

Serving on two Statewide Boards and Commissions

By Sydney Krebsbach

Introductions

- My name is Sydney Krebsbach I was a council member on the Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, now I'm one of the two Co-Chairs on the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council.
- I had the privileged and honored to on the Alaska Governor's Council for 3 years from 2018-2021 and it opened many doors for me as a self advocate and as an individual with autism.
- Thanks to my services on the council, it helped me get on the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council.



Alaska's Governors Council on Disabilities and Special Education

- After completing the LEND Program I decided to increase my advocacy skills to a higher level.
- In April 2018 I applied to be a Council Member for the Alaska's Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. I turned in my application, resume, and 2 letters of recommendations to the Governor's Office.
- In June 2018 I had an interview with the Governor's office and then a month later I received a phone call that former Governor Walker appointed me to serve on the Governor's Council.



**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

My time on the Council

- While I was on the Alaska Governor's Council for 3 years I was an active member providing input and taking part in events such as disability pride.
- I had shared my story as a part of Key Campaign advocacy, testified through the Senate Health and Social Services committee, Power and Privilege Symposium and Council meetings.
- Also I served on the Autism Ad Hoc Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Developmental Disability Committee.



Shared my story with State and US Legislators

- In addition, the Governor's Council had made visits with Alaska's Legislators and with Alaska's U.S. Congressional Delegation.
- I shared my story which included my school struggles, difficulty finding permanent employment, and living an independent life as a person with autism.



Self Advocacy Leadership Circle

- In August 2020 While I was on the Governor's Council I was inducted into the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities National Self- Advocate Leadership Circle.
- They were recognizing the great work I had done with my self advocacy. I was inducted alongside Corey Gilmore and Heidi Lieb-Williams.



Farewell to the Alaska Governor's Council



- After 3 years of serving on the Governor's Council in May 2021 I decided to not renew in my term and leave my service on the council in order to move to Spokane with my parents.
- On May 13th and 14th I had my final meetings as a council member.
- It was one of the hardest decision I ever made The Governor's Council helped me increased my advocacy skills to a whole new level. I made friends along the way who helped me and guide me to be a better self advocate.



September 16, 2021

Sydney Krebsbach
1605 N River Ridge Blvd Apt 15-101
Spokane, Washington 99224

Dear Sydney,

Thank you for applying to serve on the Developmental Disabilities Council. I am delighted to appoint you to the board effective September 16, 2021 for a term ending June 30, 2023.

Pursuant to Washington state law, for your appointment to become effective the following must be completed and returned to our office within two weeks from the date of this letter:

- Notarized Oath of Office

Completed documents should be mailed to: Office of the Governor, PO Box 40002, Olympia, WA 98504. If you have any questions, please contact Boards and Commissions at 360-902-4111.


As you know, the public sets high professional and ethical standards for those in public office. It is important to me that everyone serving in my administration always works to maintain the trust of those we serve. That means we serve to the highest of ethical principles, place the public's interest above any personal or private interest, and always ensure state resources are efficiently used for public purposes only.

My goals are to grow Washington's economy, strengthen our schools, and promote a culture of performance and efficiency in state government. You can help me achieve these goals. I ask that you take personal responsibility for making sure the Developmental Disabilities Council operates in a way that is transparent, responsive and focused on implementing lean management tools to achieve results. These are the public's expectations as well as my own.

Serving the people of our state is a real privilege and I hope you find this to be a rewarding experience. Thank you for your willingness to join me in serving the people of Washington.

Congratulations and welcome to the team.

Very truly yours,



Jay Inslee
Governor

Enclosures

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

- After I moved to Spokane I wanted to continue my advocacy in state the Washington.
- I decided to apply for the the Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council as a council member.
- I had in interview in June 2021 then 3 months later I received an email saying that Governor Jay Inslee appointed me to serve on the council.



