

SPRING 2019



Family Links

NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Meet Special Olympics Area Director



Hi my name is **Tracy Gaines** and I chose to become involved with Special Olympics first because I have a daughter with special needs. Watching her flourish inspired me to want to do more. I am currently the Walla Walla Area Director because I want others with special needs to find in themselves the ability to persevere be rewarded for their hard work. There is nothing like seeing the pride on an athlete's face when they have pushed themselves to the limit and overcame their challenges. The confidence and acceptance they find in this group will enable them to be more successful in life. My "why" is for each athlete to not be held back by their limitations, but to find within themselves endless potential.

My dream for this community is all about opportunity. I hope to open the hearts of the community to see the amazing things that can happen through Special Olympics.

I hope to provide additional opportunities for athletes by offering a wider variety of sports that will draw in participants and grow community involvement.

If you are interested
Contact Tracy Gaines:
(509) 386-4016
wwsoteam@gmail.com



Health Insurance Premium Reimbursements



Did you know that there's a way to have the flexibility of pri-

ivate health insurance and get reimbursed for premiums from Apple Health (Medicaid)? The Washington State Premium Payment Program reimburses the cost of private health insurance premiums for certain individuals who would cost more for the state to cover under Apple Health.

This program is for individuals who:

- receive Apple Health (Medicaid);
- have private medical insurance available (e.g., through the individual's employer or parent's insurance) that is not purchased from Champus or Tricare, or with a subsidy through the Washington Health Benefit Exchange.

Benefits May Include:

- Reimbursement for premiums, co-pays, and any related expenses incurred through private insurance.
- Access to a private insurer's provider network of specialists not covered under Apple Health (e.g., naturopathic doctors or chiropractors).
- A broader provider network for services Apple Health typically covers, like Applied Behavior Analyst (ABA).
- Premium reimbursement for non-Apple Health family members, if determined cost-effective.
- Continued Apple Health eligibility.

How The Program Works Private insurance is the primary payor and Apple Health is secondary, covering copays and coinsurance costs.

Apple Health clients participating in the program will be reimbursed according to each family's actual costs. A reimbursement check will be issued when the Health Care Authority (HCA) receives proof of private premium payment (normally on a monthly basis).

How to Apply

- Print out an application for premium assistance: informingfamilies.org/ppp and mail to Health Care Authority, P.O. Box 45518, Olympia, WA 98504. It can take up to 30 days to process your application after all necessary paperwork is received.
- A case manager will determine premium reimbursement based on:
- Cost and type of insurance.
- Age and gender of family members with active Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage.
- Type of Apple Health (Medicaid) program.
- Questions? Contact Melissa Bruce: Melissa.bruce@haca.wa.gov or (360) 725-1572

A Service of the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council. For more information, visit: www.informingfamilies.org

revised 11/18

Our Sponsoring Agency:



WWW.WWVDN.ORG

Visit us for more information, events and updates

Upcoming Events

Date	Support Meeting / Event	Time / Location	RSVP
Monday 8	Better Together / Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)	6-7:30 pm WWPS Office 364 S. Park Ave. WW	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
Thursday 11	Autism Parent Meet & Greet	6:00– 7:30 pm 1520 Pleasant St. WW	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
Friday 12	Challenger Baseball	5:30-6:30 PM Pacific Little League	https://clubs.bluesombrero.com//wallawallapacificll Erin at 509-386-2169
Friday 12	Mamas Especiales	6:00– 8:30 pm 1520 Pleasant St. WW	Ysabel Fuentes (509) 301-0679
Wednesday 17	Senior P2P Parent Dinner WW	6:00-7:30 pm TBD	Angie Witt (509) 540-9880
Friday 19	Columbia County Support Meeting Potluck Essential Oils/Acupuncture	5:30-8:00 PM Delaney Building	Angie Witt (509) 540-9880
Saturday 20	Easter Egg Hunt—Lunch Potluck	11:00 AM to 1:00 PM 1520 Pleasant St. WW	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
Thursday 25	Autism Parent / Caregiver Meeting (Childcare provided)	6:00– 7:30 pm 1520 Pleasant St. WW	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
Friday 26	Challenger Baseball	5:30-6:30 PM Pacific Little League	https://clubs.bluesombrero.com//wallawallapacificll Erin at 509-386-2169
Tuesday 7	Volunteer Recognition Dessert	TBA	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
Friday 10	Mamas Especiales	6:00– 8:30 pm 807 S. 4th Ave. WW	Ysabel Fuentes (509) 301-0679
Monday 13	Better Together / Panel	6-7:30 WWPS Office 364 S. Park Ave. WW	WWW.WWVDN.ORG Calendar of events.
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APRIL NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Join us in celebration for **APRIL 2019 National Autism Awareness Month!** This is an excellent opportunity to promote autism awareness, autism acceptance and to draw attention to the tens of thousands facing an autism diagnosis each year.



Put on the Puzzle! The Autism Awareness Puzzle Ribbon is the most recognized symbol of the autism community in the world. Autism prevalence is now one in every 59 children in America. Show your support for people with autism by wearing the Autism Awareness Puzzle Ribbon – as a pin on your shirt, a magnet on your car, a badge on your blog, or even your Facebook profile picture – and educate folks on the potential of people with autism!

Watch a movie. Did you know that something that seems as simple as going to the movies is not an option for many families affected by autism? The Autism Society is working with **AMC Theatres** to bring special-needs families **Sensory Friendly Films** every month. Walla Walla Hallet Theater locally.



Upcoming Sensory Friendly Showings:

6/29: Toy Story 4 (PG)
7/27: The Lion King (PG)



Please note: This schedule may change due to studio release changes, etc. Ratings are anticipated, not finalized.

Walla Walla Parent to Parent
c/o Walla Walla Valley
Disability Network



1520 Pleasant
Walla Walla, WA 99362

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Angie Witt p2p@wwvdn.org
(509)540-9880
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SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIES!

GRAND CINEMAS
WALLA WALLA
HALLETCINEMAS.COM

1325 W. Poplar St, Walla Walla, WA 99362

WHAT IS A SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIE?

ONCE A MONTH WE SHOW A FAMILY FRIENDLY MOVIE WITH:

THE AUDITORIUM LIGHTS ARE TURNED UP

THE VOLUME IS TURNED DOWN A BIT

THE AUDIENCE CAN GET UP AND MOVE AROUND IF THEY NEED



THIS MONTH'S MOVIE: **SATURDAY MAY. 18TH**



ADMISSION IS \$5.50

DOORS OPEN AT 10:00AM

MOVIE STARTS AT 10:30AM

SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIES ARE GREAT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES!