



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES AND EMPLOYMENT

Employment Security Department ■ P.O. Box 9046 ■ MS: 6000 ■ Olympia, Washington ■ 98507-9046

Olympia (360) 890-3778 ■ Toll Free Fax 844-935-3531 ■ Spokane (509) 482-3854

June 8, 2022

Dear Meeting Participant:

Thank you for attending the Colville/Stevens County Disability Community Outreach meetings held in April 2022. These meetings were informative, productive, and insightful. We were impressed with the enthusiasm and positive spirit of the participants. We were also pleased to have Commissioner Greg Young and Senator Shelly Short participate in the discussions and be contributing partners for local solutions. We also appreciate the groundwork Bill Kinyon did in providing connections for the planning team with community stakeholders.

The Colville/Stevens County Outreach Summary and a list of the meeting participants are attached. The Outreach Summary includes participant comments, resources, and promising practices for the three major discussion items:

- 1) Employment for community members with disabilities
- 2) Transportation for community members with disabilities
- 3) Housing for community members with disabilities

Thank you for your comments and suggestions on the evaluation form. We assure you each response was given consideration so future outreach meetings will be even more successful.

If we can be of assistance in any way, or if you have questions, please reach out to Ryan Bondroff, Program Specialist, by phone at 206-677-8834 or by email at [Ryan.Bondroff@esd.wa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Bondroff@esd.wa.gov).

Again, thank you for being part of GCDE's outreach efforts.

Sincerely,

*Damiana Harper, Chairperson*

Community Outreach Subcommittee  
Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment



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# Colville Community Outreach Summary

## Introduction

The Community Outreach Subcommittee of the [Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment \(GCDE\)](#) held two virtual meetings for the Colville community on **April 21 and 22, 2022**.

The Committee would like to thank GCDE Member and former Colville resident **Bill Kinyon** for his efforts in connecting the planning team to local community partners, and assisting in getting the word out to the community to participate in the events.

GCDE would also like to recognize **Commissioner Greg Young** and **Senator Shelly Short**, and thank them for their input and participation in the Colville events.

The Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment's mission is to provide statewide advocacy and leadership to empower the disability community to obtain equality of opportunity and maximum independence.

The Committee is comprised of 27 volunteer members appointed by the Governor who reside in various parts of the state. The majority of members are persons with disabilities representing a wide range of physical, mental, or sensory disabilities.

Community Outreach is one of the 6 standing subcommittees. The subcommittee's mission is to provide advocacy to the disability community by conducting outreach events. It develops and recommends policies and actions promoting equal access to services and provides information on available resources to individuals with disabilities.

The goals of an outreach are to identify and learn about the challenges and opportunities persons with disabilities experience in their local communities and to offer focused discussions to explore solutions that impact the independence and integration of citizens with disabilities.

A Community Outreach event has two parts. The first part is a Town Hall meeting, an event open to the public to express their concerns and celebrate their successes related to disability issues in the community. The second part of an outreach is a Leadership Action Planning meeting, where community leaders are presented with the concerns of their constituents and committee members facilitate the creation of action plans to address those concerns.

The Community Outreach subcommittee will also provide information from outreach events to GCDE's Legislative Workgroup so they can incorporate local concerns and interests into their work.

## Description

The purpose of this report is to summarize disability related issues and concerns raised by community members, professionals, providers, and elected officials in Colville, with the goal to find solutions to provide services to Colville residents with disabilities in areas such as employment and transportation.

## County Demographics

According to the Census in 2020, the population in Colville was 4,917, compared with 4,673 in 2010. In Stevens County, the population was 46,445.

Colville is the county seat in Stevens County. It is located north of Spokane County. Colville's population is roughly 90 percent Caucasian. There are much smaller percentages of various other ethnic groups, including Hispanic, Asian, Black, and Native American. The three top employment industries in Colville are agriculture, local government, and retail.