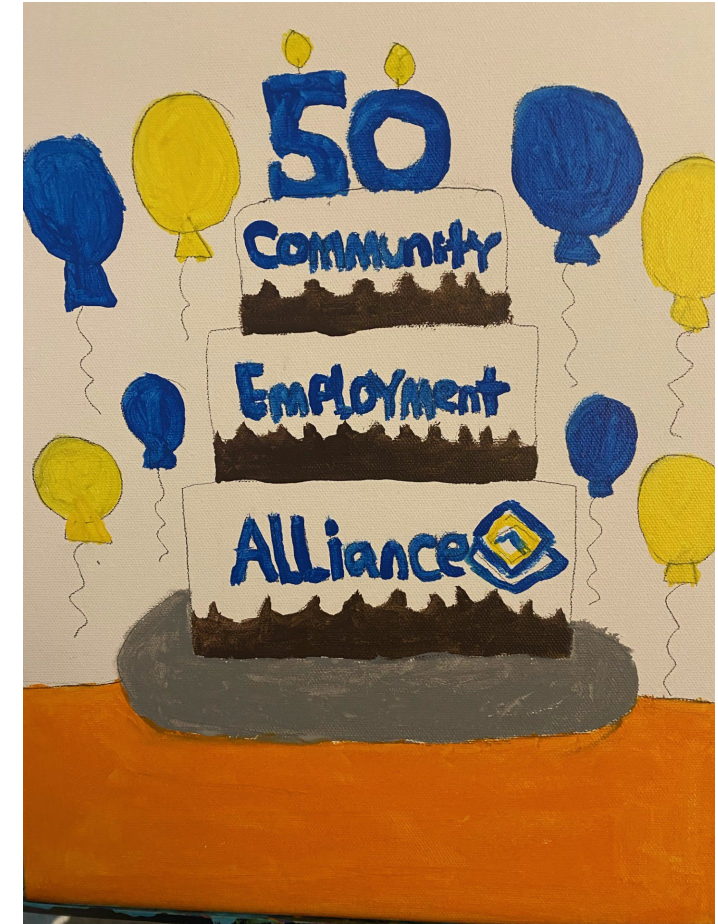


Chosen as the next Co-Chair

- In April 2023 at our Statewide Washington DD Council meetings The Council was picking two new Co-Chairs a new self advocate and a parent advocate.
- I spoke about how I would be the right person for the job, and I can do the job and make a differences for people with disabilities without anyone telling me no.
- In the end The council picked me as one of the next Co-Chairs and I was shocked, surprised, and honored. Adana Protonentis a Parent Advocate was also chosen as the next Co-Chair.

Community Employment Alliance Conference

- My public speaking started after I got invited to be a Keynote Speaker for the Community Employment Alliance Conference in April 2022.
- I got the opportunity to share my story through a Q&A with my friend John Lemus.



**I won the CEA 50th
Anniversary Logo
Contest in 2024**

Washington APSE Conference

- In September 2022 I got to speak at a conference call Washington APSE Chapters as they hosted their 8th Annual Pacific Northwest Employment Forum
- I got to share my employment history from past to present, also I got to do a Q&A with my friend John Lemus.



MetaEcho Conference

- My University of Washington job Echo Autism got an opportunity to travel to Albuquerque New Mexico for a Global Conference called MetaEcho.
- In September 2023, a group of self advocates and I Participated in a panel helping autistic advocates in our communities.



Disability Policy Seminar

- After attending the conference virtually in April 2024 a group of self advocates and myself attended the 2024 Disability Policy Seminar in Washington DC.
- We had meetings with US Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray about the issues that people with disabilities are facing in the state of Washington.
- Finally I got to speak at a panel about my experiences with employment, housing, finding a doctor, and opportunities from Alaska to Washington.



The Arc of Spokane Awards

- In September 2022 I received The Arc of Spokane first ever Self Advocate Rising Star Awards.
- I was being recognized by all the great self advocate I have done during my time in Spokane during the past year.



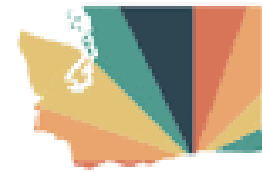
Rock the Runway 2023

- In April 2023 I got invited to Runway model and keynote speaker for The Rock the Runway hosted by The Arc of Spokane, where I got to share my self advocacy journey in front of 300 people.





GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION



WADDC

Washington State
Developmental Disabilities Council

www.ddc.wa.gov

Similarities

Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

Can serve on the council for 3 years for two terms.

Both have 5 year state plans

Council members are appointed by the Governor

Are on a mission to create changes for people with disabilities

Apply online to be a council member

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

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Differences

Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

- 25 council members
- One Chair
- One Vice Chair
- Have council meetings in Anchorage
- Meetings in Juneau with your State Legislators
- Patrick Reinhart – Executive Director

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

- 27 council members
- Co-Chairs (a parent advocate and a self advocate)
- Two Vice Chairs
- Spread out all over Washington
- Meetings in Olympia with our State Legislators
- Brandi Monts – Executive Director

Conclusion

- It's been a privilege and honor that I was able to serve on two Statewide Boards and Commissions in Alaska and Washington.
- I would never have raised my self advocacy without the support and guides from both Executive Directors, the friends I have made on both councils, and mentors and peers along the way.
- I encouraged everyone to follow your dreams and if you have a story to tell, then get out to the public and share it with the world.

Questions

