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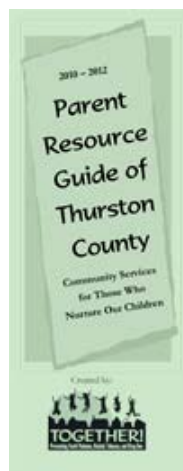
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Dear TOGETHER! Friend,

It's an exciting time here right now! Our after-school programs just kicked off for the school year, we've got updated Parent Resource Guides fresh off the press, and youth and staff are back from the state Prevention Summit with great ideas and great experiences. Read on.

New Parent Resource Guide Is Out

Book directs to clothing, food, crisis help, more



TOGETHER!'s popular [Parent Resource Guide](#) is printed every 2 years. The new, 2010-12 version is out now. It lists social services and help resources in Thurston County, such as food and clothing banks, shelters, parenting classes, employment assistance, housing, special needs, youth development, counseling/addiction support, and more. It's great for teachers, counselors, parents ... anyone who works with kids or parents.

If you need copies, contact Danielle at 360-493-2230 ext. 20 or

dkoenig@thurstontgether.org. We can mail

out single copies, or you can pick up larger orders at our office (please call ahead for orders over 20 copies). You can also see it online; go to www.ThurstonTOGETHER.org and click on the picture of the cover in the bottom right.

We provide the Parent Resource Guide free of charge, though we appreciate donations in support of it.

We acknowledge and thank the [Olympia School District](#), the [Family Support Center](#) and [Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County](#), who helped us with the costs of publishing this edition of the Guide. Primary funding for the 2010-12 edition is by grants from [NW HIDTA](#) and [SAMHSA](#).

Prevention Summit Was Great!

Six youth and 2 TOGETHER! staff members got full scholarships from conference organizers to attend the state's annual [Youth Prevention Summit](#) in Yakima on Oct. 14-16, and county funding helped 2 other staff members attend. The youth and Program Managers Jesse Youckton and Tamika Houston-Burroughs, Executive Director Jim Cooper, and Operations Director Meghan Sullivan, joined hundreds of other prevention advocates and organizations from all over Washington to work together on prevention programs and services. Youth and adult leaders attended exciting, targeted workshops on a wide array of prevention topics.

Jesse was on the planning committee for the summit, and during the event, he led a service project to clean up an elementary school and mentor its students. Jim gave an [Rx360 Washington](#) presentation, which teaches the dangers of prescription



drug abuse and how to prevent it. Our youth team co-hosted an ice cream social and submitted 3 displays to the poster session.

Everyone left the conference with a renewed sense of purpose, and our youth advocacy group, [Students Protesting Lies About Tobacco](#), plans to incorporate skills they learned into upcoming projects.

Find more pictures from the summit on our [Facebook page - click here](#), then check out the "2010 Prevention Summit" album.

After-School Programs Start Up

TOGETHER! runs two after-school programs for low-income elementary kids, and a Neighborhood Center for kids who live in Evergreen Villages, a low-income apartment complex.



The [McLane Elementary](#) after-school program started up Oct. 19 with 15 kids, and the numbers are expected to grow as school goes along. The kids get a snack, homework help and some time in [Y-Care](#), then we bus them home at 5:00. It runs 3 days a week.

The program at [Chambers Prairie Elementary](#) works in a similar way, though it runs just 2 days a week. It started a week

after McLane, with 12 kids signed up. Thanks to the [Lacey Sunrise Lions](#) for pitching in to get bus service for the Chambers Prairie kids!

The program at Evergreen Villages runs daily after school for kids and teens, and parents drop in during the day for help with assistance programs such as [TANF](#) and the [Food Bank](#). The center serves 35 to 40 youth every day. The kids get homework help, mentoring, "[Too Good for Drugs](#)" teaching sessions, activities such as scavenger hunts and movies, sports and other exercise, and lots more. They also do "Arts & Crafts with Anita" every week. Recently they made Halloween decorations, some of which you see pictured in this article!



We love serving kids and youth in Thurston County and making sure they are supported, healthy, safe and valued. Thank you for your interest in [TOGETHER!](#) because it shows how you treasure that goal as well. Together we can make it happen!

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 or call us at 360-493-2230.

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