

# Stepping Up!

Issue 25 Summer 2017

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# TCIOC receives capacity grant

Think College Inclusion Oregon Coalition (TCIOC) is incredibly honored and excited to be leading the effort to increase postsecondary education opportunities for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

See "College" • P8

# "We belong in this space and this space belongs to us"

#### By Leah Thompson

News from All Born (in)

& Northwest Down Syndrome Association

On April 20, a group gathered at the Oregon State Capital in Salem to participate in a rally for Health Care for All Oregon and to take part in advocacy training and a tour of the capital.

We brought along handheld signs, determined to make sure the needs of the disability community were visible in the push for universal healthcare in Oregon. Alongside the signs proclaiming Health Care is a Human Right, we held up our own: Keep essential health benefits, Save Medicaid, Disability Rights are Human Rights, Protect Community and Home-Based Services.

As our country seeks to restructure our current healthcare system, the call for publicly-funded, single-payer health care for all has become an increasingly popular ideal. To this end, over 200 people in support of Healthcare for All Oregon met in Salem to encourage legislators to work toward this goal and to focus attention on the recent RAND Corporation study on how to finance single-payer healthcare.

See "Salem" • P3



Angela Jarvis-Holland was recognized for her outstanding work in the disability community as recipient of the Making a Difference award 2016 at the Spirit of Portland Awards. The City Council presents Spirit of Portland Awards to individuals and groups who make outstanding contributions to the community.



Angela Frome and Angela Jarvis-Holland accepted an award for Excellence in Community Service at the East Portland Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Breakfast. The award was presented to four local non-profit organizations that are improving the lives of children with physical and intellectual disabilities in East Portland.

#### Letter from the board by Steve Holland, President

Dear Friends,

We have some exciting news to share with you. Earlier this year we registered a new name for our organization: Northwest Disability Support.

Since 2003, we've operated as Northwest Down Syndrome Association, serving the needs of individuals and families touched by Down syndrome. When we developed the All Born (in) Cross-Disability Conference and cross-disability advocacy, we did this work under the All Born (in) name. The names NWDSA and ABI have been very effective in describing the work of the two parallel projects.

In order to better describe the overall mission of our work, we have added Northwest Disability Support as the primary name of our organization—used for Federal and State tax and organization filings—and NWDSA and ABI are sister organizations under its umbrella.

Our work and commitment to help and support our families touched by Down syndrome will not change, and in fact will expand as we grow. NWDSA will continue to be the home for families and individuals with Down syndrome.

Similarly the work of ABI, the conference, and our crossdisability awareness and advocacy work will remain a key part of our organization as we grow.

The Board of Northwest Disability Support believes this new name will help individuals, our community, and organizations better understand and appreciate the depth and breadth of our work, while preserving and recognizing our roots in the Down syndrome community. We hope this new name will help us develop a sustainable organization today and into the future.

Thank you and have a great summer!



Upcoming changes to online systems are discussed at the annual board retreat. Watch for brand new websites this fall!

In the meantime, enjoy an updated platform and better user experience with the new Buddy Fest NW registration system buddyfestnw.org

#### Salem Cont...

The proposal advocates a Medicare-based system that would replace Medicaid, group, and private policies. In this system, all Oregonians would be enrolled and care would be provided based on individual needs. My brief review of the RAND study's findings revealed little mention of how this reform would affect those with disabilities who currently qualify for Medicaid waivers, but the assumption is that it would be left intact. But disconcertingly, recommendations for funding single-payer healthcare are contingent upon maintaining federal funding as it stands now in the Affordable Care Act.

