

Things to consider before requesting  
to speak on the Victim Impact Panel

- ✓ The panel requests a year of sobriety since the offense.
- ✓ Except for professionals dealing with the affects of DUI collisions on a regular basis, has it been a reasonable period of time since the event occurred?
- ✓ Are you comfortable with speaking to a large group?
- ✓ Are you able to speak without preaching or projecting anger toward listeners?

**Whatcom County Health Department  
(360) 778-6002**



**Just the Facts**

**Between 2005 and 2015, 171 people were lost on Whatcom County roads. Of those deaths, 30% were alcohol or other drug-related. That's 51 deaths that could have been prevented.**



**DUI collisions, injuries, and deaths  
are 100% preventable!**



**About three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.**

**Keep our roads safe!!!**

**Whatcom County DUI  
Victim Impact Panel**



**Whatcom County  
Health Department**

**509 Girard St.**

**Bellingham, WA 98225**

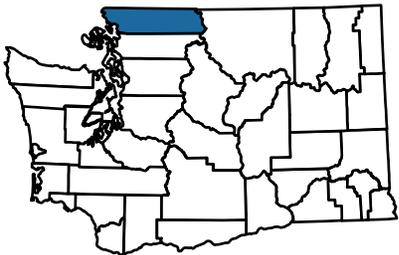
**(360) 778-6002**

## How It All Began

Many individuals and families are affected by impaired driving injuries and deaths every year, across the nation, and also in Whatcom County.

DUI (driving under the influence) Victim Impact Panels were co-founded in 1984 by Judge David Admire and a couple, Larry and Shirley Anderson, who had recently lost their son in a DUI collision. The goal has been to provide a means by which offenders are able to connect to the personal and emotional realities related to the loss of loved ones.

In 1992, the Whatcom County DUI Victim Impact Panel was created to help share the devastating consequences that have impacted people in our community, with the hope of reducing these preventable tragedies. Since then, the panel has reached thousands of individuals from around the state. On the preventative side, panelists have also spoken in local high schools and at community events.



## What to Expect

### THE PANEL FORMAT

Victim Impact Panels are held in Whatcom County 10-11 times per year. They take place in the Council Chambers of the Whatcom County Courthouse, and run from 7:00-9:00 on Monday evenings. The panels are usually attended by 65-80 individuals from Whatcom and Skagit Counties. Guests and non-offending observers are also welcome to attend. Speakers present one-at-a-time for 10-20 minutes to help the audience understand the potential consequences and severity of risks associated with impaired driving. Presenters may choose to include multi-media components such as slides or other presentation materials if they wish, and are given the option of fielding questions from the audience as well.

Attendees have called the presentations **moving, powerful, impactful, and inspirational.**

## PANELISTS NEEDED

### If you would like to share...

Has your life or the life of one you love been affected by a DUI collision? Would you like to share your experience, or do you know someone who would share theirs? **Sharing your story could change or even save a life!**

The Whatcom County Health Department is looking for individuals to participate as speakers on the DUI Victim/Survivor Impact Panel.

Speakers share testimonies on how a DUI has impacted them, either personally or through the loss or injury of a loved one. They describe the emotional, social, financial, and other effects a DUI tragedy has caused. The panel consists of victims, survivors, offenders, and professionals who work in fields that are affected by the realities of impaired driving.

Speakers give their time voluntarily and many find comfort knowing that their experience may help prevent others from having to endure the same tragedies. It is up to each individual to know if speaking on the panel is something they wish to do.

If you are interested in sharing your story, please refer to the criteria and contact information listed on the reverse side of this panel.