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## **News Release: Invitation to Cover**

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### Friends of Youth Helps Homeless Youth and their Families Give Thanks

*The event is open to the public and media.*

**Redmond, Wash.** – While many people are making plans for their Thanksgiving holiday, Friends of Youth is encouraging individuals, families and community groups to start a new tradition by participating in the Thanksgiving Food Basket program. The annual holiday program provides less fortunate families and homeless youth with traditional Thanksgiving meals – everything from stuffed turkeys to pumpkin pies.

“In these difficult financial times, homeless youth and their families are the most vulnerable and are without resources to prepare a holiday meal,” says Cheryl Schnelle, Volunteer Coordinator at Friends of Youth. “This year it is more important than ever that everyone of us reaches out to at least one young person or family in need.”

On Nov. 16 and 17, Friends of Youth will accept food donations at the Redmond office located at 16225 N.E. 87<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. A-6. Food items may include, but are not limited to: turkeys, chickens, hams, cranberry sauce, rolls or breads, pumpkin pies, baby food/formulas, and mashed potatoes. Volunteers and program staff will distribute Thanksgiving meals to King and Snohomish counties on Nov. 18.

“Friends of Youth will be counting on the generous and giving spirit of our community to help youth and young families in need. With everyone’s help, we will all have more to be thankful for,” said Schnelle.

For more information, log on to [www.FriendsofYouth.org](http://www.FriendsofYouth.org), or phone (425) 869-6490.

#### **About Friends of Youth:**

Friends of Youth is a non-profit agency dedicated to supporting youth and their families in King and Snohomish counties. Friends of Youth provides a broad range of services to improve its clients’ emotional stability and self-sufficiency, including homeless shelters, transitional housing, outreach, mental health counseling, and substance abuse prevention and treatment. For more information, visit [www.FriendsofYouth.org](http://www.FriendsofYouth.org), or phone (425) 869-6490.

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