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Issue 18

Home

Home is a shelter from storms — all sorts of storms. -William J. Bennett





Spring Into Action with NeighborWorks Week 2015

On Saturday June 13, 2015, Community Frameworks hosted another successful NeighborWorks Week community event. This year, in line with the theme "Celebrating Community", CF volunteers came together in a neighborhood beautification day. Fun fact: That happened to be National 'Get Outdoors' Day! So, we did just that by landscaping with second-life plants donated by Bremerton City Nursery in the Union Hill neighborhood of Bremerton. Union Hill is City Council President Greg Wheeler's district. He has been involved in the Built in Bremerton program since the beginning and was proud to join us at the event and say a few words of support an inspiration.

Because it was a beautiful day out and hotter than most, some volunteers elected to prep and prime an entire basement with materials donated by Valspar via Lowe's. For those who were not into painting or

landscaping, there was a fence to build! Increasing the safety of one home, volunteers used their skills to build a fence surrounding a steep underground garage driveway. After a job well-done, we all gathered around for lunch generously donated by Costco and Subway. Thank you to everyone who participated in the event including sponsors. We would not have been able to make such a massive difference without you all.



Built in Bremerton: Improving Neighborhoods One Home at a Time

May 8, 2015 - When it comes to construction costs, no savings is too small. Community Frameworks' new Built in Bremerton program manager, Heather Wegan, met a long time Kitsap County resident and career military man, Chris, who had just the thing to save the cost of demolishing a hazardous garage at one of the homes. Chris rounded up his buddies in the military and showed up within a week ready to get their hands dirty. When they set a date, Heather called our friends at Lowe's Home Improvement Store and they sent four of their own staff as volunteers to help.

Altogether, with about 13 people on board, they set out for a full day's work moving a giant, dangerous garage out of the backyard and into a 30 foot dumpster. To put the size of the garage in perspective, there was still some debris left over when the dumpster was heaping full and that is after the salvageable pieces were loaded in each of our personal trucks as fire starter. These guys and girls worked so hard to help Community Frameworks keep the cost of the home within an affordable price for a prospective buyer.

They deserved recognition of their work, so volunteer coordinator Carli Schmitz had a great idea to give them something everyone would love and appreciate: lunch! Carli called in a favor to our good friends at Jimmy John's Sandwich Shop. They were able to donate sandwich platters to satisfy all of our volunteers' appetites and replenish the energy they had used.

It is in times like these, when community truly comes together, that we are reminded of why we commit our time and effort to furthering the affordable housing mission.



"The way Proud Ground does homeownership is great. The permanent affordability and rolling over to help future buyers answers the question, What happens next? Proud Ground takes care of that." Justin Wood

SHOP Shout Out: Proud Ground

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This quarter's **BIG SHOP THANK YOU** goes to Proud Ground for building a local public-private partnership and using the SHOP program to reduce the cost of their recent Oregon built homes by \$90,000! Many elements came into play to make these 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath homes affordable for their lower-income clients at less than \$900 per month for mortgage including taxes and insurance. We have said it before and we will say it again, "a wonderful mix of people and an example for all communities to strive for!"

Community Frameworks' Self-Help Homeownership Program (SHOP) funds land acquisition and infrastructure development to create affordable homeownership opportunities throughout the Pacific Northwest. If you are a nonprofit organization who wants to learn how you can use SHOP funds to build your own affordable homeownership project, click here.

Calling all feedback! If you currently use or have used SHOP funds, Community Frameworks wants to hear your feedback. What did you like? What didn't you like? The more we know, the more we can improve and pass that excellence on to you. Please share your thoughts to communityframeworks@gmail.com.



Kitsap Great Give 2015 - Wild Success!

One Tuesday afternoon - May 5th, 2015 - Community Frameworks participated in the Kitsap Great Give, an astoundingly successful event. During this 24 hour period dedicated solely to driving online donations in Kitsap County, home of CF's Bremerton office, we raised over \$3,000 for the Built in Bremerton home rehab program in just a few short hours! Every penny helps us give a deserving family the chance to become a homeowner and positively influence their neighborhood. It is all made possible by the generosity of our local businesses and our individual community members.

