



*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 Bradt, Brooke Buckingham, David Downing-*Co-Chair*, Kim Gerdes, Debra Grant-*Co-Chair*, Lori Guilfoyle, Stan Kehl, Pam Mauk-*Treasurer*, Leslie Miller, Steve Roberts, Helen Banks Routon, Andrea Simmonds, Sarah Steining, 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 new monthly member newsletter – July 2013*

## **AEA News!**

➤ **Save the Date: AEA's Summer Networking Get-Together**

Wednesday, July 31, 5-6:30

Redmond Grill, 7979 Leary Way NE, Redmond, WA 98052

Join with your peers from other agencies to share ideas, successes, frustrations and fun.

## **Featured Member Agency of the Month**

➤ **Eastside Community Network**

Community Networks are in the business of building capacity to reduce the rates of social problems that are disproportionately experienced by vulnerable populations. The Eastside Community Network focuses on Brain Science and research of Adverse Childhood Experiences that are interrelated and have a cumulative impact on health. ACEs often create multigenerational escalation of harm and when many occur at very high rates, affect the capacity of the community to sustain positive economic, social, and health status. Community Networks “empower parents and other citizens by being a means for community to express their attitudes, spirit, and perspectives regarding safe and healthy family and community life.”

The Eastside Community Network encompasses the geographic area defined by the Lake WA, Bellevue and Mercer Island School Districts. Currently the Network is working in partnership with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Ongoing work:

- Support Initiatives to expand leadership in generating community solutions.
- Lend expertise and time to help community leaders become results-oriented and to measure results.
- Participate in, co-lead or convene community dialogues addressing issues that matter the most in our community.
- Community presentations – Reversing the Tide and We're All about the Magnitude of the Solution and ACEs module presentations are provided in the community. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation resources and information are incorporated into the presentations building community capacity for unemployed, homeless, youth/teens with disabilities, parenting adults with disabilities and others with disabling conditions seeking opportunities for employment.
- Management of the ACEs online course is part of the Eastside Community Network's focus to serve the WA Community Network System and increase knowledge and understanding about Adverse Childhood Experiences to increase resilience and build capacity to prevent the transmission of ACEs over generations.

Questions about the Eastside Community Network can be directed to Paula Matthyse, Outreach Director at eastsidecommunitynet@gmail.com or call 425-681-8180.

## Community News

### ➤ **Community Conversations on Race**

The Pacific Science Center will be hosting a travelling exhibit on race starting in September. [Race: Are We So Different?](#) A group would like to partner with them and the Seattle Race and Social Justice Initiative to hold community conversations on this topic. Volunteer facilitators are needed to help lead the conversations which will be 1 hour, followed by a visit to the exhibit, then another 2 hour discussion after.

Facilitators will attend free one-day trainings in Aug, Sept or Oct and learn how to “engage people using interactive learning activities, provide more information, answer people’s questions, and encourage people to take action for racial equity in their own communities.”

If you are interested, you can [click here](#) for more information and to register as a facilitator. Please let Alaric Bien, City of Redmond know if you volunteer as a facilitator as he'd like to coordinate all the Eastside folks.

Alaric Bien

Senior Planner, Human Services, City of Redmond

425.556.2458; [a1bien@redmond.gov](mailto:a1bien@redmond.gov)

### ➤ **Eastside Human Services Forum's August Summit**

Save the Date for August 26, 9-11am, North Bellevue Community Center. "East King County Shelter and Housing Summit" RSVP: [www.ehsf-summit.eventbrite.com](http://www.ehsf-summit.eventbrite.com) .

## AEA Advocacy

### ➤ King County Health and Human Services Transformation Plan Update

The AEA was represented on the Health and Human Services Transformation Panel by AEA Co-Chair David Downing who was a panel member and remains engaged in the process through advocacy work in the King County Alliance for Human Services. There was strong input given from an array of human service providers throughout the process and the final report has been released. If you have not seen the report and would like more information go to:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/HHStransformation.aspx> and review the most recent information and download a copy of the report. In a constructive response to the concerns that remain about the contents of the report, the King County Alliance for Human Services sent a letter to King County Council members outlining those concerns and Co-Chair Downing spoke directly to Councilmember Hague regarding the same. Below you can see the letter AEA signed on to which was sent to KC Council members on July 3, 2013:

*To: King County Council Members*

*Re: Community Response to Health and Human Services Transformation Plan*

Dear King County Council Members:

The King County Alliance for Human Services is committed to the vision that all people across King County have access to the services they need in order to realize their full potential.

Alliance members were honored to be part of developing the Health & Human Services Transformation Plan that will guide program funding for community health and human services. While we appreciate the effort and vision of the plan, we are concerned that it does not outline a plan for creating a new revenue source for regional community health and human services. We believe this is paramount to the successful implementation and hope that the Council will commit itself to finding the necessary funding.

People are suffering because we do not have the resources necessary to help them. Any new plan, no matter how visionary, requires a strong foundation on which to build. The plan before you lacks the resources required to succeed. And in this case, people will continue to suffer needlessly.

This is an opportunity to correct that. A plan to improve the health and well-being of King County residents, reduce racial disparities, and improve population health must include adequate resources to achieve the vision created by council (Council in Motion 13768).

We urge you to consider the following issues and make the needed changes in the plan before you accept it.

- No wrong door, no closed door. Services must be available for any King County resident, not only those who enter the system through proposed pilot projects, established collective impact efforts, or the medical or mental health system. For this reason, services must be adequately funded inclusive of and beyond those entry points.
- Doing yet another study of need is antithetical to efficient and effective use of resources. We have the information now: established reports and surveys from across the county have long identified the needs in our communities. Together, the County and the community also have the capacity now to bring this information together to create an initial allocation plan for a new revenue stream for these services. We need to call on these resources and act immediately in response to the urgency of the needs.
- The plan calls for the development of a transformation fund, stating, "To the extent new revenue tools are developed they should be used to establish a 'transformation fund' that assures investments support the move toward version 3.0 of an integrated health and human services system." It is critical to the successful delivery of services that new revenue is not limited in allocation to a transformation fund, but is instead allocated according to need for services.
- The plan points to the Affordable Care Act as initiating savings within the current health care system as well as generating new funding opportunities. It must be made clear that these ACA related opportunities, even if realized, are focused on medical and mental health systems and are not designed to address the long-standing needs for regional human services, nor does it develop a strategy to fund human services critical to the success of this effort.

We are honored to participate in a process that will produce real outcomes for the people we serve. We believe in the power of good government and prudent leadership and we thank you for both in these tough times.

Sincerely,

Merril Cousin and Mike Heinisch, Co-Chairs, on behalf of  
Participants of the King County Alliance for Human Services

*cc: King County Executive Dow Constantine*

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