



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
Department of Parks & Community Services  
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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** David Ramsay

**From:** Carrie Hite, Deputy Director  
Jennifer Schroder, Director

**Date:** December 1, 2009

**Subject:** Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry Results

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

For City Council to congratulate and thank the community for their generous food and cash donations during Month of Concern for the Hungry. Also, for the Mayor to give certificates of appreciation to Kirkland's two neighborhood organizers, and Walmart for their financial donation.

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

The City of Kirkland was the lead jurisdiction launching the Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry food drive campaign.

The Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry, "Share What You Can," campaign is excited to announce that from September 26 through October 24, 2009, East King County food bank shelves were filled thanks to the 77,000+ pounds of food collected and cash donations received totaling almost \$10,000, including a \$5,000 contribution from Walmart ( see attachment A ). The cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Mercer Island, Newcastle, Redmond, and Sammamish participated in the Month of Concern for the Hungry and encouraged their residents to donate food in this month long drive.

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 all local area food banks, including Hopelink, Emergency Feeding Program, ARAS Foundation, Issaquah Food Bank, Mercer Island Food Pantry, and Renewal Food program. Neighborhood associations, community leaders, faith organizations, businesses, hospitals and schools organized local efforts by hosting food drives and fundraising events in their city.

"The recent economic collapse and lingering recession have created a real crisis in our community. With so many jobs lost, retirement nest-eggs depleted, and homes in danger of foreclosure, far too many of our neighbors are struggling to keep something as basic as nutritious food on the family table. But with this crisis, we are finding something else as well. We are finding that we live in a community that truly cares and wants to help its residents hold on until the economy gets better. Through efforts like the Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry, East King County residents are coming together to provide not only much needed food for those who are struggling, but real hope that working together, we can help each other in the community. We are all deeply grateful to everyone who participated," said Brian Anderson, Operations Director, Emergency Feeding Program.

A special thank you is warranted for two neighborhood leaders, Cindy Bienz and Janet Pruitt, who coordinated the city wide food drive as part of this regional effort, and to the Kirkland citizens who donated so generously to help fill the foodbank shelves.

In addition, a special thank you is warranted to Walmart, who stepped up as a business sponsor, donated \$5,000 to help provide additional funds to the food program.



**ATTACHMENT A: Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry Results  
November 2009**

**Eastside Month of Concern for the Hungry - Donation Totals**

City	Mayors Day	Post Mayors Day	Total	1.5 lbs per dollar	Grand Total	Cash Donated
Bellevue	3,700	2,417	6,117	431	6,548	\$287.05
Issaquah	651	15,331	15,982		15,982	
Kirkland	18,000	6,229	24,229	1,643	25,872	\$1,095.36
Mercer Island	6,900	5,620	12,520	3,436	15,956	\$2,290.76
Redmond	5,600	875	6,475	864	7,339	\$576.00
Sammamish	5,511	6,602	12,113		12,113	
Newcastle		150	150		150	
Wal-Mart - All Cities				7500	7,500	\$5,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,362</b>	<b>37,224</b>	<b>77,586</b>	<b>13,874</b>	<b>91,460</b>	<b>\$9,249.17</b>