The current administration's push to repeal the ACA, implement the proposed American Health Care Act, and restructure Medicaid has many in the disability community working hard to protect the needs of vulnerable populations. Medicaid waivers are vital to the survival and independence of individuals with disabilities who rely on them for healthcare, supported employment, access to community life, and long-term supports. The AHCA proposes to repeal the current waiver system and shift to either Medicaid block grants,

which would set a fixed amount of federal funding for states, or a per capita cap model, in which federal funding is capped for each enrollee, rather than based on need. Both types of cuts will drastically reduce federal funding, requiring individual states to make up the difference. Advocacy groups such as National Down Syndrome Congress consider both these options devastating for those

with developmental and intellectual disabilities and worry that home and community-based services, which are considered "optional," will be cut to accommodate only the most critical life-saving services. This is expected to result in increased institutionalization and a reduction in job opportunities for those with developmental disabilities.

See "Salem" • P9



NW Disability
Support receives
second generous
grant from the Carol
& Velma Saling
Foundation

This gift helped make possible the Fathers' Panel RLC workshop, Open Arms Playgroups, the Early Childhood track of the All Born (In) conference, and allows us to continue to offer important community-building opportunities such as the Summer and Winter Socials, Resourcefulness Center drop-in hours, and New Parent Outreach. We are grateful for this ongoing support, which makes a real difference in our ability to educate and support local families.

#### All Born (in) Cross-Disability Best Practices Educational Inclusion Conference Recap

Preparing parents, educators, schools, and communities to successfully embrace diversity by sharing tools and inspiring the courage to reach and teach all people.

Nearly 600 strong, the annual conference focused on building relationships between teachers, parents, and community. This year we were proud to host several leaders from the disability community to inspire and guide us.

The morning keynote—"How Universal Design for Learning is Like a Trip to the Beach with 30 Friends and Family"—was presented by Elizabeth Stein, a dynamic, nationally-renowned educator and author.

During lunch, an all-star policy panel moderated by Rebecca Cokley—Executive

Director of National Council on Disability and former White House Director—addressed parents and advocates. Panelists included Stephanie Smith Lee from National Down Syndrome Congress, community advocate Keith Jones, Bob Joondeph from Disability Rights Oregon, and Representative Sara Gelser.

"I loved that there were as many educators as parents at the conference. It made it feel like we won't be in the fight alone."

"Such great resources...thank you for the opportunity to learn and the low cost."

"This conference, more than many I have gone to as an SLP, was very moving, collaborative and supportive."

#### Save the Date for ABI 2018

April 21, 2018 • Portland Airport Holiday
Inn • Learn more at www.allbornin.org







#### 2017 CONFERENCE PREMIER SPONSOR: Portland Public Schools

Multnomah Early Childhood Program • West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Columbia Regional Program • Latitudes • Early Learning Multnomah • Independence NW

• Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities • Concordia University

Oregon 529 Savings Network • Carol & Velma Saling Foundation • The Standard • Clark Co

Disability Rights Oregon • DSAMC • David Douglas • Brown & Brown Northwest • Multnomah County • Bike First!

We greatly appreciate the generous contributions of speakers, presenters, collaborators, donors, and volunteers • Special thanks to the Universal Design for Living and Learning Coalition

#### Educational Leaders Learning Collaborative

Building inclusive classrooms is hard work, but easier together

All Born (in) is working with education leaders from across the region who are dedicated to making their school districts more inclusive to all learners, including those with significant intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Educational Leaders Learning Collaborative grew out of the All Born (In) Conference. Through the conference, we've been working for years with local school districts to build regional awareness and expertise around inclusive best practices. Districts have served on the ABI steering committee, sponsored the conference, paid for scholarships for teaching teams and parents, and presented in breakout sessions. Now districts are looking for a deeper level of commitment, and a vehicle to build capacity through collaboration, shared resources, and professional development activities.

Founding Collaborative member districts working alongside ABI include Portland Public, David Douglas, West Linn/Wilsonville, and Ridgefield School Districts.

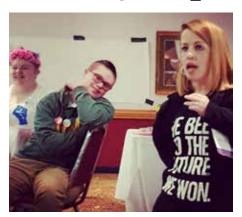
If you are an administrator interested in becoming involved in the Collaborative, please contact Angela Jarvis-Holland at ajarvisholland@nwdsa.org or call (503) 238-0522.







