

Friends of Youth Forum

Fall 2011



The Landing Expansion

One Client's Story



The expansion of The Landing from 5 to 7 days per week was more than just a number change for Jason (pseudonym), it was a life change. This increase in shelter days provided security and stability he hadn't known for at least 2 years. Working twenty hours a week at two jobs in Bellevue, Jason slept at The Landing Sunday through Thursday, but would commute into Seattle every Friday and Saturday night in search of shelter. Trying to plan for the next day when the night before was filled with uncertainty and dread was a weekly nightmare, and fear of losing his job was a constant companion. The two additional days of shelter made it possible for Jason to stay on the Eastside all week, maintain his job and become a resident of Friends of Youth's New Ground Transitional Living Program in Everett. With a new place to call home, Jason has transferred to a job in Lynnwood and is working toward a stable and productive future.

With the generous support of the local faith community, The Landing is available for homeless youth on the Eastside 7 nights each week. Word continues to spread and the shelter is at or near capacity each of those nights. The move from 5 to 7 has already changed the lives of young people like Jason. Friends of Youth is grateful to the many donors who continue to make the expansion of The Landing possible.

November is Microsoft's Month of Thanks

Friends of Youth has been selected to receive a software grant valued between \$2,000 to a maximum of \$10,000 and

Beginning on **November 1st**

Please be sure to vote for

Friends of Youth

on the **Microsoft Store Facebook page.**

Each vote means a donation of up to \$20 of much needed software. Yes, you can vote more than once.

Keep an eye out for more news about this exciting opportunity.

Thank you Microsoft!

November is Homeless Youth Awareness Month

Did you know that at any given time in King County as many as 2,000 youth and young adults are homeless?



On August 31st the national "Safe Place" program started here in King County. Youth in crisis can go to any Metro bus driver and say "I need a safe place." Trained Metro bus drivers call Friends of Youth, Auburn Youth Resources, or YouthCare, and connect the youth to the help they need. Check out our website for more information.

CEO Corner, Terry Pottmeyer

We've all been in a group of new people, making conversation, getting to know each other. The question "What do you do for a living?" is a fairly standard opening. One member of our staff is always ready with her answer.

"I work at an overnight emergency shelter for homeless youth in Bellevue".

Most people don't believe her. Surely there aren't any homeless youth in Bellevue?

Sadly, there are. In fact, the homeless youth and young adult population in North and East King County has increased during the recent economic downturn. We know: last year we provided shelter, support and housing for over 1,942 homeless youth and young adults, up from 1,576 in FY 2010.

Why do so many of our young people become homeless? Here are a few of the most common stories we hear:

- They turn 18, age out of foster care, and have nowhere to go.
- They flee situations of abuse and domestic violence or leave non-functioning families that do not miss them when they are gone.
- They are told to leave. One national study found that 26% of gay teens who came out to their parents or guardians were told they had to leave home.

We are committed to finding solutions for our youth, keeping youth off the streets and partnering with them to become healthy and self-sufficient adults.

Friends of Youth has a street outreach van that drives to 15 Eastside cities each week with hygiene kits, snack packs, and bus tickets. We have a team of case managers ready to assist homeless youth with the support they need to get off the streets and into housing. We have a fully staffed overnight emergency shelter so homeless young adults can get in out of the rain and have a warm, nutritious meal. We provide 65 units of transitional housing for singles, pregnant and parenting mothers and young families who are working toward self-sufficiency. But there are still homeless youth in our communities, and still more work to do.

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month. It's a month dedicated to raising awareness of the issue of youth homelessness in our country. Friends of Youth is dedicated to raising awareness of this important issue not only in November, but throughout the year. Join us—as a donor, a volunteer, an advocate, or a supporter—because none of our young people should be without a safe place to stay at night.



Grant Updates

Public Grant Awards for August 2011

Snohomish County, Operations and Maintenance Program awarded \$15,000 to New Ground Everett for operational and facilities costs. This funding will ensure smooth operation and facility upkeep of New Ground Everett for the coming year.

Private Foundation Grant Awards for August 2011

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the Friends of Youth Foundation for grants of \$50,000 for general operating for FY 2011 and \$37,846 for COA reaccreditation, and the Evertrust Foundation for a grant of \$5,500 for program support for New Ground Everett Transitional Living Program. Thank you for your valuable support!

