**Supporting A Vision of Hope for all Families**

Family Education & Support Services
Supporting Families. Strengthening Communities.

**Administrative Office**
1202 Black Lake Blvd.
Suite B
Olympia, WA 98502

Phone: 360-754-7629
Toll Free: 1-877-813-2828
Fax: 360-705-3411
Website: FamilyESS.org

- Universal family support
- Intensive parenting classes
- Foster & Kinship Care
- Early childhood education
- Domestic violence impact on children
- Help through divorce or family separation

**Find Us On the Web:**
FamilyESS.org

- Register for Classes
- Explore our Calendar of Events
- Find Program Information
- Find Parenting Tips and Resources
- Contact Staff
- Learn More About How You Can Support Our Vision of Hope
- Donate money or supplies that we can share with other families in need

Supporting Families Strengthening Communities
2013-2014 Annual Report

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Supporting A Vision of Hope for all Families
Kinship Navigator Lynn Urvina – Unsung Hero

Lynn Urvina, our Kinship Navigator serving Kinship Caregivers in a tri-county area, received the Washington Unsung Hero Award—a Parent Recognition Award in honor of February’s National Parent Leadership Month.

After raising their own four children, Lynn and her husband Lars have joined together to raise their granddaughter Tara and recently accepted a second granddaughter into their home. Any child would be fortunate to be raised by such extraordinary people who go to such great lengths to ensure the safety and well-being of ALL children.

As a Kinship Navigator, Lynn Urvina leads support groups, presents to community groups about Kinship Care, and often serves as a link to further resources for families in need. Because of Lynn many children in our community are living in safe permanent housing and thriving.

The 2nd Gala and Auction: “Seeds of Hope”

To meet the increasing demand for our services, FESS held its second “Seeds of Hope” Gala and Auction on May 3, 2014, at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia. We are deeply grateful to our sponsors, donors, and those who attended the event for helping make it a great success, and raise over $30,000 that will directly support the health and well-being of families in our community.

Parenting Instructors/Facilitators

Walt Barfield, CTC Class Presenter
Kelly Boyle, CTC Class Presenter
Laura Cole, MRT/Kinship Facilitator
Scott Hanauer, CTC Class Presenter
Sandra Hurd, CTC Class Presenter
Sheryl Jackson, CTC/ WAP/ MRT
Juli Jager, CTC Class Presenter
Keoki Kauanoe, MAF/ PHP
Michael Luque, CTC Class Presenter
Joyce Mallinger, Kinship Support Group
Morris Miller, CTC Class Presenter
Cheryl Stines, Domestic Violence Class
Sandie Vest, CTC Class Presenter
Howard Winkler, CTC Class Presenter
Shelly Willis, MRT, Clean & Sober Class
Bruce Wood, CTC Class Presenter

Children’s Team

Taunya Allred
Judith Butcher
Tallie Dahman-Aldrich
Nicci Daigneault
Lisha Drath
Tami DuBois
Sam Frank
Jared Greene
Nolan Henderson
Sherrie Hickam
Justine Jones
Kelly McQuilkin-Corder
Michiayla Mitchell
Kelli O’Reilly
Haylie Osborn
Amber Salazar
Lilly Serhan
Sandra Simpson
Christiane Smith-Johnson
Another generous donation from JUBILEE for our Kinship Program

Our friends from Jubilee’s Community Service Group once again helped low-income Kinship families celebrate Christmas this year. The generous Jubilee residents purchased gifts or gift cards, so each child was given one item they needed, such as clothing, and one item they wanted, such as a toy. Gifts were distributed by the Kinship Navigator to kinship families in Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties.

Voices Of Children Contest

On May 19, 2014, we were very proud to honor six children from across Washington State at the annual Voices of Children contest, held at the Governor’s Mansion. Thanks to Twin Star Credit Union, each child writing a winning entry received a $100 check and an overnight stay for their family at the Great Wolf Lodge.

