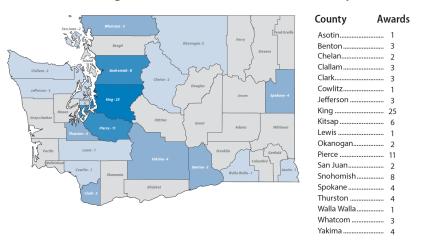
Dan Thompson Memorial Community Services Account Update (July 2023)

Washington State Counties with Funded Projects



Members of the Dan Thompson project team attended the Spring Games Opening Ceremony for Special Olympics Washington on June 9. SOWA is using the grant to purchase equipment, in addition to other items, to better serve their athletes and to collaborate with tribal partners. The following week, the project team attended the DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration Community Summit in Wenatchee.

The Dan Thompson project team held its first quarterly virtual roundtable in May 2023 to promote sharing of ideas and support opportunities for collaboration amongst awardee organizations. We were honored to have Margaret-Lee Thompson share highlights from her son Dan's journey and hearing from such a powerful, institutional changemaker was deeply inspiring. It helped us all re-calibrate our efforts on our shared goal of expanding and enhancing home and community-based services for individuals with I/DD so that they can be supported to live the lives they want to live. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive with many organizations following up with each other beyond the roundtable to discuss opportunities in the future.

Coming up – DDA team members will continue visiting organizations to see projects in action and the benefits being brought to clients across the state. The next roundtable is set for Sept. 27, 2023, with invitations being shared in August.

We will continue to share success stories regularly.

Nichole Jensen

Chief, State Operated Programs and Transitions Office Developmental Disabilities Administration Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Brandi Monts

Executive Director
Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council