

News release



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Snohomish County Transition Resource Fair builds life connections

More than 60 resources to be on hand March 24, from 4 – 8:30 p.m. at Cascade High

For 18 years, the [Transition Resource Fair](#) has helped residents with disabilities connect with jobs, housing, education, transportation and other services. With resources available at the event, the hurdles sometimes faced by students with disabilities are lessened so their skills and talents can shine.

For Everett Public Schools, the Fair is a critical resource for students in special education who are leaving public school and entering the world of work and education after high school.

Everett Public Schools transition teachers John DeBenedetti, Roschele Wagoner, Kate Cain, and Kaye Smith believe the Resource Fair is an essential component to connecting families with service providers in the community. John DeBenedetti reports, “The transition teachers are committed to providing adult students with quality vocation and independent living skills during their time in our program. The Fair helps to bridge the gap between public education and entry into the workforce and greater community.”

The Snohomish County Transition Resource Coordinator, [Deb Gall](#), encourages students from 14 to 21 years old and their families to attend the fair every year. “This is an opportunity to learn about valuable resources such as [School To Work](#), a program that prepares students for employment in their final year. Understanding all the nuances of adult services is essential to a student’s success. The fair is a one-stop shop for educating oneself about resources that support a seamless transition to employment and independence in the community.”

This year’s Fair will include more than 60 community agencies and businesses and a schedule of free workshops to help build connections. In the past the agencies have included Social Security, transit representatives, attorneys, Department of Services for the Blind and health benefit advisors. For an updated list of workshops and agencies, go to the [Snohomish County Developmental Disabilities website](#).

“I would encourage families to attend the Fair each year – even before a child is transitioning out of high school,” advises Wagoner. “Each year of attending is a chance to learn more and be better prepared for the future.”

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