



neighbors creating housing solutions



WINTER 2012

*Mission*

Guided by faith, we unite with families and individuals who are facing a homeless crisis and create safe and healthy communities.

*Vision*

To assist individuals and families on the Eastside who are facing a homelessness crisis by providing housing and services to help families become stable and self-sufficient.

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**LEAVE A LEGACY**

Contact KITH about how to bridge the gap for the homeless through the next generation.

*Safety and Support for Melinda & Sphinx*

**Help, Hope and Homes for a Homeless Woman and Her Cat**

Through her childhood Melinda was molested by her alcoholic father and witnessed violence against her mother. She left home as soon as possible, but adverse experiences of her childhood changed the course of her life. As a result, she married men who followed the violent pattern of her father. In her 40's, after her second marriage to an abusive man ended, Melinda moved back into her childhood home to care for her mother, who had rapidly advancing Alzheimer's disease. When her mother died, Melinda moved out of the home and away from her molester.

Friends took her in, but she quickly ran out of assets. When two men attempted for a full 30 minutes to break into this home, she and her friend fought to keep them out while waiting for police to arrive. This traumatic event and her mother's death triggered agoraphobia. Melinda lost her job, and her friends were not able to support her. She found herself homeless and alone with only her cat, Sphinx.

When she came to KITH, Melinda had no self-esteem, no family or network of support, and extreme depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder. KITH partnered with a local church to place Melinda in a shelter apartment with a washer/dryer, phone, internet, and a shower that locks. She felt safe and relieved Sphinx could stay with her.

KITH Case Manager Ryn Moskwa helped Melinda seek intensive therapy and appropriate medications. Recovering her sense of safety, she began working with an advocate from the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to develop skills with the goal of returning to work. Melinda applied for permanent housing and joined a women's therapy group, creating a strong network of support for herself. She trusted Ryn and began to see herself as a person of dignity who could live independently.

Impressed with Melinda's progress, the church extended her stay from the normal three months to six months. Still waiting to hear about permanent housing, Melinda's stay ended at the church shelter and she moved to another Eastside shelter. Shortly after, she obtained permanent housing on the Eastside close to her new support circle. Sphinx also found a safe home. Melinda has kept in contact with Ryn and told her, "You and KITH played the key role in my moving forward. Your help allowed me to pick up the pieces and put my life back together."



A mother who lost her infant at birth just before Thanksgiving came running to me for a hug, crying, "Without KITH, we'd have no Christmas." Who'd have guessed their savings would be needed for their baby's funeral? Hundreds of people gave gifts that blessed families who depend on KITH. Through the generosity of KITH friends and donors, 276 individuals (83 households) received holiday food and gifts in December. We can't thank our community enough for making the year end special for our clients.

You made it possible for KITH to provide 47 households with housing and case management services in 2011, an increase of 11% over 2010. In 2011, 85% of KITH transitional housing program graduates successfully obtained permanent housing. Families set unique goals, and case managers report many successes: two free cars for KITH clients through Auto Angels, several clients attended Hopelink's employment training, three attended financial classes, four began working full-time, two started school full-time, two received donated computers and six started counseling. Through community building activities, clients are helping and watching out for one another. KITH families received furniture, food, household goods and baby items including diapers. Thanks for making all these things possible.

Your generous investment in KITH helped us exceed our 2011 fundraising goal. This will allow us to hire a much-needed part-time Volunteer Program Administrator in 2012. Volunteers are key to our success, not the least of whom sit on our Board of Directors. At the end of 2011 KITH's Board of Directors approved our Strategic Plan and agreed to build in resources giving us the ability to fulfill the plan.

On Bill Petter's timetable, KITH made the final payment on the Petter Court II loan! Phase II of Salisbury Court's Remodel is underway. Through a referral from United Way, Burnstead Construction Company and friends will replace plumbing, cabinets, countertops, and flooring, and repair decks in two units at Salisbury Court. Sammamish Rotary/Rotary District 5030 granted \$10,000 for project-related expenses not covered by donations of materials and labor. A \$7,000 grant from Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club/District 5030 will replace heating in all 12 units at Salisbury Court. In addition to maintaining existing housing, KITH's Property Committee is exploring options to increase the number of available units.

We begin 2012 with enthusiasm and energy! The hardest thing in 2011 was turning away almost 13 families for each one we were able to serve. With your help, we are committed to serving even more families in 2012.

## Letter from the Director

### HOLIDAY THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you for helping homeless families have happy holidays! Through the generous support of our friends and community members, KITH served 65 households with Thanksgiving food and 276 individuals with holiday gifts and food.

In a client's own words – "I cannot thank you enough for your generous and thoughtful gifts for me and my daughter! We love the treasures and feel thoroughly spoiled by the many gifts and gift cards. May you all be equally blessed in return! With gratitude, Erika"

For information about our 2012 Holiday Programs, contact Jan Dickerman at [jand@kithcares.org](mailto:jand@kithcares.org).

