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Coalitions Bloom in Rainier, Tenino

Join Now--Help Make South County Healthier!

Great news for south county! TOGETHER! will be providing additional support to the Rainier and Tenino school districts to create healthier communities by keeping youth, young adults and others free from alcohol and other drug abuse.

Two coalitions are being assembled, one in each district. The long-term goal of the coalitions is to reduce violence and substance abuse while improving academic performance. The actual programming will be determined by the members themselves, based on individual community needs and using creative self-designed programs and proven best practices.

**We are looking for community members
to become involved in these efforts!**

Would you like to join us?

[Click here to find out how to get involved, or to read more about the coalitions.](#)

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A Tasty Way to Help Your Community

[Burger Claim](#) (a new local hamburger joint in Grand Mound, next to Great Wolf Lodge) is partnering with TOGETHER! to sell burgers to support our work!

Come join us June 7 and eat to help kids! Buy a burger, milkshake or homemade french fries, or try their sweet potato fries! A portion of the proceeds that day will go to TOGETHER! to support our important work, making a difference in your community. We will have staff and volunteers there throughout the day, helping out the Burger Claim staff.



Mmm! Sweet potato fries--what a tasty way to support TOGETHER!.

So come on down to Grand Mound on June 7 and eat in benefit of TOGETHER! and the children and youth we serve. [Visit Burger Claim's website to see their menu and get directions.](#)



Neighborhood Center Hopping in April

Fishing, Egg Hunt, and Marching in Procession

April was a busy month for the kids and youth that attend our Neighborhood Center in Evergreen Villages, an apartment complex in west Olympia.

Some of the kids went fishing in the [Lacey Family Fish-In](#) on



the 16th. There was an Easter egg hunt on the 22nd. Manager Brenda Jones and her staff hid 700 eggs! On the 23rd, the kids and staff marched in [Procession of the Species](#)--the third time they've participated in that event. They had a

ton of fun! And they made their costumes and props themselves. In addition, 3 attendees and a parent accompanied Brenda to an Olympia City Council meeting to speak in support of continuing to fund the Center.

All these fun events were on top of the regular stuff the kids get at the Neighborhood Center: homework help, mentoring through [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#), outdoor games and gardening, scavenger hunts and lots more. All of this programming is free.

We are grateful for support the Center



received this month. The [Lacey Sunrise Lions](#) bused the kids to the fishing derby and paid their entry fees, and fed them at the Easter egg hunt. Also, screen printing company Spintees made 50 T-shirts with the TOGETHER! logo and donated them. Thanks to both of these groups! You also can help [support the Center](#).

Take a look at some of the kids and teens explaining what they love about the Neighborhood Center:



Evergreen Villages
Neighborhood Center

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.

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