## Scouting/Outreach

The committee researched and networked with key individuals in Colville and Stevens County. They collected information from Colville, such as school vacation schedules and major city council events, to maximize attendance for Colville residents. They sent out letters, along with the event flyer, to community organizations, professionals, elected officials, and Colville School District employees, among others; and shared the event on the GCDE Facebook page. They also sent a news release to the print, TV, and local radio news stations from Omak, to Colville, and to the Spokane area. Committee members also shared this event via various media platforms.

## Local Success Stories

A professional reported that their client with a disability liked to get dirty and greasy and wanted to work with cars, so when the professional happened to be at a tire shop, they met with the employer. They had a friendly chat, and the professional shared about this client's interest. The employer agreed to have a meeting with the client to discuss the opportunity, which was a great start. This professional's purpose was to educate the employer about individuals with disabilities who can work, so that was how the employer was drawn to have a meeting with this client. This is just one example of the many positive and uplifting stories from the local community that were shared during GCDE's meetings. It was also shared that Rural Resources provides a volunteer transportation service to get folks to medical appointments.

## Town Hall Meeting Summary

Meeting participants represented a **diverse cross section** of the community, including people with disabilities, family members, service providers, and elected officials.

The community had **numerous employment service agencies** represented at the meeting, as well as advocates and members of the disability community, with a total of nearly 40 participants.

Many issues were discussed, such as transportation, employment, housing, and lack of broadband internet services, summaries of which can be found below.

## Employment:

### Participant Comments

- One participant is a deaf person, and has had a lot of experiences looking for employment in the past. There was a lot of discrimination, including no interpreters. They felt at a tremendous disadvantage. They're currently looking for a job, working with [Division of Vocational Rehabilitation](#) and other organizations. It is really challenging, being deaf, deaf-blind, or having other disabilities. It is demoralizing. They are continuing to work to overcome **discrimination** and find work.
- An individual shared their story that they have a physical disability due to a workplace injury. They are facing surgery. Their employer put them on disability leave due to not being able to accommodate them – yet hired others with similar limitations. They said they were put into a bad situation financially. The participant stated that the employer is still hiring people in jobs they could do, while denying them the opportunity to return to work.
- An advocate with the [Disability Mobility Initiative](#) out of [Disability Rights Washington](#) based in Seattle pointed out that **lack of a driver's license is a barrier to employment opportunity statewide**. It limits people from being able to apply for a job where there is a driver's license requirement, even though driving is not a central function of the job.
- Another participant works for an employer whose office is in Spokane, but works from home in Colville. They are autistic. They work as a teacher, but have not always been able to remain in the classroom. It has been a struggle as someone who has been disabled their entire life, but didn't know what their disability was until later in life. They have two children who are also disabled. Getting accommodations in school for students is rough, but worse for **getting accommodations for their own disabilities as an employee**. They have had their disability used against them, and it has created barriers. Their current job is the first place they feel accepted. The organization is run by people with disabilities. If they need a break, need to stim or do something else to accommodate their disability, their employer understands. The participant supports consumers looking for housing, employment, etc., and is still looking for other employment opportunities themselves.
- A State [Vocational Rehabilitation counselor](#) in Colville shared that they have physical and mental health non-visible disabilities themselves. They have heard many stories about employer discrimination. They are new in their role, but enthusiastic, and have a dream for change. **Please consider them a partner in the years to come.**
- **One participant shared that** "I am a deaf person. I can see many have excellent skills. When I went to college, it was just awful. I got a degree in architecture and moved from one company to another. Then I worked for one company for 38 years and it opened many new doors for me. I could ask for interpreters. It has been just wonderful. I have good education tools to show employers. What I have been doing is being involved with several [disability advocacy groups](#) that give support to each other in the accessibility community. In Colville, **there could be an Accessible Communities Advisory Committee** to share about the disability experience. I'm happy to be on the [Governor's Committee](#) to talk about the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#). We must continue to work and can't give up."