FROM INSTAGRAM FOLLOW US @NWDSA\_ABI













#### Buddy Walk Festival 2016 Recap

Over 2,200 participants came to celebrate at the 18th Annual Portland Metro & SW Washington Buddy Walk Festival. Friends, family, and colleagues joined in support of loved ones and individuals around the world who experience Down syndrome.

Megan Bombgaars from the A&E reality show *Born This Way* spoke about not putting limits on dreams and goals, and the value of self-determination. Parent advocate Jenna Dillon shared her family's journey and her vision of the next generation.

Susan Hiler and Mindy Parker joined our team this year and contributed

their talents and skills. Along with a vast team of volunteers, the 2016 Buddy Walk Festival was an unprecedented success.

Funds raised by teams help support Down syndrome community programs across the region for the coming year, allow us to provide families and individuals with opportunies and increased education, promote understanding and acceptance within the community, and increase competence of professionals.

Shout out to our top fundraising teams: Bullwinkles, Team Lauren Evans, Soleyl's Sunshine, Team Percy, Oliver's Goldfish, and Team Archer.





#### Thanks to the sponsors & in-kind donors who made this event possible!

Latitudes • Campbell Global • Rose City Sound • Key Event Services • Image Pressworks • Lawyers Title • Wells Fargo • Brown & Brown Northwest Benefit Advisors • The Children's Clinic • Widmer Brothers Brewing

- Lithtex XAG Solutions Windermere Real Estate Barran Liebman Attorneys Dreyer's Parties Inc.
- Gevertz Menashe Harmony Dental LoveBomb Go-Go Marching Band Hotel Monaco Becker Capital Management Ruby Red Bookkeeping Kidz with Ice Tony Starlight & the AM Gold Band Newell Briggs & friends Hooperville USA Central Catholic Cheerleaders Portland Fire Department, Portland Police •

Moda Center • Sysco Food • All the volunteers • Photos by Fickelzeal Photography











### Buddy Walk is Now Buddy Fest NW

Our annual community event previously known as Buddy Walk is now **BUDDY FEST NW!** New name, same great party it's been for the last 18 years.

Along with a new name, an all-new registration system will make creating and joining teams easier than ever. There will also be lots of fun, new social media features that will give your team's fundraising efforts a real boost!

See the insert for more information on Buddy Fest NW 2017



#### College cont...

Think College National recently awarded TCIOC a regional hub grant to help us with the vital work of creating more inclusive college options along the West coast

With this grant, we will expand on the success of Think College, building high expectations for our youth and a clear, shared vision for creating more incusive post-secondary options across Oregon and the Northwest region.

"The National Catholic Board on Full Inclusion works to advocate for families with children with disabilities to be fully included in their parish school. We offer free support, mentorship, and collaboration for Catholic educators as well. We feel the need to help create inclusive communities from preschool through college for students with disabilities so a natural beginning point is helping to develop post-secondary options for these students. We are thrilled to collaborate with Think College and others to create these opportunities in a number of communities. The familiar hymn rings true: ALL Are Welcome!" - Beth Foraker, National Catholic Board on Full Inclusion & Member of TCIOC Regional Hub

Youth with intellectual disabilities have the lowest rates of education or work after high school of all disability groups.

Research shows positive outcomes for individuals with disabilities who receive post-secondary education:

- They are 26% more likely to gain paid employment
- They earn 73% more income than those who do not receive post-secondary education

# My college life by Rachel Esteve

I am 24 years old. I go to college. The program I am in is called TCIOC or Think College Inclusion Oregon.

I had to do an application and essay about my life. They looked at it and they thought I was a great fit. I got a call from a person that I got in. I was so happy about it.

I have been going to school every Tuesday and Thursday. All of my classmates are awesome. Very nice to me. I am learning a lot. My major is Work Of Art.

