



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Regi Schubiger, Youth Services Coordinator
Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Jennifer Schroder, Director

Date: December 21, 2010

Subject: Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry Results

RECOMMENDATION

For the City Council to congratulate and thank the community for their generous food and cash donations during the 2010 Month of Concern for the Hungry. We would also like to have the Mayor present a certificate of appreciation to neighborhood organizer Norm Storm for his outstanding efforts during the drive.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

The 2010 Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry, "Share What You Can" campaign collected more than 60,000 pounds of food and \$11,000 in cash donations during the month-long drive. Neighborhood associations, community leaders, faith organizations, local grocery stores, businesses, hospitals and schools organized local efforts by hosting food drives and fundraising events in their city from September 25 through October 23. The cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Mercer Island, North Bend, Redmond, and Sammamish participated in the Month of Concern for the Hungry as a collaborative initiative among public and non-profit human service agencies spearheaded by the Eastside Human Service Forum.

The emphasis for the month-long drive was to "Share What You Can" and fill food bank shelves with non-perishable food items before the holidays. Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry was a community-wide effort benefitting local area food banks, including Hopelink, Emergency Feeding Program, ARAS Foundation, Issaquah Food Bank, Mercer Island Food Pantry, Mt. Si Food Bank, and Renewal Food program.

"As the recession continues to impact our community, more and more people are looking for assistance through area non-profit organizations. This calls for additional food resources to meet the basic nutritional requirements of our neighbors in need. The Eastside Month of Concern is a sparkling example of what can be done as a community and how neighbors help one another. We are truly grateful," said Rochelle Clayton Strunk, Hopelink's Senior Manager of Emergency Services.