*Jan Dickerman*  
Jan Dickerman, Executive Director

*Correction*  
We would like to thank **Gary & Mary Lue Gutow** for serving as Table Captains at our Annual Dinner. We apologize for not including them in our previous list.

## Selected 2011 KITH Accomplishments

- 47 households received KITH housing and case management services in 2011 (Of 131 individuals, 79 were children; 75% were homeless in transitional housing; 25% at risk of homelessness in permanent supportive housing)
- KITH served 11% more households in 2011 than in 2010
- Average length of time in housing was 22 months (24 months permitted in the program)
- 85% success rate moving families out of homelessness and into permanent housing
- Estimated 3,000 hot nutritious meals provided at Community Supper
- KITH Homework Helpers and ESL Helpers assisted 16 students, helping them succeed in school
- KITH helped 276 people with food and holiday gifts
- 65 households received food for creating homemade Thanksgiving meals and memories
- KITH received a United Way/501 Commons in-kind consulting services grant valued at \$13,000, setting a foundation to improve our Volunteer Program
- KITH Volunteer Life Coach Trainer started training Life Coaches for expanded Life Coaching support
- Significant property maintenance at Petter Court I and Salisbury Court, increasing life of property

## Thanks to our 2012 KITH Supporters!

### Platinum (\$10,000+)



**The Windermere Foundation  
Rotary Club of Sammamish & District 5030**

### Gold (\$5,000+)



**Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club  
Holy Family Parish  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
Toyota of Kirkland/Toyota USA**

### Silver (\$2,500+)

**Wahle Family Foundation**



\*Significant in-kind support

# Volunteer Profile

*Young, Strong and Helpful!*

Christine, John Muir PTSA's Community Service Chair, and her preschool son Marcus, delivered 1,300 books which Kirkland's John Muir Elementary School students collected for the homeless during the holidays. "Many of the families at John Muir are experiencing economic scarcity, with nearly 50% of students receiving free or reduced price lunches," Christine remarked. "We were hoping for 250 books, so when the students brought in 1,300, we all celebrated the overwhelming generosity of this school community."

Marcus isn't a John Muir student yet, but he loves books and enjoyed using his strength to help homeless kids get great books into their hands. Books are distributed through KITH Transitional Housing and Community Supper programs much to the delight of clients of all ages.

## Community Volunteer Program News

KITH is looking for a Community Volunteer Program Administrator! This part-time paid position will continue the work started by our beloved former Volunteer Manager, Brenda Berry. This person will help KITH volunteers find the right places to serve, so they can make a difference in the work to help the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. Interested? Please email your resume to Jan at [jand@kithcares.org](mailto:jand@kithcares.org).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **March 9 – Fighting Homelessness Luncheon:** Check-in – 3 adults; Set-up/clean-up – 2-3 teens or adults. Contact [volunteer@kithcares.org](mailto:volunteer@kithcares.org).
- **7 Hills of Kirkland:** Many positions from food prep, ride support, check in and more. Contact [info@7hillskirkland.org](mailto:info@7hillskirkland.org).

## KITH 2012 Calendar

<b>February</b>	<b>4</b>	Burnstead "Helping Hands" Day at Salisbury Court
	<b>14</b>	Valentine's Day
	<b>22</b>	KITH Board Meeting
<b>March</b>	<b>1</b>	KITH/7 Hills at Gregg's Cycle "Women on Wheels" event
	<b>9</b>	3rd Annual Fighting Homelessness Luncheon
	<b>10-11</b>	KITH/7 Hills at Bike Expo
	<b>12</b>	Tea & Thanks
	<b>28</b>	KITH Board Meeting
	<b>29</b>	KITH 101 Coffee/Tour
<b>April</b>	<b>25</b>	KITH Board Meeting
<b>May</b>	<b>13</b>	Mother's Day
	<b>23</b>	KITH Board Meeting
	<b>28</b>	7 Hills of Kirkland "Cycling to End Homelessness" sponsored by Evergreen Healthcare
	<b>30</b>	Tea & Thanks
<b>May/June</b>	<b>TBD</b>	"GiveBIG 2012" ( <a href="http://www.seattlefoundation.org">www.seattlefoundation.org</a> )
<b>June</b>	<b>TBD</b>	Legacy Planning Workshop
	<b>27</b>	KITH Board Meeting
	<b>29</b>	KITH 101 Coffee/Tour
<b>July</b>	<b>TBD</b>	KITH Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
	<b>25</b>	KITH Board Meeting
<b>August</b>	<b>22</b>	KITH Board Meeting
	<b>24</b>	Annual Dinner Table Captain's Inspiration Evening
<b>September</b>	<b>TBD</b>	United Way Day of Caring
	<b>26</b>	KITH Board Meeting
<b>October</b>	<b>1</b>	Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program begins
	<b>7</b>	KITH 10th Annual Dinner
	<b>8</b>	Tea & Thanks
	<b>24</b>	KITH Board Meeting
	<b>26</b>	KITH 101 Coffee/Tour
<b>November</b>	<b>1-20</b>	KITH Thanksgiving Program
<b>December</b>	<b>5</b>	Donor Appreciation Event/Annual Meeting/Board Meeting