- A self-advocate from [People First](#) shared they have worked in the community for 38 years, mostly in retail. They have had struggles and drawbacks but try to **educate the employers**. They are also a part of the [Developmental Disabilities Council](#) in WA and work to help the community. **They don't drive and would love to have better transportation to aid in their employment endeavors.**
- **Another participant stated "if you don't have transportation, then employment is a non-starter.** This is a problem all over the state."
- **Another individual commented: education is needed for employers** about how people with disabilities are just as talented as any employee, and are extremely valuable. There are some people who have been in jobs for 30 years, but have **difficulty getting promoted, or getting raises**, however. People need to **share success stories**. This is a rural community, and bad things can follow people for life if a person made a mistake in high school. It is hard to get a break.
- **Another participant** spoke about how [Home Depot](#) and [Safeway](#) are known to work well with persons with disabilities, also that **opportunities for teleworking are needed.**
- **Another participant said** [Chewelah Safeway](#) won one of GCDE's Employer [Awards](#) for hiring people with disabilities. **Corporate employers** and business owners who come from metro areas **tend to be more disability friendly** than some of the locally owned companies.
- **One participant** shared about having **difficulties with technology, and filling out job applications online**, and needing **assistance available** on-site to help with that. A community member gave them a resource for support.
- **Another participant shared that** when it comes to helping people with employment, [New Alliance](#) will help do it with them – **they can get interpreters and help with doing applications.** They can't provide transportation long-term; they can **help people get to an interview**, but they will have to get their own transportation to get to the job in the future. They **also offer job coaching one-on-one** and help with accommodations.
- **Another participant** shared they are Autistic and mentally ill. They stated that regarding online applications, having people who can help is great, but this is one area where **self-disclosure is an issue**. For example, in their experience, they can get more call backs without disclosing that they have a disability than with disclosure. Teleworking is a great opportunity, more likely to accommodate their needs. But when moving more into a virtual workplace, **broadband accessibility** is necessary and isn't always available.
- **An advocate** pointed out that there is [money in the budget](#) to conduct a **study of non-drivers in Washington state.**
- **Another advocate** is working with a young man who is trying to find employment. It is difficult to find employers who are willing to work with people with both **visible and invisible disabilities**. Despite their ability to do physical work, **interpersonal skills are a barrier.**
- **Another professional** is the [Developmental Disabilities](#) County coordinator, also program manager with [North East WA Alliance Counselling Program](#) for people with Developmental Disabilities and behavioral health concerns – and wanted to introduce their colleague.
- **One participant said** with work from home, the Governor has been working on [digital equity](#) and questioned if virtual work is even possible in Colville.
- **Another participant stated Internet is iffy.**

- **Another participant shared Internet is a big issue** for those living **out of town** – out on [Highway 395](#). In Chewelah, the hub for their provider was full and they had to change providers. **Internet is not reliable.**
- **Another participant said** yes, this has been a big issue. An entity did get [grant money](#) to put in fiber and are trying to cover the entire county.
- **Another participant mentioned:** Virtual employment is great for people with skills and the ability to type. Many require Associates and Bachelor's degrees. People can't get jobs stuffing envelopes anymore. It's hard for entry level positions. It comes down to phone lines, internet, and high traffic times. **Virtual is good for a lot of people, but not for entry level with minimal skills.**

## Promising Practices

[New Alliance](#) is available to **assist prospective job candidates with the online application** process.

[GCDE's Annual Governor's Employer Awards Program](#) annually **recognizes employers who are champions of disability employment** across the state. Examples given at this meeting included the [Chewelah Safeway](#), located nearby, who won an award a number of years ago for their inclusive employment practices.

