



eShare

January 2011

In This Issue

[Champions for Kids 2011](#)

[Quit Kits for Family](#)

[New Youth Coalition](#)

Give to TOGETHER!

[Donate Now](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Quick Links

[TOGETHER!](#)

[Our Facebook page](#)

[Upcoming events](#)

It's Time: 10th Annual Champions for Kids

2011 Celebration Is March 7



[Champions for Kids](#) is an annual event in which TOGETHER! and its community partners recognize those individuals in our community who go above and beyond in their dedication to young people. Champions are those individuals who help us make our community one in which children and youth are supported, healthy, safe and valued. They provide a direct service to youth, are a positive role model or volunteer, or exhibit a dedication beyond their employment.

Join us!

Champions for Kids

10th Annual Celebration:

"A Champion's Legacy"

Monday, March 7, 2011

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Marcus Pavilion at Saint Martin's University

New this year: Individual tickets are being sold as well as table sponsorships.

[Click here to register](#)

A limited number of Champions will be honored. To name a Champion, reserve a table of 8 and contact Diane ([click here to email](#), or call 360-493-2230 x15) for an honoree form.

Note: If your company or organization is paying for your seat, please do not register -- your table captain will register for you.

If you would like more information,
[click here for our Champions webpage.](#)

Teen Helps Kids Make Tobacco Quit Kits



An Evergreen Villages attendee shows off the smoking Quit Kits he made for his dad (left) and mom.

If your child asked you to quit smoking, would you be more likely to give it a try?

On Dec. 8, staff member Jesse and teen volunteer Anna (a sophomore at Timberline High who is a member of our coalition Students Protesting Lies About Tobacco!) went to our Neighborhood Center at Evergreen Villages, where they worked with the kids to make tobacco Quit Kits for their parents as Christmas presents. There was also a station to make Christmas cards. The kids made Quit Kits and cards not only for their family members, but also for U.S. soldiers deployed overseas! The Quit Kits were personalized for each recipient and included inspiring messages, such as "You can do it" or "I love you, please quit."



A total of 55 kits were made for family members and our troops. This activity helped the kids who live in Evergreen Villages feel proud to be able to give their parents and loved

ones something for Christmas that they made themselves. The ones made for our troops were sent to an Army soldier who graduated from Olympia High School, and his company based out of New Jersey.

Each Quit Kit contains items to help someone quit smoking: a rubber band, a mint flavored toothpick, the [Tobacco Cessation Resource Guide for Thurston County](#) (produced by TOGETHER!), a piece of gum, hard candy and a candy cane. It also contains a guide on how to use each of these items. For example, the rubber band can be used to fidget with and keep your hands busy, or it can be worn on the wrist like a bracelet, so you can snap yourself any time you have a craving.

If you also wish to get a Quit Kit to help you quit smoking, contact Jesse at 360-493-2230, ext. 17, or [by email](#) to request one. For help kicking the habit, call the [Washington State Quit Line](#) at 1-800-QUIT-NOW for support and items that can double your quit success rate.

SSYC: Our Newest Youth Coalition

TOGETHER! began another youth coalition this year: the South Sound Youth Collaborative, a leadership board by youth, for youth. The SSYC supports teens in making a real difference by strengthening youth leadership in promoting healthy opportunities and preventing unhealthy behaviors. The SSYC



was founded on the idea that collaboration is the key to building strong communities and creating positive social change. Monthly meetings bring together a diverse group of motivated and talented young leaders from across the state.

The group had its first event this month. On Dec. 18, SSYC members brought the magic of Christmas to children and families in Rochester by volunteering during [Operation Santa](#), an annual project by [ROOF Community Services](#). The youth helped to organize, wrap and distribute gifts to almost 200 families in need. This experience proved to be just as rewarding for volunteers as it was for the participants. One SSYC member said, "This is the real reason for the season!" Another member stated that the look of gratitude and joy on the faces of the families we served moved her beyond words.

The SSYC ended 2010 in the manner in which they will endeavor to begin 2011: by being ready to act, and willing to respond! If you are interested in finding out more about this dynamic group of youth leaders, call Tamika at 360-493-2230, ext. 16, or [email her by clicking here](#).



Members of SSYC run a gift-wrapping table during Operation Santa at ROOF Community Services, which helps needy families with presents for their children.

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 online](#) or call us at 360-493-2230.

[Forward email](#)

This email was sent to dkoenig@thurstontgether.org by info@thurstontgether.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



TOGETHER! | 418 Carpenter Rd SE Ste 203 | Lacey | WA | 98503