We Remember...



Friends of Youth remembers **Leone Annette Turner** who passed away Wednesday, June 22nd at her home in Lake Forest Park at the age of 93. Mrs. Turner and her late husband, Dale were long-time supporters of Friends of Youth. Mrs. Turner was also a former Friends of Youth board member. She lived a life of community service and had an active interest in music and the children and youth of the greater Seattle area. She was remembered by friends and family in a memorial service July 23, 2011 at the Acacia Memorial Park and Funeral Home in Seattle.

Youth and Family Services

Back to School

School has begun, bags are packed and students have started a new year. Unfortunately, for too many families, along with backpacks and books come personal and family struggles.

Our **Youth and Family Services Program** provides school-centered resources throughout the academic year in the Issaquah, Snoqualmie Valley and Riverview School Districts. Addressing risky behaviors early is the key to preventing long term problems in school and in life. Our school-based services include:

- Identification of early mental health and/or substance abuse risks
- Needs assessment for counseling and substance abuse treatment
- Counseling assistance for behavior problems, school difficulties, depression, anxiety and more
- Referrals to comprehensive counseling services for youth and their families at one of three Friends of Youth counseling offices in Issaquah, Snoqualmie, and Duvall.
- Parenting classes for parents and guardians of both young children and adolescents

Collaborating with parents, teachers and caring professionals, students begin to build positive self-esteem, improve social and communication skills, learn coping techniques and become motivated in school.

Parents are encouraged to contact Friends of Youth offices for more information about the services we offer for youth and families in the schools and in our offices:

Issaquah Office: 425-392-6367 Snoqualmie Office: 425-888-4151 Duvall Office: 425-844-9669

Going back to school is a busy time of year and our **Youth and Family Services Program** is here when you need help. Friends of Youth envisions all youth having every opportunity to succeed!

Donor Highlight

Nancy Ellingham

Teaching others to help themselves is second nature for Nancy Ellingham and has been for a long, long time. First as a volunteer and coordinator of the 1960's CAMPI Satellite and Preschool programs in Seattle and later as a vice principal in elementary and high schools, Mrs. Ellingham knows first-hand the power of the person-to-person connection in the growth and development of young people. It was during this same period in the 1960's that Mrs. Ellingham learned of Friends of Youth through the Women's Association of the Newport Presbyterian Church in Bellevue.

Griffin Home was Friends of Youth's primary program providing a safe and nurturing environment for "wayward" boys in the 1960s. Mrs. Ellingham became an important part of the supportive



community whose fundraising efforts at church and personal financial support made the program thrive. Raising two children of her own at the same time, Mrs. Ellingham understood how important consistent and thoughtful structure was in the development of children and youth. As a long time donor, she has watched Friends of Youth grow through the years and is thrilled "to have contributed in a small way" to helping so many.

Committed donors like Mrs. Ellingham make it possible for Friends of Youth to continue to provide excellent service to youth and families today and in the future. Thank you, Mrs. Ellingham for maintaining a lifelong dedication to the wellbeing of underserved youth on the Eastside.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer

- **Dinner Donor:** Friends of Youth's Landing shelter is the only overnight emergency shelter for homeless young adults ages 18-24 on the Eastside. We provide safe shelter, a shower, hygiene supplies, laundry and health services. We rely on volunteers, like you, to provide the hot meal for our 15 guests each night. Dinner donors prepare a hot, ready-to-serve meal and bring it to The Landing at 8:45pm.
- Sunday – Thursday Evenings: The Landing is located at the Bellevue Family YMCA. Friday & Saturday Evenings: The Landing is located at St. Peters United Methodist Church in Bellevue. To become a Dinner Donor call: 425-869-6490 ext. 314

Share-a-Bowl

Wednesday, November 2: Faith Lutheran Church, 9041 166th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98052, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

In Honor of National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, this event's goal is to raise awareness of the plight of homeless youth in our area and educate about ways to help those in need.

Share-a-Bowl attendees will be treated to a dinner of soups and breads provided by Faith Lutheran Church's Social Ministry team. Organizers are hoping to support Friends of Youth in its quest to recruit more Dinner Donors.

