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Washington **AccessFund**

*Independence is priceless. We make it affordable.*

## Access Fund News

May 2014

Do you have a story to share? Is there something you would like to learn about? Send your ideas to [info@washingtonaccessfund.org](mailto:info@washingtonaccessfund.org)! We'll include them in our newsletter and/or on Facebook.

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### Give BIG is tomorrow!

**GiveBig is a day of online giving.** A portion of every donation made via [this link](#) will be matched by the Seattle Foundation. All you need to join in the online day of giving is a computer or smart phone to access the internet. No amount is too small! The more donations we receive between 12:00am and 11:59pm on Tuesday, May 6th, the more match we will receive from the Seattle Foundation.

give  
**BIG**

 The Seattle Foundation

Your generous gift will impact the lives of people with disabilities in Washington State by providing access to funding they couldn't otherwise acquire to get assistive technology and start small businesses!

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### Work Opportunities IDA

#### Application deadline extended to

**Wednesday, June 18th!** The Washington Access Fund has teamed up with Seattle-King County and Snohomish County Workforce Development Councils to offer a new program with grant money and employment counseling for people with disabilities.



With our Work Opportunities Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), jobseekers with disabilities engaged with a Seattle-King or Snohomish County WorkSource Center can save up for assets needed to overcome barriers to employment or self-employment. Assets are broadly defined to include, among others:

- Assistive technology;
- Business equipment;
- Vehicles and other transportation-related needs;
- Information and communication technologies;
- Tuition, books, and other materials needed for education and training.

We will match every \$1 saved up to \$2,000. Save a dollar—get a dollar! If you save the maximum \$2,000 - that would mean you'd have \$4,000 to go towards your purchase goal.

This IDA program is funded through a Department of Labor Disability Employment Initiative grant. The sooner individuals sign up, the longer they have to save! We have extended the deadline and applications will be accepted through **June 18th, 2014**. Participants in the Work Opportunities IDA Program will be required to save for at least 3 months and a minimum of \$10 per month.

Contact Emerson Sekins for more information! Email:

[emerson@washingtonaccessfund.org](mailto:emerson@washingtonaccessfund.org) or call (206) 328-5116 - or visit our website at [Work Opportunities IDA](#).

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## May Resources



• **Special Education Technology Center:** The [SETC](#) offers webinars on various software programs and devices, they are a great way to learn about the different programs! Here is one upcoming webinar (be sure to check out the website for more!).

• **May 6th:** [Making Off-the-Shelf Games Accessible webinar](#)

• **May 13th:** [Creating Accessible Jeopardy Games webinar](#)

• **May 19th:** [iPad: Top Ten Favorite Apps for SLP Treatment webinar](#)

**May 8th:** Disability Resource Fair - Come find out about resources available in and around Colville, WA for those with disabilities and their families. There will be representatives of Government agencies, advocacy groups, employment programs,

residential agencies, community services, local entrepreneurs and much, much more. This is a great way to educate parents and families about local resources. Highschool students are encouraged to participate. May 8th, 10:00am-2:00pm at the Stevens County Fairgrounds, Ag Trade Center Building. Contact Erika Thompson for more information: [ethompson@co.stevens.wa.us](mailto:ethompson@co.stevens.wa.us).

**May 10th:** Washington Relay presents - Taste of Technology. This FREE event is for everyone who is interested in learning about vendors that feature technology to meet the needs of people with many types of disability. Speakers will be showcasing technology and independence. Free lunch, ASL/Voice Interpretation & CART will be available. All attendees MUST register. Deadline: May 3rd. Registration limited. Hurry to register! For more information, contact Cindy [cindy.2.campbell@sprint.com](mailto:cindy.2.campbell@sprint.com). -*The Washington Access Fund will be at this event.*

**May 17th:** Insight: A Low Vision Expo 2014 - Engage in tools and information for living well with low vision at Insight: A Low Vision Expo, May 17th at the Lynnwood Convention Center.

- Hear keynote speaker, Dr. Mary Lou Jackson, reveal the mysteries of Charles Bonnet Syndrome and why it is important to report your experiences to your doctor. A former Harvard Professor, Dr. Mary Lou Jackson is an ophthalmologist, a low vision rehab specialist, and a leading researcher on Charles Bonnet Syndrome.
- Try out the latest assistive technology in our hands-on learning lab and meet local vendors with the best resources.
- Get answers to your vision questions by expert ophthalmologists at an open Q & A panel.
- Meet and learn with new acquaintances in low vision breakout discussion sessions.

**Register for Insight;** Event entry includes a box lunch and with a suggested donation of \$20 per person. -*The Washington Access Fund will be at this event.*

**May 29th:** "Guardianships for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities" hosted by [Pierce County Coalition for Developmental Disabilities](#) at 5:30pm. This workshop will be presented by Timothy Williams, Attorney at Law. For more information and to RSVP please call (253) 564-0707.



WashingtonAccessFund

Our mission is to promote access to technology and economic opportunity for individuals with disabilities in Washington State. The Washington Access Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI).

Washington Access Fund provides: [Assistive Technology Loans](#), [Business Equipment Loans](#), [CCTV Rentals](#), and [Matched Savings IDAs](#)

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