

# FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR ACAC PROJECTS

Accessible Communities Advisory Committees throughout Washington State are created by the [Accessible Communities Advisory Committee \(ACAC\) Act](#) (RCW 36.01.310), promoted by the Legislature to help communities be more welcoming and inclusive for persons with disabilities, and to promote and provide equal access to the opportunities available to others. More information about State resources can be found at [www.accessiblecommunities.wa.gov](http://www.accessiblecommunities.wa.gov).

Benton County ACAC was established in 2017 and began meeting in 2018 to provide this resource to the community.

## HOW TO GET FUNDING & FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR 2019

Two methods for counties to receive State funding:

1. Reimbursement for costs through meetings and normal activities of the ACAC
  - a. Expenses must be submitted via invoice to [GCDE@esd.wa.gov](mailto:GCDE@esd.wa.gov) and must be allowable under the Employment Security Department (ESD) travel rules and regulations
2. Submission of project proposals to the [Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment](#), who will review projects for possible grant funding
  - a. Projects should focus on improving access, awareness, inclusion, or acceptance of people with disabilities within the local community
  - b. \$200,000 total funding available to counties for 2019 requests
  - c. Proposals should include: what the proposal is for, why it was selected by the County, project timeline, project budget, and outcomes/performance measures
  - d. Matching funds are not required, but should be listed in the proposal if available

## EXAMPLE PROJECTS:

Jefferson County:

1. Develop and distribute emergency preparedness planning information (brochure) for the medically fragile
2. Develop and print rack cards that highlight respectful language when speaking about someone with a disability and brochure about definitions of service animal, emotional support animal, or therapy animal
3. Improvement of beach access at Ft. Worden – purchase of 1 beach wheelchair and 1 beach walker. Use will be monitored and more may be purchased

Spokane County:

1. Teams of "Accessibility Ambassadors" will visit a minimum of 100 places in Spokane and review them for accessibility features using the [Access 4 All Spokane](#) checklist and publish the information on an online directory
2. Present a minimum of nine (9) classes to increase awareness, understanding, and skills related to accessibility, disability-friendly customer service, and collaborative problem-solving – information presented at meetings, conferences, conventions, etc.
3. Distribute 1,000 brochures to public with information on specific ways to contribute to their projects and improve accessibility in Spokane County

Wahkiakum County:

1. Update entrances to the Grays River Valley Center – a popular community facility – which provides activities including a library, computer center, law enforcement satellite office, health and human services satellite office, gymnasium and exercise room, and more.