## Transportation

### Participant Comments

- A self-advocate from People First has worked in the community for 38 years, mostly in retail. They don't drive and would love to have **better transportation.**
- **Another participant** shared that the bus **runs Monday through Friday, but not on weekends or holidays, and doesn't run according to work schedules.** The area is rural, and routes are limited, as are hours. People still need to get picked up and taken to work. **No cab service** is available either. The participant wants **everyone to be able to get on a bus and go to work.**
- **Another participant** said that there is an inadequate system for transportation. It is **challenging** for families. **Many services are in Spokane 1 ½ hours away.** Families have to **coordinate.** [Dial-a-ride](#) can help, but you must get to a bus stop. In addition, the family would need to **take several different busses** to get there and get back home. **Fares** on all the different providers vary as well.
- **Another participant shared** their experience from a couple of weeks ago, they had to **walk** from home to the Rapid Ride which cost \$26 and had **multiple stops** to get to the airport. Furthermore, deaf people are **disadvantaged** due to masking and **lack of communication access.** At the airport they had more challenges communicating without any interpreter. The airport personnel need video phones and other technology to communicate. It continues to be hard with transportation providers. There needs to be **more accessibility and training.** There needs to be **support for everyone, transportation for everyone, all days of the week.**
- [Rural Resources](#) is the local transportation provider. It is one of the **only providers in 3 counties, 6,000 miles, and has 8 buses.** All buses are [ADA accessible](#), and have bike-racks. The problem is, as a county, they tried to pass a public transit benefit which would go directly to transportation, but currently **Rural Resources depend on Washington State Department of Transportation** funding and applies for money for [special needs](#) to have a small commuter route. The funding is

**not adequate to serve anyone who works a regular shift, or after hours.** They also noted that there is a robust [volunteer transportation program](#), where volunteers are reimbursed for providing transportation, mostly for medical appointments. The organization gets some funding from [Aging and Disability Services](#) as well. The funding is not adequate for people who can't or shouldn't drive. Often, people who shouldn't drive do anyway, because there are no alternatives. The [new Transportation budget](#) just passed, they are hoping to get some of it to extend hours and days. But the system needs more money to meet the needs of the community.

## Promising Practices

WA State Legislature passed a major transportation bill so Rural Resources hopes to get funding from that bill to provide transit services in the rural communities. More information: [New Transportation budget, special needs](#) funding, [Aging and Disability Services](#) funding

[Volunteer transportation](#) is available through Rural Resources Colville, primarily for **necessary appointments such as medical and social services**, and usually to **larger communities**. For more information, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program-departments/transportation/>

For more information on Colville's **Commuter Bus**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/commuter-bus/>

For more information on Dial-a-ride, visit the [Dial-a-ride](#) services page (available through Rural Resources)

Visit [ADA accessible](#) bus information to learn more about accessible buses

## Housing

### Participant Comments

- **One participant** stated that housing is an incredibly stressful issue in Colville. They are a part of a blended family of 6 in a 2-bedroom home with pets. There are so many **places who won't allow pets, or kids**. They said it's a big problem.
- **Another participant** said it is horrible. **Old housing**, old houses. Some **not fit to live in** without a lot of work. Asbestos too. Construction in Colville area is [\\$250,000+](#). **No apartment construction** in close to 20 years. The area is growing, but has a large [homeless population](#) due to **lack of low-income** housing. People move into employment in this area, but have to **commute from other areas due to lack of housing**.
- **Another participant states:** "I have been extremely involved in [Habitat for Humanity](#), am a single mom with 2 kids in a very old house, with a mold issue here. Landlord will do nothing. Landlords don't seem to care about the people living there. It's a challenge to find decent living accommodations. Places are **accessible for physical disabilities, but not many**. What about [tiny homes](#) as a possible solution? They aren't **exploring all the options**. **Affordable Housing** is important. YMCA/YWCA also offer some limited resources."
- **Another participant reacted saying it was** alarming to hear that the participant (above) is grateful for housing with mold issues. Asked: Is there any **resource** for getting this cleaned out or working with the landlord?

