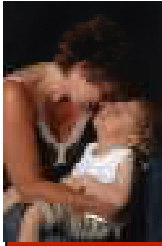


## 2008 Developmental Disability Budget Priorities



### Life Opportunities Trust

### Building Assets; Planning for the Future



DD Endowment Trust Fund, commonly called the DD Life Opportunities Trust, is a way for people who have a developmental disability to save money and plan for the future, especially when their parents are no longer around

Saving money by opening a trust in the DD Life Opportunities Trust does not endanger qualification for other benefits

The DD Life Opportunities Trust is a public-private partnership, the only one of its kind in the Country. In 2003 it was recognized as one of the top 50 innovations in government across the U.S. by the prestigious Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government Innovations.

In 1999, the Legislature provided \$5 million to use to match private contributions. Private trust contributions are matched at a rate of 25% up to \$775 annually with a lifetime maximum match of \$7,750 per trust.

1,000 trusts can be matched with the original \$5 million. As of mid-August 2007 we have opened 900 trusts and will close in on 1,000 in the next 5 to 8 months.

History has shown that for every \$1 dollar of the original \$5 million we have leveraged \$1.74 million in private contributions. The total worth of the DD LOT as of the end of August, 2007 is \$16.3 million

This request is for another \$5 million for the DD Endowment Trust Fund. It does not create a bow wave. It will allow us to open and match another 1,000 trusts.

This is a great way to directly help people with a developmental disability, encourage individuals and families to save for the future and create less dependence upon government services.

For more information, contact Ed Holen:  
1-800-634-4473; [edh@cted.wa.gov](mailto:edh@cted.wa.gov).

**State Investment: \$5 million (GF S)**

### Investing in the Future

**“I do think about the day when we’re gone. I want to be prepared. The Trust will help provide for my son’s financial needs to live independently.”**

**Ben’s mom (Walla Walla)**

**“I feel the name *Life Opportunities Trust* is so very appropriate. It truly will be the money invested into this trust that will bring about more life opportunities for my daughter.”**

**Lacey’s mom (Montesano)**

**“We look at this as an IRA for our daughter Margaret. It’s an investment in her future. This is exactly what I would have designed if I were designing it myself. It fit our needs perfectly.”**

**Margaret’s dad (Spokane)**

**“This was a real positive in times when things are looking really bleak. We’re so glad we enrolled.”**

**Christopher’s mom (Everett)**

**“I feel the State is reliable and secure. I’m more comfortable with the state investing our money than a financial advisor trying to help me make decisions about investments.”**

**Kari’s Mom (Seattle)**