Every term there is an event with my peers and staff called Seminars. We discuss what we have been doing in our classrooms. We also go over how to communicate with our teachers and peers and mentors and staff.

College has been a great experience for me. I love everything about it. Even lunch is great there.

Go Viks!



Rachel is employed part-time at NWDSA as New Parent Outreach Assistant & Co-Director of the Social Justice Youth Summer Camp.

#### Salem Cont...

I often feel so small and insignificant in the face of these frightening possibilities. It seems impossible to see how one person can make a difference. But thankfully, there are many knowledgeable and passionate people and organizations willing to help us learn how to advocate.

Two hours before the rally, Michael Bailey gave our group a brief presentation on disability advocacy. Michael is the father of an adult with Down syndrome, an active member of ADAPT (a national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists to engage in non-violent direct action), and has been working tirelessly for years to educate, deliver trainings, and stand up for disability rights. He gave us a brief history of Medicaid, which was originally intended to provide long-term care for people with disabilities and for seniors. He explained the waiver system, discussed the role of Oregon State Legislature, explained how Senate bills are passed, and spoke about the power of our own personal stories in advocacy. Then he gave us a tour of the Capital building.

We walked around the building to the ADA accessible ramp winding up to the side door. We walked through the halls and admired the architecture and beautiful art in the rotunda. We sat at Governor Kate Brown's ceremonial desk. We visited the Senate and House of Representatives and briefly observed the legislature on the chamber floor.

Michael told us, "We belong in this space and this space belongs to us." And most importantly, he told us that our movement's power exists not in our pocketbooks, but in our willingness to show up and share our stories.

Our community is very fortunate to have such dedicated advocates who are constantly working for increased equity and to maintain the rights that are currently under threat. Thankfully, many of them are willing to help us find our footing as we, too, learn to take a stand. It often feels like the needs of our communities are too big. Sometimes it's all we can do to keep up with the immediate needs of our families, let alone muster the energy to do more. But every little effort adds up. Every time we speak, up our collective power grows and our voices become stronger. We can make calls. We can write letters. We can share with our friends, families and communities and help educate others about the issues that affect us. We can show up, even when it's hard to find time to spare. We can all be powerful advocates. Our civil and human rights are at stake.



Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer shows her support at the Salem health care advocacy event



Every two years, NWDSA/ ABI, Clark County Parent Coalition, and Clark County Disability Coalition host a Candidates' Forum on Disability, allowing candidates running for local office to answer questions relevant to the disability community.

Last fall, a few hundred community members came together at Clark College's Gaiser Hall to hear from 20 candidates. We will be following up with advocacy days in Olympia during the 2017 legislative session.

#### Social Justice Youth Camp: "Nothing about them without them"

Last summer, the inaugural Social Justice Youth Camp brought together 14 diverse young adults—seven with disabilities and seven without—to explore creative avenues for activism. Campers learned to support each other and collaborate in an inclusive setting through visual art, music, social media, and dance as modes of expression. Leadership mentors from throughout the community brought expertise and energy.

The camp broke new ground in creating a powerful alliance with a strong belief in the importance of belonging. Throughout the year, co-directors Austin Nugent and Rachel Esteve built on the momentum, organizing meet-ups and events for the youths.

The All Born (in) planning committee, with a sponsorship from Northwest Health Foundation, invited campers to be the closing speakers at the annual conference in March. Youths wore t-shirts that read "Our lives, our future; inclusion, it's about humanity" and their powerful presentation embodied just that.



ABI Executive Director
Angela Jarvis-Holland
states the importance of
the youth group, "NWDSA
and All Born (In) focus on
empowering parents to raise
empowered children, so we
need to create opportunities
and a platform for them to
be heard—nothing about
them without them."

#### Apply for 2017 Social Justice Youth Camp

What: Three days of interactive workshops exploring numerous social justice topics including animal rights, disability pride, mental health, hunger, and more.

