



## eShare

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## Staffing changes: 2 new, 1 retirement

### Goodbye to Betty Curneen after 20 years of service



How do you say "thank you" to someone who has given their heart to TOGETHER! for 20 years?! The day Betty Curneen was hired, shortly after TOGETHER! was formed, she came to work to find an empty room -- we didn't even have furniture yet! Laptop computers didn't exist yet, and most work was done by hand. She didn't have an official title or job description even. But she and the small founding group forged ahead and created a great organization out of virtually nothing. We wouldn't be here or be able to do the great work we do without Betty.

We love you, Betty, and will miss you greatly. Happy retirement! Enjoy all of your traveling and have some great bike rides. You were the heart of TOGETHER! for 20 years, and you still are, just working through ours instead.

### Welcome to Tamika Houston-Burroughs!

Tamika Houston-Burroughs will be filling a new role at TOGETHER!. She is a Program Manager in our Community Mobilization department, running or coordinating such programs as the Meth Action Team, the South Sound Youth Collaborative, Strengthening Families and Parenting Wisely classes, Family Partnership Alliance, and Sticker Shock.



### Great to have you, Quentesa Garraway!

Quentesa Garraway is a senior at Timberline High School and a former TOGETHER! volunteer. She's been a member of our youth advocacy group Students Protesting Lies About Tobacco!



(SPLAT!) for almost 3 years. She is a part-time program assistant, helping out Tamika and others where needed, and is looking forward to college next year.

Welcome to both Tamika and Quentesa! It hasn't been long yet but you've both already proven to be assets to this organization, helping us keep the children of this community supported, healthy, safe and valued. We're sad to lose Betty, but glad that the torch has passed into capable hands.

### Learn about Rx drug abuse online

We are working to lower prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse in our community with our Rx360 program. This program educates everyone about the the problem and how each of us can make a difference. The way to change what is happening is to educate everyone in the community. Call us and we will come give the Rx360 presentation to any group. We are also offering the program as a webinar. You can sit in front of any computer, log in and listen to the live presentation.

To join a webinar, you must register to get the call-in information. Below is the information for two upcoming sessions. The presenter for these webinars is TOGETHER! Executive Director Jim Cooper. The sessions are scheduled to last an hour.



Wednesday, Oct. 6, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Registration:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/684962113>

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 9 to 10 a.m.  
Registration:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/819704137>

[Click here for more information about the Rx360 program.](#)

**Need a presentation?** We still offer in-person Rx360 presentations as well. If your church group, fraternal order, networking club, book club, co-workers, employees, homeowners association -- any group! -- would like to know what each of us can do to prevent youth from abusing prescription drugs, call or email us and we'll schedule a presenter for you. The presentations take up to an hour, or less for smaller groups.

Call Diane at 360-493-2230 ext. 15 or email her at [dpieroni@thurstontgether.org](mailto:dpieroni@thurstontgether.org).

### Connect with other substance-free families

## The Family Partnership



The Family Partnership Alliance provides a way for parents and families to network with one another when their youth are visiting each other's property. Each parent in this alliance pledges to make every effort to prevent youth access to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. It's available to all families in every Thurston County school district. The list is organized by school so you can easily find the families your child knows.

Now that school's started up for the year, it's important to know that your child is safe no matter where they are. Joining the Alliance allows you to have that security.

To become a member, you must read the Alliance pledge and fill out a very quick membership form online. Within 3 business days, you will receive your membership credentials. You will then be able to contact other parents on the list, share information with other parents if you are hosting a party on your own property, or find out what your child will be doing at someone else's party. It also allows you to make choices on places that may be safer than others for your child to hang out.

The pledge and the membership form, as well as more information about the Alliance and a brochure, can be found by [clicking here](#). We also offer materials (brochure, pledge) in Spanish on that same site.

For questions, contact Tamika Houston-Burroughs at 360-493-2230, ext. 16, or [send her an email](#).

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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