

The Trust Report

Developmental Disabilities Life Opportunities Trust

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Endowment Trust Fund



Summer 2009

Ray of Hope Shines Brightly on the Trust: A Message from the Trust's Administrator, Ed Holen

I am waiting for someone to step out boldly and declare "the recession is over and the recovery is here". So far I only hear people talking about a glimmer here; a ray of hope there.

The DDLOT quarterly statements have a ray of hope. For the last few months we show positive earnings. In fact, as of the end of May, 2009 we have gained back much of what was lost since September, 2008 (see the information below).

Planning for the long term is the main focus of the DDLOT. The private funds you contribute to the trust are pooled together and invested in a conservative investment portfolio by the State Investment Board with the Vanguard Balance Index Fund – Admiral Shares (ticker VBIAX). The public funds that are used for match are in a portfolio that includes Fixed

Income and Treasury Inflation (TIPS), U.S. Equity managed by Barclays Global Advisors, International Equity managed by State Street Global Advisor, and a cash portfolio managed by BlackRock Liquidity Funds.

The Governing Board, at its last meeting, decided not to offer a second investment option for private funds, such as a money market account. The Board will continue its commitment to plan for the long term for individuals with developmental disabilities as was envisioned when the Trust was started.

More information about the investments can be found on the web site for the State Investment Board www.sib.wa.gov

Other News: Trust Outreach

At the last Governing Board meeting,

Ed Holen,
Trust
Administrator

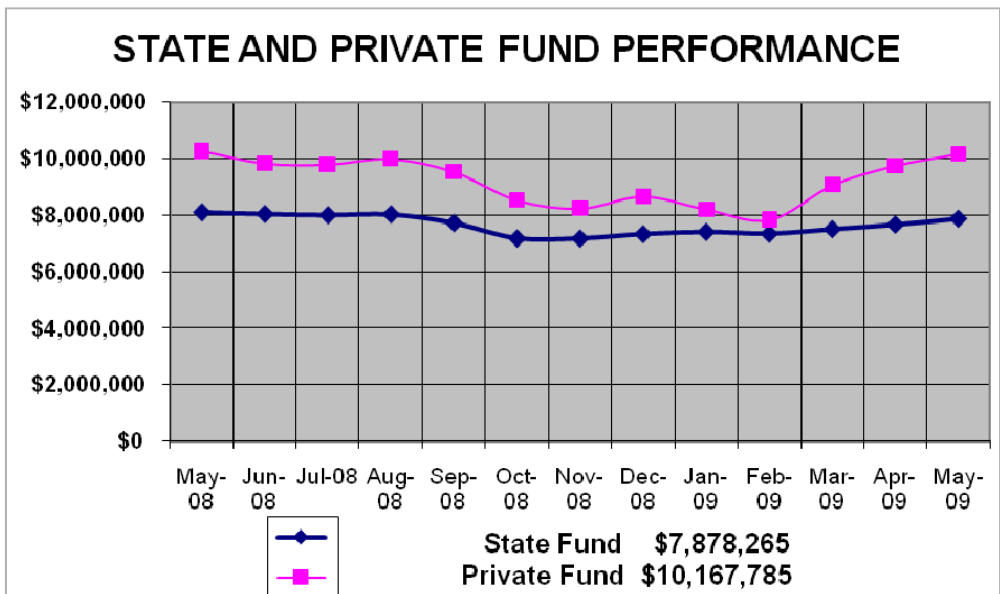


the members approved the budget for the next operating year. Included in the budget were funds to enhance outreach efforts, including the production of two video podcasts about the Trust. The focus of the renewed outreach effort will be to create more interest among families with younger children to open a trust. Your ideas are always welcomed, especially if you are willing to share with others why the trust is important to you.

DDLOT STATE AND PRIVATE FUND PERFORMANCE – MAY 2008 THROUGH JUNE 2009

MONTH	STATE	PRIVATE	TOTAL
May-08	8,099,589	10,278,771	18,378,370
Jun-08	8,042,231	9,834,821	17,877,052
Jul-08	8,001,717	9,791,347	17,793,064
Aug-08	8,027,585	9,988,532	18,016,117
Sep-08	7,727,245	9,533,984	17,261,229
Oct-08	7,189,854	8,530,525	15,720,379
Nov-08	7,186,560	8,236,266	15,422,826
Dec-08	7,339,902	8,858,703	15,998,605
Jan-09	7,414,085	8,204,388	15,618,491
Feb-09	7,353,211	7,834,506	15,187,717
Mar-09	7,511,561	9,070,211	16,581,772
Apr-09	7,670,852	9,758,190	17,428,842
May-09	7,878,265	10,167,785	18,046,050

"State" refers to the public dollars used for match. "Private" refers to the funds trust holders have invested in the Trust.



Governor Gregoire Appoints Two New Board Members

The Governor has appointed two new members to the DDLOT Governing Board. Peter Tassoni of Olympia and Pat Keogh of Spokane joined the Board effective July 1, 2009.



Peter Tassoni, a manager with the state's Emergency Management Division, identifies strongly with the Board's mission to prepare for the future. Peter is the father of one year old Samuel, who has Down syndrome.

Last year he started researching information to help his son, and found DDLOT when he was surfing the Internet. "I liked the fact the DDLOT offers a way to provide Samuel the extra things he needs without endangering his access to regular benefits," says Peter. He opened an account for Samuel earlier this year.

Peter's enthusiasm about the Trust extended even further and he then applied for and was appointed to a position on DDLOT's Governing Board. Peter has previous experience on city and county boards but saw this as a chance to be on a state board addressing a program important to him.

The Board members also saw an opportunity when they selected Peter. "Peter's management skills really stood out," says DDLOT Board Chair Janet Adams. "In addition he brings the perspective of a family with a young child to our discussions. His skills as a writer and entrepreneur will also be useful as we continue to expand the Trust."

Pat Keogh, a production and sales manager with Boise Cascade and the parent of an adult daughter with developmental disabilities, brings a wealth of experience to the board. His past experience includes military service and almost 40 years of employment in the timber industry.

"What made Pat an attractive candidate was his understanding of sales and marketing. That, coupled with his life experience as a parent of an adult child with developmental disabilities, made him an ideal choice for the Board," says Janet Adams.

Pat's commitment is personal also. "I have a daughter enrolled in the Trust," says Pat, "Obviously I have a personal interest, but I also would like to serve to make a difference for all the people enrolled in the Trust."

Peter and Pat are replacing Margaret-Lee Thompson and Phil Ruggles who have served on the board since the Trust's inception in 1999. Margaret-Lee and Phil have given countless hours of service to families enrolled in the Trust and the board is very grateful for their work.

By the Numbers

As of June 30, 2009, 1,229 trust accounts have been opened and funded.



Of those, 399 are Trust I accounts, third-party trusts, where families, guardians and others are making contributing to the trust for the benefit of the beneficiary with developmental disabilities.

There are another 830 Trust II accounts, self-settled trusts, where the contributions are funds belonging to the beneficiary with developmental disabilities.

Twenty-one families are participating in the Payment Plan option by making monthly payments towards the enrollment fee.

Moving Soon?

If you have moved or are planning on moving, please let us know. Call Patti Bell at the Arc of Washington 1.888.754.8798.



Questions? Feedback

We welcome your comments and feedback. Let us know how we can do better. Call Ed Holen at 1.800.634.4473 or email him at: edh@cted.wa.gov.