- Explore creative expression, activism, and advocacy
- Enjoy being on a college campus—lodge in dorms, eat in dining halls, experience classrooms and student centers, and explore downtown Portland

When: Friday, Aug 4th - Sunday, Aug 6th

Closing reception: Family and friends invited to view campers' projects on Sunday, Aug 6th at 5 pm

**Cost:** \$100 includes lodging, meals, and art supplies. Scholarships available to those with financial hardship, courtesy of Independent Order of Oddfellows No. 3

Learn more & apply at allbornin.org/youthcamp

#### From our blog: "Tis the Season for IEP" by Susan Fleming

IEP season is here and while I'm by no means a veteran, there are a few things I've picked up. I invite you to consider these three things that you do not have to do at your child's IEP meeting.

1. You do not have to be grateful to your school for "allowing" your child to go there. The school is not doing you a favor by "letting" your child go to school. It's the law. We as a society have said we value education. Your child goes to school because children go to school. You don't have to get a golden ticket from Willy Wonka. Having a disability doesn't make you a non-learner. It makes you a learner who also experiences disability. During your meeting you might pick up on subtle bias, subtle resistance, like this is a lot of trouble for the school. If you pick up on it, ignore and move forward. This is what schools do. Your child is a learner. Learners go to school. • Read the rest at www.allbornin.org

#### NWDSA Events • nwdsa.org/events



#### SUMMER SOCIAL AUG 13, 2017 • NOON - 3 PM

Annual summer get-together for our families in the Down syndrome community

Camp Angelos 32149 SE Stevens Road, Corbett OR

RSVP req'd • nwdsa.org/events or call (503) 238-0522



#### BUDDY FEST NW SEPT 23, 2017 • 10 AM - 1 PM

Formerly called "Buddy Walk", the biggest party of the year celebrating those in our lives touched by Down syndrome

Rose Quarter Commons
Main Ampitheater & Center Court

Online registration opens July 10 at buddyfestnw.org



We are blessed to give the gift of warmth and comfort to parents of a baby diagnosed with Down syndrome or a child facing heart surgery with homemade blankets. Thanks to the generosity of Mikki, Mindy, and Mellie (pictured), who make these blankets with love.

#### All Born (in) Cross-disability Events • allbornin.org/events

## RLC WORKSHOP: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY NOV 14 • 8:45 AM - 1:00 PM

The Role of Assistive Technology: When & What Technology Helps Your Child • Registration required: www.allbornin.org/rlc

Montavilla United Methodist Church 232 SE 80th Ave • Portland, OR

#### ALL BORN (IN) ANNUAL CONFERENCE APRIL 21, 2018 • 8:30 AM - 5 PM

Cross-Disability Best Practices Educational inclusion Conference for parents, educators, and professionals • www.allbornin.org

Portland Airport Holiday Inn • Portland, OR

#### CLUB UPSIDE VANCOUVER 2<sup>ND</sup> SAT OF THE MONTH • 2 - 4 PM

Open gym where parents share and children of all ages and abilities play

St. Andrew Lutheran Church 5607 NE Gher Road • Vancouver, WA

#### **OPEN ARMS PORTLAND**

2<sup>ND</sup> WED OF THE MONTH, SEPT - JUN • 10 AM - NOON

Share and learn at our play groups with other parents and their children age birth - 5

Earl Boyles Elementary School

10822 SE Bush St • Portland, OR

## OPEN ARMS VANCOUVER 1<sup>ST</sup> SUN OF THE MONTH • 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Share and learn at our play groups with other parents and their children age birth - 5

Central Park Childcare
2115 East Mcloughlin Blvd • Vancouver, WA

## DROP-IN HOURS BY APPOINTMENT DURING THE SUMMER

Resources, tea, support, and advice • Every Thursday during the school year, and during the summer by appointment (call 503-238-0522)

Resourcefulness Center
11611 NE Ainsworth Cir • Portland, OR

#### All Born (in) and Multnomah Early Childhood Program "Geo Teams" collaborate around Early Intervention

Educational staff and parents benefit from shared resources



In a deepening of ABI's partnership with MECP, ABI Executive Director Angela Jarvis-Holland and Program Director Angela Frome enjoyed the opportunity this past year to spend time with MECP's Geo Teams.