Friends of Youth's Dinner Donors are volunteers who provide a hot meal for 15 homeless youth receiving shelter at the Landing in Bellevue. Serving as a dinner donors is a hands on and effective way to help and provide a sense of satisfaction and well-being.

For a complete list of volunteer opportunities, please visit our website at www.friendsofyouth.org/volunteer.aspx

Youth Connection

3 IN A ROW **Looking for volunteer hours? Look right here!**

Hosted on the third Sunday of each month. Grab your friends and spend 3 hours (1-4 PM) making a difference while obtaining the credit you deserve and need.

Pre-registration required to Cheryl at Cheryl@friendsofyouth.org. See our web site for more details www.friendsofyouth.org

- **October 16:** New and Gently Used Halloween Costume Drive and Festival, Duvall
- **November 20:** Something to Be Thankful For, Redmond
- **December 19:** In the Spirit of Giving, cookies and hot cocoa in a jar and holiday gift giving prep, Redmond
- **January 15:** My Night in a Box, Redmond

Spotlight

Thanks to the research, planning and prep work done by **The Bellevue College Continuing Education Program**, Friends of Youth is sporting a more streamlined version of its quarterly print newsletter. Friends of Youth is very appreciative of the time, energy and effort that went into looking at ways to maximize our efforts to spread our message. The addition of the volunteer insert will help raise awareness to the volunteer opportunities which help our youth in need!

Thank you Kristen McConaha and Jenifer Aydelotte from Bellevue College Continuing Education Program for contacting us regarding project proposals, Michael Klinicke, Project Management Practicum Project Sponsor for overseeing the class and championing our cause, and the Helping Hands Project team of:

Ed White, Fred Montgomery, Jamie Snyder, Kevin Ham, Kirill Gil, Linda Eastlick, Mohammed Ibrahim, Peter Lacy, Tammy Flaherty and Teri Ramsey for the fabulous job of designing and creating our new look, providing additional insight into the realm of volunteering and being so much fun to work with! We did it!



Contact Us

cheryl@friendsofyouth.org


Cheryl Schnelle
425 869-6490 x309







Upcoming Volunteer Events

October 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3 IN A ROW	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

 **Oct. 1-16:** New and Gently Used Halloween Costume Drive.
Oct. 16th: 3 In a Row Teen Program, Duvall

November 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
3 IN A ROW	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

 **Nov. 1:** Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive Begins, Goal of 151 baskets for homeless youth & families
Nov. 2: Share a Bowl: Faith Lutheran Church
Nov. 20: 3 In a Row Teen Program, Redmond

-  twitter.com/#!/FriendsOfYouth
-  facebook.com/friendsofyouth
-  linkedin.com/company/friends-of-youth/

Looking to put the Happy into Someone's Holiday?
 Check out our website at:
www.friendsofyouth.org/volunteerSeaOpp.aspx
 for ways to help at events during
 November and December

December 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13				17
3 IN A ROW	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

 **Dec. 1:** Giving Tree and Holiday Stocking Programs Kick Off
Dec. 14: Microsoft Giving Tree Pick-Up Day
Dec. 15 - 16: Corporate and Individual Giving Tree and Stocking Drop-off
Dec. 18: 3 In a Row Teen Program, Redmond

January 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3 IN A ROW	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Jan. 15: 3 In a Row Teen Program, Redmond

Look for our expanding volunteer opportunities in Duvall, Issaquah, and Snoqualmie in 2012!

Friends of Youth

425-869-6490

www.friendsofyouth.org

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President & CEO

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425-869-6490 x308

To make a donation or
inquire about events:

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425-869-6490 x317

To Volunteer:

Cheryl Schnelle

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425-869-6490 x309

2011 Giving Tree

It's that time of year again! We invite you to be part of the Giving Tree Program:

- **Grant a holiday wish for a youth by picking up a tag at University Village or the Friends of Youth Administrative Office.**
- **Host a Giving Tree at your place of Employment.**
 - **Host a Giving Tree at your Church.**

Support from businesses, individuals, faith-based communities and service clubs reminds youth in need that the community cares. Thank you for helping to make their holiday wishes come true.

Contact Cheryl@friendsofyouth.org

Fall 2011

Redmond, WA 98052-3536

16225 NE 87th St., Ste. A6

Together Center

Friends of Youth

