

POWER's in the Nisqually Valley News!

POWER Joins Thurston County Home Consortium to Assess Needs

Posted: Thursday, June 19, 2014 4:49 pm

Access to social services is spotty in rural areas making it difficult for people in need to get help. The idea of poverty is rife with stereotypes and misinformation the group Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights is working to overcome. POWER is conducting an assessment of services and needs in the South Thurston County area. POWER was awarded the bid to conduct the survey in the rural area by the HOME Consortium. All information must be prepared by June 30. They are seeking resident input in regards to needs, access, and changes in the social services for south Thurston County.

Sierra Brown and Jen Witherspoon visited the Rainier Community Garden last week to understand the garden's role in meeting the hunger needs of local residents. When they showed up, Angie Karnes, Rainier High School FFA Advisor, teacher, mom, and garden coordinator put them to work. Witherspoon, a farmer herself, was prepared and already dressed in her work clothes. The two young women spent time planting potatoes before chatting with Karnes about the garden and who benefits.

The community garden is a resource of which residents may not be aware and a project which could also benefit from additional funding.

Anyone can provide input before the final report is published by calling POWER at [360-352-9716](tel:360-352-9716) or toll free at [866-343-9716](tel:866-343-9716) or by email info@mamapower.org.

More Information

POWER — Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights, is an organization of low-income parents and allies advocating for a strong social safety net while working toward a world where children and care giving are truly valued, and the devastation of poverty has been eradicated.

POWER advocates for a strong social safety net and family-centered policies and practices.

Its website provides information about local resources, rights handbooks, and opportunities to volunteer and learn more. They believe “every mother is a working mother.” Learn more by calling [360-352-9716](tel:360-352-9716) or toll free at [866-343-9716](tel:866-343-9716).

— Source: www.mamapower.org.

Yelm City Councilman Mike McGowan sits on the board of the HOME Consortium panel along with other elected officials. The panel serves in an advisory capacity to the Thurston County Commissioners regarding funding and policy recommendations of the HOME Investment Partnership Housing Program, the Affordable Housing Program, and Homeless Housing Programs. Other members for the 2014 board are: Dennis McVey, Rainier; Craig Lester, Tenino; Virgil Clarkson, Lacey; Jeannine Row, Olympia; Neil McClanahan, Tumwater; and Karen Valenzuela of Thurston County Commissioners.

The HOME Consortium meets the second Monday monthly from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Thurston County Public Health and Social Services, 412 Lilly Rd. N.E., Olympia. The next meeting is July 14. For more information, contact Gary Aden, Program Manager at [360-867-2532](tel:360-867-2532).

Don't miss our presentation to the community! **July POWER Outage: Presentation of our Rural Outreach Project**

Monday, July 7 at 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Darby's Cafe 211 5th Ave SE, Olympia, Washington 98501

Come to Darby's on 7/7 and hear about the Rural Outreach Project **POWER** staff has been working on for the past two months!

In April **POWER** was awarded a grant after submitting a proposal to the Thurston County HOME Consortium, funding two months of outreach in south rural county in the towns of Yelm, Rochester, Tenino, and Rainier.

During this outreach we talked with social service recipients and providers about access to services and what is needed in their community..

Our Rural County Assessment report is due to the Consortium on June 30th. We will be presenting our findings to them on June 14th. We are taking this opportunity to practice our presentation by sharing our research and report with the community.

The evening will start with a potluck at 5:30. Bring a dish if you can, and share dinner with us. Childcare will be provided by the Olympia Child Care Collective at the **POWER** office, 309 5th Avenue SE, next door to Rainy Day Records.

Questions? Need transportation reimbursement? Contact us at:

360-352-9716 toll free 866-343-9716

monica@mamapower.org

www.mamapower.org

Find us on **Facebook**.

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1. Good and Cheap – a cookbook for folks living on a food stamp budget.
 2. Olympia's Really Really Free Market
 3. Presentation on Moving the Food Movement Forward in Olympia.
 4. Shared Learning on **food resources** in Olympia.
 5. Job Opening in Shelton for someone with a master's degree.
 6. Caregiving jobs in Lacey.
 7. Safeplace in Oly hiring a program manager.
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1. <http://www.leannebrown.ca/cookbooks/> Check out Leanne Brown. She has a kickstarter to print a cookbook she wrote called Good and Cheap, with recipes written specifically for people who live on a food stamp budget of around \$4 a day. You can download the cookbook for free at her website.

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2. **We'll be setting up the Really Really free market,**
a free gift economy in action, in which
- you bring things you'd like to give away
 - and take what you want.

Free music, food, open mic, community, comedy.

Sylvester Park
Sunday, June 29th 1-4pm
see you there?

