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December 2010

### In This Issue

[Holiday Meals for Needy](#)

[Birthday Party - You're Invited!](#)

[New Board Members](#)

### Give to TOGETHER!

[Donate Now](#)

### Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### Quick Links

[TOGETHER!](#)

[Our Facebook page](#)

[Upcoming events](#)

Dear Friend,

All of us here at TOGETHER! wish you the happiest of holidays. We encourage you to enjoy family and community this time of year, and during 2011 as well. Eat well, be safe and find peace!

### Thanksgiving Baskets for Families

#### TOGETHER!, Food Bank Help Evergreen Villages Residents with Holiday Meals

Every year, at our [Neighborhood Center](#) at Evergreen Villages low-income apartment complex, we distribute Thanksgiving baskets to Evergreen Villages residents who need them. The food comes from the [Thurston County Food Bank](#) -- our Neighborhood Center is a satellite location for the Food Bank.

This year, the center gave out meals to well over 20 families. Program Manager Brenda Jones and other staff braved the snow and cold to organize, load and hand out boxes because many of the residents depend on food assistance and have trouble with transportation, so they knew it would be needed. We thank them for their dedication to those who need help!





## You're Invited to Birthday Celebration



You may have heard that TOGETHER! turned 21 this fall. To celebrate, we've been asking everyone to "Join the Party!" and help us celebrate 21 years of making Thurston County a place in which all young people are supported, healthy, safe and valued.

Many people have been raising funds and donating "birthday presents" through personal webpages online, and others have thrown us birthday parties. If you haven't had a chance to participate, here's an opportunity. Staff member Evan Welkin is throwing a party open to the public. Stop by, celebrate what TOGETHER! does in the community, and get some free birthday treats, including cake made by Evan! There will be sugar-free and gluten-free options, too.

The party is Friday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. at the new Olympia Friends Meeting House, 3201 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia (next to Priest Point Park in the former Salmon Club).

If you have any questions, or would like information on how to throw a party of your own, please contact TOGETHER! at 360-493-2230 or [info@thurstontgether.org](mailto:info@thurstontgether.org). If you'd like more information on our 21st Birthday celebration, go to [www.ThurstonTogether.org](http://www.ThurstonTogether.org) and click the links under the birthday cake graphic.

## Board of Directors Grows by Three

This fall, [TOGETHER!'s Board of Directors](#) elected three new members. We'd like to welcome them and wish them well in their stay with us -- and we hope it's a long stay!

Consultant Glenn Cramer brings a wealth of law enforcement, leadership and state government knowledge and history to the Board. Farah Derosier is a paralegal at LOTT Clean Water Alliance and a mom with young ones at home. We also welcome Lacey City Councilwoman Cynthia Pratt and her years of local experience.

Also, Thurston County Commissioner Cathy Wolfe joined our Board as an ex officio member in August.

For a complete list of TOGETHER!'s Board of Directors, [click here](#).

TOGETHER! prevents youth violence and substance abuse through awareness, advocacy and action to support youth and families. Our vision is for all young people in Thurston County communities to be supported, healthy, safe and valued.

To learn more, visit us at [www.ThurstonTOGETHER.org](http://www.ThurstonTOGETHER.org) or call us at 360-493-2230.

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