



Employment and Day Services: Ensure individuals are supported to live a full and meaningful life that includes employment, community inclusion, and other integrated and meaningful daytime services that support them to be part of their community.



Mickey Rice
2nd Legislative District

Michael “Mikey” Rice lives in Graham. He has been employed with Albertson’s in the Spanaway community for close to 4 years. He enjoys activities like basketball, track, and spending time with his friends. This has been possible because of the support of the community programs he is involved in, and having a wonderful job that pays a livable wage. Having a job and activities in the community is very important to him. He has the support of his family and employment agency Trillium Employment Services to be the best he can be!



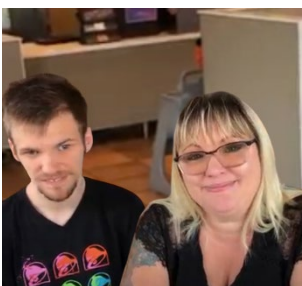
Elimas Batol Manalang
29th Legislative District

Elimas Batol Manalang lives at home with his mother, two siblings, and his cousins in Parkland. He is 26 and has worked as a part-time crew member at Five Guy’s Burgers & Fries in Puyallup since 2021. Elimas is a friendly and hard-working member of the community. He is eager to do a great job when he comes to work at Five Guys. Elimas loves spending time with his family, listening to music, making new friends, and has a lot of knowledge about songs. A fun fact about Elimas is that he is fluent in two languages.



Lynda & Ashley Hyatt
26th Legislative District

Ashley and Linda Hyatt live in Gig Harbor. Ashley has worked at the Best Western, Wesley Inn in Gig Harbor for eight years. She loves Special Olympics basketball & swimming at the YMCA. They are involved with Families for Better Lives (FFBL), a volunteer group that supports efforts to improve the lives of those with developmental disabilities.



Sunni LeBlanc & Brandon Suprenant
31st Legislative District

Brandon is a man who lives in the 31st legislative district. Brandon currently works at a local restaurant in his city of Bonney Lake and has a long history of employment. Brandon’s last job was a few days a week at a church in Tacoma. After the Pandemic, he and his family chose a job closer to his home and community. Brandon communicates using gestures and facilitated communication. In their video, Brandon’s mom talks about the value of employment for Brandon, his community, and his family.



ESIT: Improve continuity of care for infants and toddlers receiving Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) program services by amending RCW 43.216.580 to read: “(c) For the purposes of this subsection (2), a child is receiving early intervention services if the child has received services in the same month as the monthly count day, which is the last business day of the month.”



Lauren & Oliver Sutton
27th Legislative District

Lauren Sanford is a dance instructor who resides in Tacoma. She became aware of Early Supports for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT) services during her pregnancy with her son, Oliver affectionately nicknamed Olly. Now, at almost 2 years old, Olly has become the center and joy of his parents' lives. Lauren deeply appreciates the support services provided by ESIT and is eager to share her experience with other families.



Housing: Address the housing crisis faced by individuals with I/DD by identifying a sustainable and permanent revenue source for DD affordable housing, increasing the Housing Trust Fund- Developmental Disabilities set - aside, and fully funding residential supports.



Blake Duarte
28th Legislative District

Blake Duarte (formerly Blake Geyen). He works in supported employment. He is currently earning a certificate in Sustainable Transportation from the University of Washington. Blake is on two Boards to build inclusive parks in the Puget Sound area. He is very passionate about housing and transportation issues for people with disabilities.



Robi Reeve
25th Legislative District

Lives in a residential supported apartment complex in downtown Puyallup. Robi who is 39, works as a part-time facilities worker and is assigned various sections in the Emerald Queen Casino to clean. Robi has no living family members and enjoys friendships along with residential support. He is involved in the Special Olympics, bowling, and loves playing video games.



Tracy Turner
27th Legislative District

Tracy Turner is a self-advocate residing in Downtown Tacoma. She is a woman who experiences autism and has spent most of her life advocating for individuals who experience IDD to improve their quality of life. Tracy was awarded the People First 2023 Advocate Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedication and passion. She enjoys spending time with her church community and volunteering at the Salvation Army to help support those in need. Tracy is thrilled about having stable housing after two years of uncertainty. She hopes that by sharing her story, she can help bring about much-needed change.



Transportation: Ensure that Washington State surpasses the Americans with disabilities act (ADA) specified federal requirement of a 0.75 mile distance from a fixed bus route for Paratransit services and provides transportation options for Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) clients who live in communities without public transportation.



Melyssa Taylor
25th Legislative District

Melyssa resides in Puyallup, spending alternating weeks with her mom and dad. She lives in the 25th District and, since turning 18, Melyssa has voted in every election. Melyssa has been enjoying her newfound freedom that comes with being employed and more self-sufficient since she can ride the Pierce County Shuttle to and from her job at the Tacoma Mall at A Couple of Socks. Melyssa would like more independence, but her dad lives one mile outside the shuttle service area.



2023 Pierce County Developmental Disability Online Legislative Forum - Speakers by Legislative Priority



Christopher Cleveland **25th Legislative District**

Christopher Cleveland is a self-advocate who lives in Puyallup and utilizes public transportation for both work and social activities.



Tracy & Krystiana Collins **25th Legislative District**

Krystiana Collins lives on South Hill in Puyallup with her family. She works part-time for At Home and does home décor organizing and stocking, assisting customers as needed and sees to go back. Krystiana has shared her love of shopping, all things Disney, as well as spending time with family and swimming at the YMCA.



Jarett & Deanna Charette **25th Legislative District**

Jarett Charette lives with his family. Jared works part-time at the YMCA as a custodian. He is a member of the Suquamish Tribe and is a certified cedar cutter through his tribe (what is used to weave baskets and hats). Jared enjoys seeing relatives and engaging in activities with his family such as pow wows going to movies and is active in his church, which is the church of Indian Fellowship.