The event also recognized Kinship Navigators across Washington who provided critical case management to Kinship Families. First Lady Trudi Inslee provided each of the children with a signed certificate and was a wonderful hostess. We also enjoyed a surprise visit from Governor Inslee himself, who shared an inspirational message of hope and thanks to the Kinship Families in attendance. SOGO provided beautiful music for this beautiful day.
Other FESS Highlights and Events

• We continued to offer FREE weekly Zumba classes for families, serving over 130 individuals - who also made weekly donations.

• A “Grandparents’ Day” celebration was held on September 12, 2013 at the Governor’s Mansion, where Washington State First Lady Judy Inslee hosted a tea party for grandparents raising children around the state.

• In November, 2013, Board Member Tanya Murray was honored as a “Woman of Distinction” in our community by the YWCA.

• FESS organized a holiday gathering for staff and Board.

• We had a great turnout at the Kinship Advocacy Day held on January 21, 2014, at the State Capitol. Our speakers were First Lady Trudi Inslee, Laurie Lippold, Jim Baumgard, and Representative Eric Pettigrew. Kinship Navigator Lynn Urvina and bi-lingual Kinship Navigator Rosa Venancio were very appreciative of our partners from across Washington State who joined us.

Donations were given in memory of:
Dave Smiley
Leanne Hogan (Winkler)
Rolland Mickelson
• In April 2014, 1,000 pinwheels for child abuse and neglect prevention were planted by Vicky Hayes, Judy King, Jenni Olmstead, Shelly Willis, Richard Hoeltge Jr., Jullysa Fox, Silvia Heiser, Kim and Jim Smith, Richard and Mica Hoeltje, and Penny Michel at the State Capitol during Arts Walk. We also had an art display featuring our Voices of Children drawings.


On June 16, 2014, the Olympia Kiwanis honored our Board President Jay Mason with an award for Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Tumwater Police recognized Lieutenant Jay Mason for being “the consummate police officer who is hungry all the time and devours knowledge and information which he shares with others.”

Marketing and Outreach

• Mixx 96 welcomed us to present on the “In our Community” segment with Dick Pust regarding our efforts to reduce child abuse with “Period of Purple Crying.”

• We presented on our FESS programs for a Mason County radio station.

• President Jay Mason spoke to the Kiwanis Club, Zonta Club, and West Olympia Rotary on behalf of FESS. Board Member Marilyn Nelson was also present for several of these presentations.

• Two proclamations in May: one by the Governor identifying May 18th as Kin Caregiver’s Day and one by our County Commissioners identifying April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month.
Consider The Children
Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

Program

Lifeline
Kinship Support for Relative Caregivers

Support Groups & Training for Relative Caregivers
Thurston—bi-monthly at Centralia College @/Credit
Lewis—once a month with Head Start
Mason—once a month with Head Start

Support and training meetings for Foster Parents held every third Tuesday at the Hands On Children’s Museum.

Navigator Services
The Navigator provides advocacy, information, and referral services to relative caregivers in Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties.

4-hour parenting class provides information and support for parents or parental custodians who are undergoing a divorce, paternity action, or parenting plan modification. Classes are provided twice monthly in Thurston, Lewis, and Pierce Counties and once per month in Mason County.

4-hour class designed to assist parents in supporting children who have witnessed, or have been affected by domestic violence. Classes are provided for men and women in Thurston County.

Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

Emergency Financial Aid in Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties.

Navigator Services
The Navigator provides advocacy, information, and referral services to relative caregivers in Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties.

4-hour parenting class provides information and support for parents or parental custodians who are undergoing a divorce, paternity action, or parenting plan modification. Classes are provided twice monthly in Thurston, Lewis, and Pierce Counties and once per month in Mason County.

4-hour class designed to assist parents in supporting children who have witnessed, or have been affected by domestic violence. Classes are provided for men and women in Thurston County.