- **Another advocate is a** Job specialist with [New Alliance](#). People have had ([HUD Section 8](#)) vouchers for 3 years that would cover their expenses, but there is **nowhere for them to go**. Plans in works to build [72-unit apartment complex](#). But there is opposition to the project.
- **Another participant:** Coming up with a [plan for housing](#) is difficult. **Codes, supply chain issues** and more make it hard. People selling properties have displaced some [homeless](#).
- **Another participant says: People are moving into city parks** in both Colville and Chewelah, which upsets residents. People with property were allowing people to camp on their land, but have been kicked out when land is sold. Some city homes have been [turned into Airbnb's](#), which takes them out of the housing market.
- **Another participant suggested a unique tax** basis where housing being used for business purposes, not self-use, would have a rate and we could create a [tax-benefit for those providing housing for people with housing vouchers](#).

### Promising Practices

Colville is currently in the process of developing a **new 72-unit low-income apartment complex**. For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/ruralresourcesca/posts/development-our-housing-division-is-in-the-process-of-working-on-a-72-unit-low-i/10165895661045291/>

### Leadership Meeting Exercise

After a robust discussion at the community town hall meeting, two issues of focus for the Leadership Action Planning meeting (LAP) were identified. The Leadership Action Planning meeting (LAP) was attended by eleven community members, who then identified strategies for the top two issues that came from the Town Hall group. Those two topics were employment, and transportation. LAP attendees were assigned breakout groups where they focused on generating ideas and solutions for each topic, and selected their priorities. The entire group then voted on what the top priority was for their work. Even though the group identified transportation as a priority, employment was the top focus of the Leadership Action Planning group, and everyone agreed to concentrate their efforts on this topic.

### QUESTION FOR BREAKOUT SESSION

**EMPLOYMENT:** How could the Colville community encourage employers to hire people with disabilities?

Brainstorming Session:

- Offer **tax incentives** to employers – this has limitations, but does work for many.
- Training and communication for employers
- Create an [Accessible Community Advisory Committee](#) through GCDE
- Education for employers, and experience sharing from companies who do hire people with disabilities (like Safeway). People with disabilities tend to be very productive and loyal employees. Disability should not be a barrier.
- Establish relationships with employers and their human resources folks. Once established, build on them and send subsequent referrals to them of people with disabilities who would be a good fit.



- Videos and other visual resources, so employers can see how people with disabilities work.
- Build bridges and relationships with employers

TRANSPORTATION: What would a transportation system look like in Colville that allows residents with disabilities to meet their employment and daily living needs?

## Brainstorming Session

- Needed 7 days per week
- Regular route that goes through the entire area every hour so people can work
- Trains to take people to Spokane (coordinate with freight trains)
- Coordinator for Individuals in community – volunteers – solve issues on a case-by-case basis
- Bicycles
- Ride Share program that reimburses drivers who provide individual transportation
- Volunteer drivers getting reimbursed has worked in other areas, and could work here. Retired people are often willing to do this.
- Connector Buses and home to home services
- County to County buses
- Volunteer retiree drivers are vital services, examples are in Island to Clallam Counties
- Buses that can handle rural conditions
- Bus stops closer and more available on Highway 95
- Extend accessibility between counties
- Partnership with Spokane Transit
- Buses that consider the needs of vulnerable populations
- More buses are needed

The group identified that the top solutions included volunteer drivers, and increased availability of buses, as well as expanded bus routes.

## Pathways for Change

The Leadership Action Planning group agreed that establishing a volunteer driver service to increase access and availability of transportation was an important piece of work, but decided that efforts were best used to focus on employment at this particular meeting. There are a few changes in the works related to transportation, and the group felt that they could best tackle employment during this session.

The group committed to working together to create a community conduit to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Colville. The group established that a good first step to increase the ability of advocates and people with disabilities to work together in Colville is to establish an Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (ACAC). ACACs work together with state, county, and local government to address issues of interest to people with disabilities. The group will work with GCDE leaders to establish this connection as a means of working to increase access for people with disabilities in Colville.

