

The Snohomish County Mission Statement and Governing Principles

The Mission Statement and the Governing Principles were developed in conjunction with the Citizen Advisory Board and serve as a guide to Snohomish County Developmental Disabilities in the development of public policy, supports and services.

Mission Statement

Foster inclusive communities that support people with developmental disabilities to fully participate in and contribute to all aspects of community life.

Governing Principles

Individualized Supports

Design and develop support to meet the specific needs and goals of each individual.

Choice

Create opportunities for individuals to have choices in their community and support individuals in advocating for themselves.

Community

Promote community-based options.

Inclusion and Contribution

Promote inclusive/diverse communities so that people have opportunities to achieve meaningful and purposeful lives.

Access

Promote individual and community accessibility.

Diversity

Promote culturally relevant supports, while respecting and supporting individuals' uniqueness and diversity.

State Division of Developmental Disabilities

County Guidelines

Established July, 1992

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Division of Developmental Disabilities, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, and counties and service providers created the following County Guidelines to bring consistency across the state and frame the scope of work complimentary to Snohomish County's Governing Principles. Counties are required to incorporate these guidelines in all community services.

The County Guidelines recognize the need to offer services and resources that meet individual needs and promote activities and relationships consistent with most citizens. These include:

Power and Choice

Having power, control and ownership over personal affairs, receive necessary support to pursue one's personal interests and goals and the opportunity to make choices and direct one's life.

Relationships

Having people in a broad range of relationships including family, friends, peers and others to love and care about and will reciprocate those same feelings.

Status Contributions

Feeling good about one self, being recognized for one's contributions; being valued and receiving positive recognition.

Community Integration

Actively participating in the community and using the same resources and enjoying the same activities as other citizens.

Competence

Having experiences that promote the ability to skillfully perform functional and meaningful activities and receive assistance as needed and desired.

Health and Safety

Being safe, secure and healthy; living, working and playing in areas common to other citizens and having the necessary assistance available to protect health and safety while promoting inclusion in the community.