



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, David Johns Bowling, Jeff Bradt, Brooke Buckingham, David Downing-Co-Chair, Debra Grant-Co-Chair, Lori Guilfoyle, Stan Kehl, Paula Matthyse, Pam Mauk-Treasurer, Helen Banks Routon, Andrea Simmonds, Sarah Steininger, Rochelle Clayton Strunk-Secretary, Barbara Thompson, Gina Yarwood-Vice-Chair.

2013 HUMAN SERVICES AWARD WINNERS:

*Business of the Year: CFO Selection; Elected Official: Amy Walen, Kirkland City Council
Faith Organization: Snoqualmie Valley Alliance Church; Not-for-Profit Staff: Daniel Hanson;
Legacy Award: Mimi Siegel; Volunteer of the Year: Art Mabbott; Youth Volunteer: Eila Sturdivant*

AEA eNews

Our monthly member newsletter – December 2013

AEA wishes you and your organizations a very successful and meaningful 2014!!

AEA News!

➤ **Renew your AEA Membership now! Dues are increasing on January 13th!**

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 for member agencies
- Annual Luncheon Ticket at a reduced price
- Opportunity to Nominate Individuals/Organizations for AEA Recognition Awards
- Networking Events to meet and interact with other providers
- Timely updates on government/private funding and legislation via email and AEA's monthly e-newsletter
- Inclusion in organized advocacy efforts to impact funding and educate elected officials.
- Representation on other key community groups including *Eastside Human Services Forum and King County Alliance for Human Services*.
- Opportunity to serve as an AEA board or committee member.

- Agency recognition on AEA website and 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).

New Membership dues:

- If your agency budget is less than \$500,000, the AEA annual membership fee is \$60 if you register before January 13, 2014 and \$75 after January 13, 2014.
- If your agency budget is greater than \$500,000, the AEA annual membership fee is \$120 if you register before January 13, 2014 and \$150 after January 13, 2014.

➤ **Thank you AEA Members**

We appreciate the following Agencies which have renewed for 2014:

WithinReach; Together Center; Encompass; Friends of Youth; KITH; Mercer Island Youth and Family Services; AtWork! and Hopelink.

Featured Member Agency of the Month

➤ **WithinReach**

WithinReach makes the connections that all Washington families need in order to be healthy. For the last 25 years WithinReach has connected vulnerable families to health care and food resources through innovative technology-based and in-person outreach. In 2012, they connected 220,000 people across Washington State to resources—including Medicaid, CHIP, Basic Food, and WIC—creating healthy families and healthy communities. WithinReach extends the impact of direct service to individuals and families by working in partnership with community organizations and state and local agencies.

By meeting people’s basic food and health care needs, WithinReach can intervene early and often prevent a larger more costly health or financial crisis. Preventing a crisis and making a family more resilient helps to support the overall long-term health and wellness of a family and the community.

WithinReach focuses on five core areas to promote healthy families and healthy communities:

1. Health care - Works to connect people across the state with the health care resources they need.
2. Access to food - Washington State is now the 14th hungriest state in the country.
3. Child Development - Runs *Help Me Grow Washington* which provides free screenings for all families.
4. Immunizations - Over the last 20 years WithinReach has worked to promote immunizations toward an 80% immunization goal.
5. Breastfeeding - WithinReach’s *Breastfeeding Promotion Program* provides a state-level support system.

For more information call the WithinReach Family Health Hotline 800-322-2588 or connect with them at: www.withinreach.org .

A Great Benefit of AEA Membership

➤ **Agency to Agency Assistance**

Part of AEA's mission statement is to *promote organizational excellence among providers*. AEA's board has decided to help new or growing organizations to learn from the efforts of others. The lessons and insights gained through AEA member Eastside Baby Corner successful navigation from an all-volunteer, founder led organization is the kind of real-world experience that can be shared through one-on-one consultations or a large group training. Let AEA know if this is something that interests your agency by emailing office.eastside@gmail.com. Tell us your issue or area of focus and we'll do our best to match you with a representative from a member organization who is willing to share their experiences.

Eastside Baby Corner (EBC) was born from the compassion and conviction of one woman, Karen Ridlon. Since 1990, it has grown from a broken playpen and some diapers in her dining room into an organization that is the source of hundreds of orders of essential supplies, making a difference in lives of 500 kids every week in east King County. For nearly 20 years, Karen and an army of volunteers ran EBC, but by 2007, it became evident that EBC needed to progress from a founder-led and almost all volunteer organization to one with a more sustainable structure if the organization was to continue. A team of community leaders joined together to develop a comprehensive three-year vision and strategic plan to facilitate EBC's evolution. Funded through United Way of King County, the committee developed a strategic plan to build the staffing, governance, and funding structures needed to keep EBC growing and sustainable for the long term. Between 2008 and 2011, EBC accomplished many important goals: instituted a governing board; hired the first staff members to ensure continuity of operations; revamped the EBC brand and website; developed employment policies and procedures; implemented online volunteer management and donor relationship systems; strengthened the data collection systems and interaction with partner agencies; and created a fund development program. During the same time, EBC increased the level of services, and saw a 98% jump in revenue.

A new Strategic Plan in 2012 laid out the next stages of growth, including a 20% increase in services and beginning the transition from a volunteer executive director to full-time, paid executive. A bridge fund campaign began in spring of 2012 to raise money for greater capacity; the Hub underwent remodeling to improve ability to provide services to provider partners, as well as improving the employee environment and volunteer experience; and in January of 2013, the Board hired EBC's first paid executive.

Community News

➤ **Mobility Efforts**

KC Metro has a brochure posted on their website about local funding options and a video about how to ride the bus. ERIC's website has posted it in a number of languages. Public hearings are being held; Metro is available to go out to community centers.

➤ ***Thanks for reading our newsletter. No newsletter in January. Watch for us again in February 2014.***

- **AEA Board of Directors**