The group also identified other action steps, that included having more town hall meetings similar to the one hosted by GCDE in order to start building relationships between local disability organizations, creating and providing training in the community around how to network effectively, and contacting groups that may previously have not been included in similar work (such as the local Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club).

## Commitment Statements

One leader committed to reaching out on April 22, 2022, to GCDE leadership regarding starting an ACAC in Stevens County. Another leader agreed to help with the work, and they plan to collaborate. They also committed to reach out to Greg Young, District 3 Commissioner, who is interested in this work. They both also committed to being members of the ACAC in Stevens County once it is established.

Another leader committed to actively participate in developmental disability local and community advisory boards for Stevens County, and encourage others with or without disabilities to participate as well. They will also participate in continuing to pursue activities that will promote awareness around disability concerns, which could include employer and employee recognition activities, and assist in the construction of bridging relationships between resources and those who need to access them.

An additional commitment was made to talk with local commissioners about accessibility.

## Resources – Employment:

The Colville Office of the [Division of Vocational Rehabilitation](#)

Address: 956 S Main St Suite B

Colville, WA 99114

Phone: (509) 685-6147

(888) 330-5739

**Fax:** (509) 684-7306

**Email:** [DVRColvilleReferral@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:DVRColvilleReferral@dshs.wa.gov)

Website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr>

The Spokane Office of the [Department of Services for the Blind](#)

Address: Paulsen Building

421 W Riverside Ave, Ste 830

Spokane WA 99201

Phone: [509-456-4458](tel:509-456-4458)

Fax: [509-625-5239](tel:509-625-5239)

The [Inland Northwest Disability Experience](#) (INDEx)

Disability Action Center Northwest

**Spokane Office**

Address: 25 West Main Ave, 3rd Floor, Room West 9  
Spokane WA, 99201  
Phone: 509-606- 4639  
Email: [mels@dacnw.org](mailto:mels@dacnw.org)  
Website: <https://www.wasilc.org/cils/index-spokane-office>  
[www.dacnw.org](http://www.dacnw.org)

People First of Washington  
Address: 16815 Pacific Avenue South  
P.O. Box 1180  
Spanaway, WA 98387-9997  
Phone: [253-999-7222](tel:253-999-7222)  
**Email:** [krista@pfow.org](mailto:krista@pfow.org)  
Website: [Peoplefirstofwashington.org](http://Peoplefirstofwashington.org)

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)  
Address: PO Box 48317  
Olympia, WA 98504-8317  
Phone: 360-586-3560  
800-634-4473  
Fax: **(360) 586-2424**  
Website: <https://www.ddc.wa.gov/>

Safeway  
**Address:** 391 N Main St,  
Colville, WA 99114  
Phone: 509-684-3782  
Website: [Safeway.com](http://Safeway.com)

**[Northeast WA \(NEW\) Alliance Counseling Program](#)**

Address: 165 E Hawthorne Avenue  
Colville, WA 99114  
Phone: 509.684.6191 or  
509.684.5286  
**Website:** <http://www.co.stevens.wa.us/counseling/>

**Human Rights Commission  
Spokane District Office**

Address: 1330 N. Washington St., Suite 2460  
Spokane, WA 99201  
**Website:** [www.hum.wa.gov](http://www.hum.wa.gov)

**Olympia Headquarters for Human Rights Commission**

Address: 711 S. Capitol Way, Suite 402  
Olympia, WA 98504

Phone: **1-800-233-3247**

**Disability Rights Washington** is another option around **employment discrimination**:  
<https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/resources/employment> (see contact information above)

Information on Broadband Infrastructure Funding:

WA State Department of Commerce  
Town Square Building #5 Headquarters  
Address: 1011 Plum St SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

Article: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news/latest-washington-state-broadband-infrastructure-funding-will-connect-residents-of-14-communities-currently-lacking-reliable-high-speed-internet-service/>