MECP's Early Intervention Staff are assigned to geographic teams (Geo Teams) that support the different areas of Multnomah County. ABI was invited to present to each of the six team, learn more about the services MECP provides, and explore how the two organizations can partner to support families. It was also a chance to share resources available through ABI and NWDSA, and ensure that parents and staff are connecting to all of the opportunities available.

As a result of this work, Geo Team members helped with outreach and support for Open Arms playgroups, workshops, and the annual All Born (in) conference.

Geo Team members also learned about the Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort, and made a commitment to help families participate. One of the teams even raised scholarship funds to pay for a Cohort participant.





Cheers! The annual Toast to Inclusion fundraiser 2016 was a raucous success! We appreciate everyone who celebrated with us in support of the KIC. Thanks to Lagunitas Brewing Co. for use of their beautiful new community room.

## Vu family newlyweds give generous gift

For their April wedding, Angela and Tony Vu asked their friends and



family to make donations to NW Disability Support in lieu of wedding gifts. Their nephew Oliver and his parents are members of our Kindergarten Cohort community. We are honored by the generosity of the bride and groom. Their wonderful gift helps us continue to support their nephew and other families. Congratulations, Angela and Tony and thank you!



Register for Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort • Application deadline: July 28, 2017 • Learn more at allbornin.org/kic

For families in the Portland & SW Washington area whose child with a disability is starting kindergarten in fall 2018

The KIC program is a series of eight monthly interactive and best practices-driven trainings that offer robust foundational skills, tools, and mentorships which are vital throughout the school year.

More than preparing families, KIC builds a community of parents to support each other through their child's transition and beyond. Our facilitators all have 'walked in those shoes' and understand that parents are the experts on their children. We also partner with professionals and speakers in the field.

#### Parents will learn:

- Law and your child's rights
- Tools and supports to use in the classroom
- IEP goal writing
- Communication and behavior strategies
- The value of teaming

- Communication strategies
- Tips and success stories
- How to create a portfolio about your child
- How to build a peer community support network





The Kindergarten Transition Bootcamp is a one-day, nuts and bolts workshop with a panel of 12 experts, designed for families who are unable to attend the full KIC program.

Check the schedule at allbornin.org/events for upcoming workshops.



Graduates from the 2016/2017 Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort celebrate completion of the eight-month program. KIC has prepared these families with tools to help them navigate the transition to kindergarten and advocate for an inclusive education for their children.

Stepping Up is published by NW Disability Support.

This newsletter follows best practices per the American Printing House for the Blind.

To join our mailing list and download PDFs of past issues, visit allbornin.org/newsletter.

There is no subscription fee, but if you would like to make a donation, you may do so at allbornin.org/donate.

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Opinions published in Stepping Up are not necessarily those of NW Disability Support.

#### **Photo Credits**

FickleZeal Photography Karl Hutchinson Joni DeRouchie



Advocates and supporters celebrate at the ABLE savings launch event.

## Oregon among the first wave of ABLE savings plans available for individuals with disabilities

In December of 2016, the Oregon ABLE Savings Plan became available to individuals in Oregon. ABLE savings plans allow some individuals with disabilities to create tax-advantaged savings accounts—similar to 529 college savings plans. These tax-advantaged savings accounts can be used to cover qualified disability expenses such as education, housing, and transportation.

When Oregon began to explore the idea of building a savings plan, All Born (in), along with representatives from many entities across the state, joined the state-wide task force and helped shape the Oregon plan, to ensure that it was built with person-centered values and be as accessible as possible to adults with developmental disabilities.