Community Frameworks hosted our second annual event to spread awareness of this mammoth day of giving. It just happened to fall on Cinco de Mayo, so what better event than a Cinco de Mayo fundraising fiesta? Because of the compassion of several local artists, entrepreneurs and small business owners in downtown Bremerton who offered their goods and services for a raffle and silent auction, we were effectively able to promote the day of giving. Very special thanks goes out to The Horse and Cow Pub and Grill, a small yet globally known nautical restaurant and lounge. These guys not only hosted the event by letting us take over their space, but donated to the cause, proactively encouraged donations from guests, hired a live DJ and

spotlighted Community Frameworks and our fundraising event on their worldwide radio show! That kind of generosity is hard to come by and we appreciate every last bit of it. We appreciate the chance to develop a relationship with the owners and many of their regular customers.

Community Frameworks is proud to have had such a wonderful turnout and to spend some quality time with our supporters, but it wasn't all about us. Presented by the United Way and sponsored by the Kitsap Community Foundation and others, this day was about 200 local nonprofits raising over \$1 million for Kitsap County alone and that's not all!

The Kitsap Great Give was just one piece of the greater national effort of giving locally and educating the public on organizations in their area wanting to make a change for the good - powered and inspired by Give Local America.

To all our contributors and supporters across the Pacific Northwest, "Thank you. Your generosity is astounding."



Money Smart Week 2015

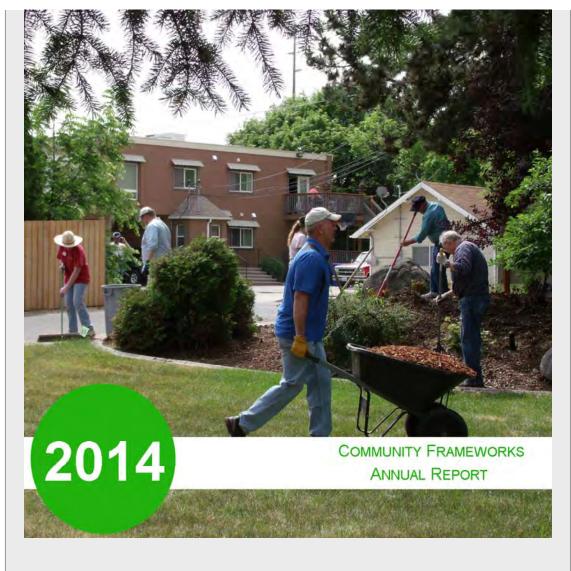
Money Smart Week 2015 is a local series of events that are part of a bigger, nationwide effort. At our Spokane headquarters, Community Frameworks collaborates with the CASH Coalition, BankOnSpokane and Get\$mart programs provided by United Way to further our mission in the way of financial education. This bond allows us to partner with other community organizations to create asset building opportunities in Spokane County, strengthen private-public relationships and empower our low-income clients through affordable housing.

Through this mutual collaborative, our organizations promote household savings and financial opportunities by teaching everyone how to access affordable, mainstream bank accounts to avoid paying high fees for check cashing services, to access and use financial literacy classes, and to share and practice financial stability with certified financial counselors.

This year, Community Frameworks sponsored a Money Smart Week event through marketing materials, break out sessions and event planning for a viewing of a film called *Spent Looking for Change*. Academy Award-winning filmmaker Davis Guggenheim partnered with Director Derek Doneen and American Express to tell the stories of hardworking Americans struggling with basic financial challenges. The film demonstrates how our current financial system does not meet many of the basic needs of our financially underserved, and identifies being 'un-banked and under-banked' as a persuasive societal issue where change is possible.

If you or someone you know would like help in the right direction to financial stability, call one of our certified financial counselors at 509-484-6733 and ask for Lucy.

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Have You Seen Community Frameworks' 2014 Annual Report, Yet?

Be sure to check out all of Community Fameworks' program achievements over the 2014 fiscal year in this year's annual report! It is both available to view and download on our website at communityframeworks.org.

We are always working hard to do our part to house those in need. For live updates and communications, please visit our <u>Facebook</u> page, <u>Twitter</u> feed, e-mail us at <u>communityframeworks@gmail.com</u> or click on any of the icons below to stay connected.

We love to hear your feedback and ideas so drop us a line anytime!











Click for Ways to Give



A big thanks to our Funders

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