Spokane Satellite office contact:  
Address: 10 N. Post St, Suite #445  
Spokane, WA 99201  
Phone: 509-720-9656

**Google offers an array of self-paced certifications** that can be obtained online and paid for on a monthly payment basis. Most certificates cost around \$40 per month. For example, right now data analyst type jobs are in great demand. Google offers certifications in this area. The pay is great, and one can work remotely in many cases. Suggestion: perhaps the state can be asked to pay for unemployed citizens with disabilities to complete certificate programs that will allow them to obtain a great paying job. **Learn more at:** [https://grow.google/certificates/...](https://grow.google/certificates/)

The **Work Opportunity Tax Credit** - The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a **Federal tax credit available to employers for hiring individuals from certain [targeted groups](#) who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment**. WOTC joins other workforce programs that incentivize workplace diversity and facilitate access to good jobs for American workers. The Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2021 (Section 113 of Division EE P.L. 116-260) **authorized the extension of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) until December 31, 2025. For more information, visit:** <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/work-opportunity-tax-credit>

## **Social Security**

**2022 The Red Book** (<https://www.ssa.gov/redbook/index.html>)

The Red Book serves as a **general reference source about the employment-related provisions of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs** for individuals with disabilities, family members, and for educators, advocates, rehabilitation professionals, and counselors who serve people with disabilities.

## Resources – Transportation:

The [Disability Mobility Initiative](#) of [Disability Rights Washington](#)

Disability Rights Washington

Address: 315 5th Ave S, Ste 850

Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: (800) 562-2702

(206) 324-1521;

Fax: (206) 957-0729

Email: [info@dr-wa.org](mailto:info@dr-wa.org)

Website: <https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/>

## Rural Resources Colville

Address: 956 South Main Street

Colville, WA 99114

Phone: [509-684-8421](tel:509-684-8421)

Fax: 509-684-4740

Website: [www.ruralresources.org](http://www.ruralresources.org)

**HUD Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships** could be a great **Federal Office to seek grants for Transportation related money.**

Address: 451 7th Street SW.

Washington, DC 20410;

Phone: 202.708.2404;

Email: [Partnerships@Hud.Gov](mailto:Partnerships@Hud.Gov);

Website: [Www.Hud.Gov/Program\\_Offices/Faith\\_Based](http://Www.Hud.Gov/Program_Offices/Faith_Based)

## Resources – Housing:

Each state is given **federal money** through the **land grant office to pay for mold removal. Visit:**

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/office-land-and-emergency-management-grants-and-funding> for more information.

For more information on **Emergency and Transitional Housing** via the **Consolidated Homeless Grant**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/consolidated-homeless-grant/>

For more information on the **Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Program**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/housing-essential-needs/>

For more information on **Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/tenant-based-rental-assistance-tbra/>

For more information on the **Home Buyer's Program**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/home-buyers-program/>

For more information on **Foreclosure Prevention and Default Counseling**, visit:

<https://ruralresources.org/program/foreclosure-prevention-and-default-counseling/>

For more information on the **Gold Star Shelter**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/gold-star-shelter/>

For more information on **Housing Choice (Section 8) Vouchers**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/housing-choice-voucher-section-8/>

For more information on **Low Income Apartment Rentals**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/low-income-apartment-rentals/>

For more information on **Foundational Community Supports and Supportive Housing**, visit: <https://ruralresources.org/program/foundational-community-supports-supportive-housing/>

## Contacts

Erin Zerba, Inland Northwest Disability Experience

Greg Young, District 3 Commissioner

Shelly Short, State Senate

Jessica Loseke, New Alliance Counseling Services

Judy Bales, The Artisans

Michaela Herman, Arc of WA

Rob Thompson, Developmental Disabilities Administration

Donna Adamson, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Mels Felton, Inland Northwest Disability Experience

Matt Schanz, Northeast Tri County Health

Eric Wharton, Department of Services for the Blind

Connie Mahugh, Rural Resources

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Charly Walters, Wise

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