Individual donors

Julie Alexander
Linda Alvarado
Sharonda Amamilo
Judy Anderson
Donna Arnold & Jim Mowrey
Ann Aubuchon
Dixie Balthrop
Norbert & Lori Bame
Tiffany Barnes
Jerry & Margaret Barney
Paul & Shirley Battan
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Sam Frank

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- Sarah Fiola
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- Maureen Fitzgerald
- Lynn Flaisig
- Jeremy Fleury
- David Forster & Jennifer Williamson-Forster
- Williamson-Forster
- Sam Frank

Individual donors

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- Kelli Hegsted
- Sharon Herting
- Robin Higa
- Edward Hildreth
- Nicole Hill
- Dean & Doreen Hillestad
- Mica Hoeltge
- Glenn & Margaret Hollinger
- Betty Holt
- Michael & Catherine Hoover
Parenting & Family Values-
MRT
Clean & Sober-
BHR

12-week parenting program for men intended to improve the lives of children by promoting healthy father-child relationships and increasing positive male involvement.

12-week parenting program based on the curriculum Moral Reconation Therapy, designed to address past parenting behaviors, present family interactions, and assist parents in planning for a healthy family future. MRT classes are offered for individuals & couples on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Thurston and on Thursdays in Mason Counties.

BHR classes are offered for women in collaboration with Behavioral Health Resources on Mondays in Thurston and on Wednesdays in Mason Counties.

“Veteran Parents” (Parent Advocate—walked in your shoes) provide support and help parents new to the system understand what they must do to successfully reunite with their children. The program consists of two main elements: Veteran Parent support at the Dependency Court Hearings, and a two-hour educational class known as Dependency 101.

Mainstream class. Often offered in schools or with community partners, this family participation parenting program is designed to increase the health of families by helping parents develop their parenting skills. Throughout the 6-week class, group members share parenting strengths and identify areas for personal growth.

Other

- Zumba;
- Thrive;
- TECC;
- Parenting Tools;
- WA State Fatherhood;
- WA State Kinship;
- ICM

Parenting Tools;
FESS Program Highlights

We served over 5,000 individuals last year, providing education and support through our programs and services.

**Over 2,000 adults** attended our **Consider the Children** seminar on divorce and separation.

We served over 122 Kinship Caregivers with case management, emergency financial aid, respite care, support, and/or training.

**Over 100 pregnant and parenting women** struggling with addiction participated in our **Clean and Sober parenting classes**.

88 parents were supported through our **Parents for Parents program**. This includes outreach in court as well as our “Dependency 101” trainings.

**Over 130 Parents** participated in the court ordered/CPS referred **Parenting and Family Values course**.
THANK YOU

to all our sponsors and donors
for supporting our Vision of Hope!

Child Abuse Prevention Task Force
Domestic Violence Task Force
Kiwanis Club of Olympia
Lewis County Hispanic Fair
Love Talk Play
Mason Early Learning Coalition
Parent Education Network
Parenting Tools Lecture Series
Sand in the City
Sound to Harbor Head Start Policy Council
St. Peter’s Health Fair
Thrive by Five, Communities of Practice
Thurston Council for Children and Youth
Thurston County Board of Health; Thurston Thrives
Thurston Early Learning Coalition
United Way’s Right From the Start
Washington State Kinship Oversight Committee
Zonta Club of Olympia

133 adults participated in our FREE Winning at Parenting classes offered through the Tumwater Schools, North Thurston Public Schools, Olympia Schools, Tenino, and the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Over 80 men participated in, and 44 graduated from, our 12-week Dynamic Dads classes.

58 parents learned how to support children through Domestic Violence in the home.

Over 1,700 community members attended our FREE annual Parenting Tools trainings held at SPSCC.

We offered two Parenting Tools Series featuring:

Dr. John Medina
Ashley Merryman
Statement of Income

$478,091.71

Statement of Income

$478,516.29