suite 200 Portland, OR 97205	Phone: 503.243.2081 x228 Fax:503.243.1738 bdirks@DROregon.org

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Benefit Specialists

The following DVR benefit specialists can assist individuals eligible for DVR services to understand how employment will affect their social security benefits:

AREA	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Serves the north end of Western Washington, including the Mercer Street office in Seattle, Bellevue, and all offices up to Bellingham	Jennifer Bean Division of Vocational Rehabilitation 4101 Meridian Bellingham, WA 98226	360-714-4133 Fax: 360-714-4139 Toll-free: 1-800-745-5960 E-mail: beanj@dshs.wa.gov
Serves Kent, SeaTac, Mercer St. and Bellevue, with phone appointments in E. WA and referral from the other DVR Benefit Specialists	Susan Dougherty-Guild Division of Vocational Rehabilitation 805 156th Ave NE Bellevue, WA 98007	425-590-3110 Fax: 425-649-4330 E-mail: guilds@dshs.wa.gov
	Patricia Emsley Division of Vocational Rehabilitation WorkSource Thurston County 1570 Irving St SW Tumwater, WA 98512	360-704-3568 Fax: 360-570-6941 emslepm@dshs.wa.gov
	Eileen Fielding Division of Vocational Rehabilitation 1002 N. 16 th Ave. Suite 104 P O. Box 12500, B 39-9 Yakima, WA 98909	509-225-4451 Fax: 509-575-2065 fielde@dshs.wa.gov

Department of Services for the Blind Benefit Specialists

The following DSB benefit specialists can assist individuals eligible for DSB services to understand how employment will affect their social security benefits:

AREA	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Currently serving the King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island and San Juan counties	Sheila Burkett-Luckey 3411 South Alaska St. Seattle, WA. 98118	206.721.6463 Fax: 206.721.4103 Toll-free: 1.800.552.7103 E-mail: sheila.burkett-luckey@dsb.wa.gov
Currently Serving Yakima, Ellensburg, Moses Lake and Wenatchee Areas	Karla Jessen 1712 S. 16th Avenue Yakima, WA 98902	509.454.3634 Fax: 509.454.4125 Toll-free: 1.800.552.7103 E-mail: karla.jessen@dsb.wa.gov
Currently serving Wapato, WA to Walla Walla, WA.	Daphne Martin 1712 South 16 th Ave. Yakima, WA. 98902	509.454.7626 Fax: 509.454.4125 Toll-free: 1.800.552.7103 E-mail: daphne.martin@dsb.wa.gov

Behavioral Health Specialists

AREA	NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Benton and Franklin County	Linda Schroeder Lourdes PACT Team 516 W. Margaret St., Suite 1 Pasco, WA 99301	509-545-4462 Fax: 509-545-8076 E-mail: lschroeder@lourdersonline.org
Clark County	Cindy Falter Certified Peer Support Specialist and Benefits Planner NAMI Southwest Washington 8019 NE 13 th Ave Vancouver, WA 98665	(360) 695-2823-ext.106 Fax: 360-823-1088 E-mail: cindy.falter@namiswwa.org
Grant County	Wendy Sandmann Grant Mental Healthcare 840 E. Plum St. Moses Lake, WA 98837	509-765-9239 ext. 305 Fax: 509-765-1582 E-mail: wendys@gmhealthcare.org
King County	Kristi Lebow Harborview Mental Health Employment Specialist 325 Ninth Ave., Box 359797 Seattle, WA 98104	(206) 744-9648 Fax:(206) 744-9854 E-mail: klebow@u.washington.edu
King County	Julie Morgan Downtown Emergency Service Center 2106 2 nd Ave., Suite 100 Seattle, WA 98121	206-227-4817 E-mail: jmorgan@desc.org
King County	Lara Schunneman Employment Specialist Navos Outpatient Services 1010 146 th St. Burien, WA 98168	206-439-2658 Fax: 206-439-2274 E-mail: lara.schunneman@navos.org
King County	Brian Youngberg Certified Peer Counselor and Benefit Planner Sound Mental Health 1600 E Olive St Seattle WA 98122	E-mail: briany@smh.org
Pierce (Only works with individuals at Western State Hospital)	Laurel Lemke Psychology Associate/Vocational Program Development Treatment and Recovery Center/Center for Forensic Services Western State Hospital 9601 Steilacoom Blvd. Lakewood, WA 98498	253-761-7533 E-mail: LEMKELA@dshs.wa.gov

Other Benefit Specialists

King	Hope Drummond Alliance of People with disAbilities 4649 Sunnyside Ave N. Suite 100 Seattle, WA 98103	206-545-7055 ext 113 E-mail: hope@disabilitypride.org
<i>*Works specifically with individuals on COPEs that are of working age</i>	Michael Corsini* Validus Consulting Services	E-mail: mcorsini@validusconsulting.org
Spokane	Amanda Cross, MS, CPWIC SKILS'KIN 4004 E Boone Ave Spokane, WA 99202	(509)326-6760, Ext 2200 across@skills-kin.org

Technical Assistance

NAME/ADDRESS	PHONE/FAX/E-MAIL
Susan Harrell Washington Initiative for Supported Employment P.O. Box 11237 Olympia, WA 98508	360-352-9084 Fax: 360-352-9083 E-mail: susan@gowise.org
Cathy Sacco Washington Initiative for Supported Employment 25 West Main, Suite 310 Spokane, WA 99201	509-263-5613 Fax: 509-444-3077 E-mail: cathy@gowise.org
Jim Corey Washington Initiative for Supported Employment 100 S. King St. #260 Seattle, WA 98104	206-343-0881 ext. 109 Fax: 206-343-2078 E-mail: jim@gowise.org