



The Alliance of Eastside Agencies' (AEA) mission is to build healthy communities in East King County through a strong human services network by providing a strong voice for Eastside health and human services and by promoting organizational excellence among providers.

Board: Joseph Adriano, Sharon Anderson, Jeff Brandt, Brooke Buckingham, David Downing-Co-Chair, Kim Gerdes, Debra Grant-Co-Chair, Lori Guilfoyle, Stan Kehl, Helen Leuzzi, Pam Mauk-Treasurer, Steve Roberts, Helen Banks Routon, Andrea Simmonds, Sarah Steininger, Rochelle Clayton Strunk-Secretary Barbara Thompson, Gina Yarwood-Vice-Chair.

AEA eNews

Our new monthly member newsletter – December 2012

AEA News!

➤ Renew your AEA Membership!!

Renew Your Membership by December 14th and be entered in a Drawing to Win a \$100 Gift Card!

Together we make a difference by impacting important human services issues and growing leadership in our sector in East King County! Once a year we ask for membership dues to support our critical work and empower us to give you all the benefits of membership (see below). Support our collective work by renewing your membership today!

Benefits of Membership

- Free Trainings
- Annual Luncheon Ticket at Reduced Price
- Making Nominations for AEA Luncheon Awards
- Networking Events
- Access to Timely Legislative and Funding Updates via Emails and AEA's Monthly e-newsletter
- Organized Advocacy Efforts to Represent Your Voice at Public Events/Budget Hearings
- Representation on Other Key Advocacy Entities - *Eastside Human Services Forum and King County Alliance for Human Services*
- Recognition of Your Agency on AEA website and in brochure

Renewal is easy! Simply go the AEA website:

www.allianceofeastsideagencies.org/joinaea.html, complete the registration information and submit your fee through PayPal. Organizations which prefer to pay by check can submit the e-mail confirmation as an “invoice” to mail with a check to the AEA address (provided in email).

We appreciate the following Agencies which have renewed their memberships to date:

Athletes for Kids (new members); Child Care Resources; Congregations for the Homeless; EADS Day Service; Encompass; Friends of Youth; Hopelink; Kindering; King County Housing Authority; KITH; NAMI Eastside; The Sophia Way; Together Center; Youth Eastside Services.

➤ **AEA’s Annual Assembly, Training & Election**

At the annual meeting segment of the day the proposed amendment of the bylaws were approved as was the election of officers and new and continuing board members. AEA’s slate of officers is now: David Downing–Co-Chair; Debra Grant–Co-Chair; Gina Yarwood–Vice Chair; Rochelle Clayton Strunk–Secretary, Pam Mauk–Treasurer. The new board members are: Jeff Brandt, Stan Kehl, Helen Banks Routon, Andrea Simmonds, Sarah Steininger and Barbara Thompson.

A training session for member agencies by presenter, Michael “Luni” Libes was also part of the event, teaching participants to *describe, design, challenge, invent, and pivot* their business model.

➤ **Upcoming Trainings – A report from AEA’s Training Committee**

The AEA’s Training Subcommittee is planning a series of trainings to build agency leadership and staff capacity to meet the challenges brought on by adverse childhood experiences and trauma. Such adverse experiences and trauma touch on every aspect of human services, including participants/consumers/clients, staff, managers, and everywhere in between. Stay tuned for more information on this important training series.

AEA is also co-sponsoring agency emergency planning training along with the Eastside Human Services Forum and Public Health-Seattle/King County through the Vulnerable Populations Workgroup. The quarterly training is expected to begin in early spring. It will be free and provide agencies with tools to explore and define their functions in the wake of a disaster, as well as to update their previous emergency management plans (if applicable). More information will be provided. Don't miss these exciting training opportunities!

➤ **AEA’s After Hours New Year’s Networking Party**

New date— Tuesday, Jan 15th, 4-6 p.m.

Location: Sophia Way’s new site at Bellevue St Luke’s Lutheran Church,

3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue 98004

We had to postpone the December networking party but the New Year is an even better time to get together to socialize and strategize. Parking is excellent, and AEA's social committee will be serving food and non-alcoholic beverages. There will be something fun organized and then lots of time to enjoy each other's company.

Featured Member Agency of the Month

➤ **KITH (Kirkland Interfaith Transitions in Housings)**

KITH's Vision is to assist individuals and families who are facing a crisis of homelessness by providing housing and services to help them become stable and self-sufficient. Presently, KITH manages a twelve-unit apartment complex and owns two four-plexes. They provide case-management for its client residents and an assortment of related charitable functions serving the local community.

KITH recently welcomed Jennifer Barron as its new Executive Director. Jennifer previously worked as the Washington State Deputy Director for the Youth Suicide Prevention Program. She provided suicide education prevention strategies to communities along with implementing the expansion of YSP services in underserved regions of the state. She contracted with and managed the Field Coordinators while providing suicide training and consultation. Jennifer comes to KITH with over 20 years of experience working with at-risk families and developing case management plans to empower them to be successful. She brings energy, commitment and a desire to help people in need. Her experience will help KITH continue to broaden and strengthen KITH's ability to meet the needs of homeless families with children on the Eastside.

She looks forward to upholding KITH's vision to assist individuals and families on the Eastside who are facing a homelessness crisis by providing housing and services to help them become stable and self-sufficient.

Agency News

➤ **Crisis Clinic has launched their new website!**

It's got a much cleaner look and navigation is much easier. Check it out at: www.crisisclinic.org. The Resource Talk Blog has changed addresses as well. <http://crisisclinic.org/education/resource-talk-enewsletter/>

➤ **Together Center has Available Space**

Space is newly becoming available at Together Center beginning January 1. Friends of Youth will be moving from its long-time administrative offices at Together Center into new headquarters in Kirkland. They will be leaving their fully built-out 3,250 square foot offices available for lease. The suite has windowed offices, work areas and a reception space. Common area kitchen and

Rainier Conference Room are steps away, among other amenities. Two smaller spaces (365 and 957 square feet) are also available.

Together Center is a multi-tenant nonprofit campus with 18 health, housing and human services agencies, cultural navigators, free public phones, information and referral and other program supports. Contact Pam Mauk for more information at pamm@togethercenter.org or 425-869-1174.

➤ **Sophia's Thrift Shoppe — Grand Opening Coming Soon!**

The Sophia Way's new program will work as an on-the-job employment skills training center and also as an employment contracting option. Employment contracts with companies in East King County will subsidize Sophia Way's clients' salaries for one month while they are acquiring additional training and work experience in the private sector.

One of the biggest challenges The Sophia Way faces is to build financial strength for their clients which is critical for their success. They believe the Sophia's Thrift Shoppe will be able to bridge this gap.

Look for information about the GRAND OPENING of Sophia's Thrift Shoppe very soon. It will be located just above Skimart at 13219 NE 20th St, Bellevue, 98005.

- ***Thanks for reading our newsletter. Watch for us next month.***
- **AEA Board of Directors**