For more information on ABLE accounts, and to see if it's a good fit for your family, visit oregonablesavings.com



Down Syndrome Awareness Month (October) brings out the creativity and generosity in our community. Last fall, Rose City Coffee Company donated 100% of profits from a Winter Blend coffee roast to NWDSA.

Susan Hiler and She Does Grace created a t-shirt which read "I wouldn't change you for the world, but I would change the world for you" and donated a portion of sales to NWDSA.

Such donations support programs that directly benefit local families touched by Down syndrome.

## RLC workshops offer vital, no-cost trainings to parents

Our Reciprocal Learning Community program continues to provide workshops on a variety of topics—such as Father's Panel (below left) and Fitness (right)—to parents of children with disabilities.





Upcoming RLC Workshop • Sat, Nov 14
The Role of Assistive Technology: When &
What Technology Helps Your Child
Learn more and register at allbornin.org/rlc

#### Et Cetera...

... Our New Parent Guide has been a valuable resource for parents of babies with Down syndrome for many years. We will soon be releasing a New Parent Guide for parents of new babies with any disability, which will contain the latest relevant medical information and resources.

... NW Disability Support is celebrating the passage of the recent PPS school bond. We were deeply involved in advocacy around the bond, and worked hard to bring visibility and focus to the need for accessible schools. We are delighted that the city came together around this, and we look forward to more accessible, safe and inclusive schools for all of our students.

... The talented artists at FickleZeal
Photography honored Down Syndrome
Awareness Month 2016 with a photo
exhibit at Rose City Coffee Company called
Friends are Friends. It featured beautiful
portraits of sincere friendships and
community ties. You can learn more and
see the images at www.ficklezeal.com.

Northwest Down Syndrome Association and All Born (in) are programs of NW Disability Suppport

#### **Board of Directors:**

Steven Holland Abigail Braithwaite Angela Jarvis-Holland Angela Frome Becky Adelman Guiseppe Lipari Michelle Wallace Ruth Falco Isis Sanchez Diego Conde

#### Executive Director Angela Jarvis-Holland

NW Disability Support is a registered non-profit corporation in Oregon and has 501(c)3 tax-exempt status with the federal government, organized for charitable, scientific, and educational purposes to provide social opportunities, education, support and information to families and individuals with disability.

Each board member has firsthand experience with the joys and the hardships of caring for a child with individual needs. We understand the importance of connecting with other families and how much we rely on these relationships when we encounter the inevitable challenges. We also celebrate each others' victories, making the journey so much richer. The Board of Directors consists of volunteers and is supported by enlightened professionals.

Our Mission: Create and nurture a loving and inclusive community celebrating every person with a disability. We will accomplish this mission by empowering and supporting families and individuals who have been touched by disability. We will work to increase education, promote public understanding and acceptance, and toward full inclusion of individuals with disability in our community.





11611 NE Ainsworth Circle, Ste 321 • Portland, OR 97220





Register online at www.buddyfestnw.org or use the enclosed form to register by mail

#### **Upcoming Events**

Social Justice Youth Camp • Aug 4 - 6

Summer Social • Aug 13

Buddy Fest NW • Sept 23

RLC Workshop: Assistive Technology • Nov 14

All Born (in) Conference • April 21, 2018

Open Arms Portland • Closed thru Sept

Open Arms Vancouver • 1st Sun of the month Club Upside Vancouver • 2nd Sat of the month

Drop-in Hours are by appointment only thru August • Call (503) 238-0522

Full calendar inside...

f facebook.com/nwdsa

(enwdsa\_abi

witter.com/nwdsa\_abi



#### Resourcefulness Center

**11611** NE Ainsworth Cir, Ste 321 • Portland, OR 97220 (503) 238-0522 • allbornin.org • nwdsa.org

Para comunicarse en español, llame a Sheyla Hirshon (971) 227-4928 o Isis Sanchez (503) 442-5817