### Project Vendors

Burnstead Construction LLC  
 Steve Burnstead Construction LLC  
 Rick Burnstead Construction LLC

BMC West  
 Brandywine Nursery and Landscape  
 Brannen Hannas Construction  
 Canyon Creek Cabinets  
 Courtesy Glass  
 Custom Touch  
 Emerald City Blinds  
 Falcon Construction  
 LR Drywall  
 Mannington  
 Marilyn's Recycle  
 Northwest Cascade  
 Provident Electric  
 Robinson Paints and Improvements Inc.  
 Sound View Plumbing  
 Superfloors  
 Wanke

### Project Volunteers

Brian Martens, *Project Mgr.*  
 Dan Vanderpool  
 Randy Raught  
 Bryan Clayton  
 Jason Foltz  
 Ken Miller  
 Paula Judson  
 Rick Burnstead  
 Spencer Wozeniak  
 Tom Raught  
 Terry Forrey  
 Kerri Forrey  
 Jim McFadden  
 Sharon Hill  
 Janet Schaedler  
 Paul Conner  
 Dave Brown  
 Tony Marquez  
 Sarah Knight  
 Joe Herr  
 Thomas Burnstead  
 Melissa Kinnee

Jolyn Davis  
 Leanne Mueller  
 Conner Mueller  
 Steve Burnstead  
 Peyton Burnstead  
 Leo Suver  
 Justin Suver  
 Kyle Suver  
 Rick Burnstead  
 Chris Evers  
 Dylan Judson  
 Kevin Lewis  
 John Fernstrom  
 Henry Fernstrom  
 Mike Goheen  
 Josh  
 Jimmy  
 Juan Mercado

*Thank You Helping Hands Project Vendors, Volunteers & Supporters!*

### Supporters

Freiheit & Ho Architects  
 Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club  
 Sammamish Rotary Club  
 Rotary District 5030  
 Toyota of Kirkland/Toyota USA  
 Holy Family Parish, Kirkland



*From January 30 - February 4, The Burnstead Companies and their vendor partners began Salisbury Court Remodel Phase II. They replaced plumbing, cabinets, flooring and wallboard and painted two of the units and a laundry room. Many thanks to all who participated.*

**THE BURNSTEADS**  
 Value the Name.





neighbors creating housing solutions

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**KITH LEADERSHIP**

*Jan Dickerman,*  
Executive Director  
*Ron Olsen,* President,  
Board of Directors



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# www.KITHcares.org

WINTER 2012

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 561  
Kirkland, WA

## 7 Hills of Kirkland

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Supported by

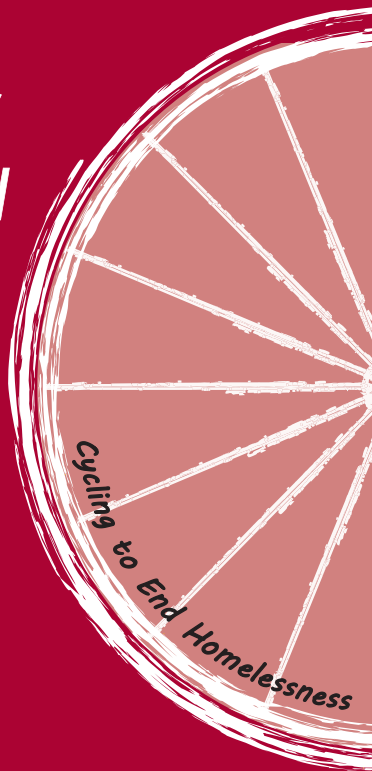


**Memorial Day  
Kirkland Marina Park**

Proceeds support KITH  
services for families in need



www.7hillskirkland.org



*Fighting*  
**homelessness**  
A KEY TO SAFE AND  
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

**FRIDAY,  
MARCH 9, 2012**  
The Woodmark Hotel  
1200 Carillon Point, Kirkland  
Noon - 1:15 PM

*Please join us for our*  
**3rd Annual Luncheon to Benefit KITH**

*Keynote Speaker*  
**MATTHEW GARDNER**  
Gardner Economics  
Real Estate Economic Advisor  
for the Master Builders  
Association and Windermere  
Real Estate Company

*Master of Ceremonies*  
**LARRY KAMINER**  
Personal Safety Group  
www.personalsafetygroup.com

- All proceeds support KITH programs helping homeless families become self-sufficient. Suggested minimum donation \$150.
- Register now to be a table captain! Seating is limited.
- To register or make a donation, call 425-576-9531 or visit our website at [www.kithcares.org](http://www.kithcares.org).

