



AbleLight

Illuminating Abilities, Brightening Communities

AbleLight

2025-27 Consolidated Grant
Ben Gazaway, Director of Advancement



Our Mission

AbleLight wholeheartedly supports and advocates for all people with developmental disabilities (DD) to ensure they have security, dignity, and hope.

Our Vision

A world where all people with developmental disabilities are loved, secure, and flourishing in their communities.



Our Impact

National

- ❖ 120 years of experience
- ❖ Over 9,000 clients served
- ❖ 11 states

Washington State

- ❖ Since 2016
- ❖ 35 clients currently supported
- ❖ Washington County & King County

- **Residential Services:**
 - Congregate Living – Group homes with 3-6 residents within existing neighborhoods.
 - Supported Living – Living within their own home and receiving support based on their needs.
- **Representative Payee Services:** Building financial skills and financial independence.
- **Advocacy:** Access to benefits, support high-quality caregivers, support to minimize social challenges

Need for Support – Clients

- ❖ Our clients face some of the greatest barriers to transportation:
 - ❖ 42% use a wheelchair
 - ❖ 33% are above the age of 65
 - ❖ 100% live on low incomes and receive Medicaid benefits
 - ❖ 100% have a developmental disability
- ❖ Clients need transportation for medical appointments, shopping, enrichment, special group activities, and community engagement.
- ❖ Client barriers to public transportation: communication challenges, mental distress, inability to travel independently, medical needs, and more.

Need for Support – Vehicles



❖ Purpose

- ❖ Our vehicles provide 24/7 onsite, on-demand transportation for clients at each of our homes

❖ Need

- ❖ 3 vehicles at our homes in Kent need to be replaced.
- ❖ Will help us avoid disruptions to service due to maintenance issues.
- ❖ Increase the capacity for additional passengers using wheelchairs, resulting in fewer trips back and forth and more inclusive support.

❖ Vehicles to be Replaced

- ❖ Ford E-150: No wheelchair capacity, 7 years beyond its useful life.
- ❖ Ford E-350: 2 wheelchair capacity, 5 years beyond its useful life.
- ❖ Ford Transit-350: 1 wheelchair capacity, 2 years beyond its useful life.

Funding Outcomes & Impact



❖ **3 Vehicles to be Purchased with Grant Funds**

- ❖ 3 wheelchair stations per vehicle with a 1,000lb lift capacity
- ❖ Seating for 6 ambulatory passengers

❖ **Impact on our Services**

- ❖ Increased accessibility enables us to meet our diverse clients' needs.
- ❖ Safe, consistent, and reliable transportation.
- ❖ Fewer trips are needed to transport our clients, saving time and money.

❖ **Impact on the Community**

- ❖ Investment in the unique transportation needs of community members with developmental disabilities.
- ❖ Better integration of individuals into everyday community activities.

Funding Impact: Clients

❖ Connection

- ❖ Up to half of all people with DD are chronically lonely, resulting in depression, insomnia, high blood pressure, Alzheimer's, and increased mortality.*
- ❖ Solution: Connection & engagement through weekly trips to the park, library, museums, movies, restaurants, volunteer events, etc.

- ❖ **Autonomy:** Transportation enables clients to make daily decisions for themselves and pursue activities meaningful to them within their community.

❖ Health & Wellness

- ❖ Transportation to medical appointments.
- ❖ Drivers our clients know and trust, resulting in less stress.

— OVER —
120
YEARS



AbleLight

Illuminating Abilities, Brightening Communities



Questions?



AbleLight

Illuminating Abilities, Brightening Communities

