

**Banchero Disability Partners empowers adults with developmental disabilities so that they may realize their potential, achieve their goals, and be active and contributing members in their communities. Together we promote equitable civil rights.**



[www.banchero.org](http://www.banchero.org)

Summer 2025



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# Leaflet



## Welcome Morgan!

Since the winter newsletter, our agency has experienced significant changes, including the departure of some clients and the introduction of new ones. We remain committed to providing exceptional care for our clients; however, we occasionally face resource limitations that hinder our ability to manage every case effectively. Our goal is to expand our team of professional educators in the future to better support clients whose needs extend beyond our current capabilities. With that said, we are pleased to welcome four new clients to our agency since the start of the year!

First, we would like to introduce our new client, Morgan, who joined our agency in March of this year and resides at the Malmo complex in Shoreline. Morgan was born and raised in Seattle, where he lived with his parents, Betsy and Bob, and his siblings, Matt, Andy, and Sara.

## Upcoming Events

**Cedar Grove Golf Tournament**  
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025  
The Golf Club at Newcastle  
15500 Six Penny Ln  
Newcastle, WA 98059

## Board Meetings

Tuesday, July 29, 2025 @ 5:30p  
*Online*

Wed., Sept. 24, 2025 @ 5:30p  
*Online*

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## Welcome Morgan! (Continued)

He initially connected with our agency during the holiday season last year. Recently celebrating his 25th birthday in January, Morgan is eager to embrace greater independence. Morgan's parents have been actively involved in identifying a supportive living agency that would enable him to thrive and focus on his personal goals. After months of navigating the approval process, Morgan became a member of our agency and has been flourishing since his arrival.

Morgan has a mild developmental disability, which allows him to manage many daily tasks independently. However, he benefits significantly from encouragement and guidance, whether it involves modeling steps for tasks or providing direct assistance when necessary. Our dedicated team is committed to ensuring a smooth transition in his learning journey.

An active individual, Morgan enjoys participating in community activities, attending various classes, and engaging with groups. Currently, he is enrolled in choir and gaming classes and is actively involved in his church through Young Life, a Christian social group. His hobbies include amateur radio, drawing, and listening to music. During his leisure time, Morgan loves to watch sports on TV, spend time with friends, and practice yoga. Despite his busy schedule, he also finds time to give back by volunteering at the Bayview Retirement Community.

Morgan's current goal is to undergo a hip replacement to enhance his mobility. We are optimistic that this procedure will lead to a more comfortable lifestyle for him in the future. Additionally, Morgan hopes to find a girlfriend with whom he can share his many interests and activities. We look forward to witnessing Morgan's progress and the achievement of his goals.

## Events & Fundraising

In May, we had the pleasure of hosting our annual Heart & Soul Auction, a cherished event that united friends, family, and community members for an evening of silent and live auctions, dinner, and fun activities. The event was skillfully facilitated once again by auctioneer, Matt Lorch.



Guests participated in an interactive game of "Heads or Tails," led by our client Dan, while a paddle raise demonstrated the remarkable generosity of attendees, resulting in an

incredible **\$133,000** raised for our mission. The evening concluded with our new client Morgan announcing the raffle prize and bid card winners, alongside a delightful Dessert Dash and uplifting music provided by **@pinkpianoguy**, all celebrating the spirit of community and support

We also extend a special thank you to **@bibas.events** for the stunning centerpieces and photo backdrop! We also appreciate **Shelly Oberman Photography** for beautifully capturing these memorable moments.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful sponsors — **Cedar Grove Composting, Todd and Arlene Kelly, Capital Industries, PCVA, Seattle Property Management, BECU, Mercury Pharmacy, Don Bell CPA, and MountainSide Storage**. A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the success of this event!

### Grants Received

**Thank you to the Sepic Family Foundation** for their generous \$10,000 grant to support our general expenses!

**Thank you to the GBC International Bank Foundation** for providing a \$6,000 grant dedicated to technology and staff training!

**Thank you to the Ballard Spahr Law Firm** for their kind donation of five beautiful office desks, several chairs, and a lovely conference table!



Laethan visited Belize and discovered its hidden treasures.



Thank you to the Shoreline Rotary Club for their collective contribution of \$208 towards our Easter Egg Hunt!



Thank you to the University of Washington Huskies for inviting Kendall, Mark, Renae, and their staff to participate in the Husky Heroes event!



Thank you City of Shoreline for awarding us a \$1,000 Love Your Community grant, helping us acquire everything we needed for our annual community picnic.

## Save the Date!

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming annual golf tournament, set to take place on **September 17, 2025**, at the Golf Club at Newcastle.

We extend our deepest appreciation to Cedar Grove Composting for their steadfast support and efforts in organizing this event benefiting BDP. The day promises enjoyable rounds of golf, a variety of prizes, and a delightful dinner.

For information regarding sponsorship opportunities, please reach out to Jasmina Merdanovic at [jasmina@banchero.org](mailto:jasmina@banchero.org).

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## Board & Organizational News

### In Loving Memory of Chris

Our dear client, who had been part of our agency since 1999, passed away at the age of 57 due to a recent diagnosis of glioblastoma, a type of brain tumor. Despite his lifelong battle with tuberous sclerosis, this unexpected diagnosis became a challenge he could not conquer.



Chris was a remarkable artist, renowned for his pencil sketches and custom tattoo designs. He cherished traveling with his staff members, with a recent trip to Universal Studios in California. Chris dedicated much of his time to maintaining his health and fitness while facing his struggles.

We are thankful to Chris's family for organizing a beautiful ceremony and allowing the BDP family to attend. Many of our clients and staff shared a special bond with Chris, making his passing particularly challenging for everyone. Nevertheless, we will honor Chris's memory in our work and strive to support our clients in their times of need.

### Congratulations Amie!

Amie has been a valuable member of our agency since 2013. Over the past 12 years, her dedication to helping clients has been remarkable, as she has dedicated most of her time to serving their needs at ATR. We are excited to see Amie step into her new role as a program supervisor. Amie shared, "Working at BDP for the past 12 years has given me invaluable experience and growth. Each position has played a vital role in developing the skills and knowledge I rely on today as a supervisor. I'm thankful for the opportunities I've received and look forward to continuing this journey with such a devoted team." Please join us in welcoming Amie to this thrilling new chapter!

### Board Member Needed

We are seeking an additional Board member with a specialization in mental health services. If you are interested in contributing to our community and helping us advance our mission, please contact Carol Salter at [carol@banchero.org](mailto:carol@banchero.org).