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3. The Center for Environmental Modernism

Presents

Moving the Food Movement Forward

How Good Science, Smart Policies, and Community Organizing Can Change the American Food System

A Presentation by Marc Brazeau

Date Sunday, June 29, 2014 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Location Traditions Café and World Folk Art

300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia, WA 98501

Despite the rapid growth in the food movement in recent years, the major problems facing America's food system—confusing nutrition information, exploitation of workers, environmental degradation, food security, to name just a few—have yet to see any real shift. Activism has surged, but changes in policy and politics have lagged. Marc Brazeau, blogger and editor for the website Realfood.org, attempts to explain why this is the case by critiquing the food movement's major priorities, and by offering a new progressive agenda for America's agricultural future.

Marc Brazeau is a blogger and editor for the website Realfood.org, as well as the founder and administrator of Food and Farm Discussion Lab, an online community with over 500 members. Having previously worked as a chef, restaurant owner, and union organizer, Brazeau provides a unique perspective on the food movement, and knows what it takes to bridge contentious divides between rural and urban populations, liberal and conservative voters, and conventional and organic farmers, in order to create a food system that works for both people and the planet.

www.realfoodorg.wordpress.com

www.traditionsfairtrade.com/pages/tradhome.html

4. The Thurston Asset Building Coalition invites you to attend a Shared Learning event focusing on **food resources**.

This event is designed to offer community-wide networking and learning about new and existing resources in the community.

Individuals from the City of Olympia, Thurston County Department of Health, Rochester Organization of Families (ROOF), North Thurston School District, and the Washington State Department of Agriculture will lead a conversation about food resources in our community including:

- Free and reduced school meals and other updates related to school nutrition,
- Federal and State food programs and information about the Farm Bill passed in February,
- Rural communities and connections to the statewide food network, and
- The summer lunch program.

Meeting Details

Thurston Asset Building Coalition Quarterly Shared Learning

Topic: Food Resources

Date: Monday, June 30, 2014

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA 98501

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

Please RSVP by Thursday, June 26

Thurston Asset Building Coalition Shared Learnings are designed to encourage service organizations, businesses, churches, government and other community members to gather to learn about each other's resources and explore ways to collaborate. We believe that when community resources are better connected, our community is able to provide opportunities for people with limited incomes to become more resilient and prosperous. These events help to advance the "no wrong door" philosophy of the Asset Building Coalition.

We encourage you to send as many staff as you can spare and we encourage you to bring information regarding your programs. We welcome you to come early (12:30 p.m.) to set out your information (tables will be provided). Please share this event with others—the more the merrier! We apologize if you receive this email more than once.

[Click here to RSVP](#) or copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1-TqjZhSCPSaBysOunW9kGdG3r7eeHvMm8Wqo9-MrD90/viewform?c=0&w=1>.

For questions, please contact Mindie Reule, Coalition Coordinator at mindie@thurstonabc.org or (360) 529-5281.

Sincerely,
Mindie

Mindie Reule
Coalition Coordinator
Thurston Asset Building Coalition
mindie@thurstonabc.org
Cell: (206) 818-7472
Office: (360) 529-5281

5. WSU seeks a strong leader in economic development to serve as the Director of Mason County Extension. The position is a full-time, 12-month, non-tenure track faculty appointment headquartered at the WSU Extension Mason County Office in Shelton, WA.

This faculty position will serve as a catalyst for capacity building within Mason County – linking WSU and county government resources to evolving community economic development, natural resources, and food systems opportunities. This position is responsible for fostering a strong and collaborative relationship with county government to ensure the continuing partnership with Mason County in offering WSU Extension programs.

Administrative duties include: supervision of support-staff personnel; preparing and managing the budget of the Mason County Extension Office; upholding the covenants within the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Mason County and WSU; and ensuring office compliance with all policies and procedures of WSU and Mason County Government.

Required: Earned Master's Degree in a field related to community development, demonstrated success in project management, and extramural resource development and demonstrated understanding of community and economic development strategies.

To apply, submit a Curriculum Vitae or Resume, as well as a Cover Letter describing how your work experience and training meet the duties, responsibilities, and each of the required and preferred qualifications, as applicable (maximum of two pages) for this position; and names and contact information for three (3) professional references. EEO/AA/ADA. To apply visit: <https://www.wsujobs.com/>

6. I appreciate your willingness to forward this request to your community network to help me find applicants for 20 Direct Support positions for Aacres.

Aacres WA, LLC has been providing support for individuals with developmental disabilities in their homes since 1974. We are expanding in Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Rochester and need to fill 20 openings for Direct Support Professionals.

Direct Support Professionals work in a caregiving role to assist our clients with basic living skills, communication, community interaction and recreation. Additional responsibilities including maintaining a clean, safe and stimulating living environment and assisting with public transportation. Direct Support Professionals provide service that focuses on maintaining or enhancing the client's dignity, well-being, autonomy, personal choice, self-esteem and on teaching functional skills.

The minimum requirements are a high school diploma or GED, a Washington Driver's license and be at least 21 years old, and be able to pass a criminal background check.

Aacres provides all training required for this position and pays the individual while they train. All shifts are available and the pay is \$10.00 hour.

We are looking for individuals who can work 20 - 39 hours each week. Advancement is possible into full time positions which include medical, vision, dental and life insurance benefits. (Employee's cost for individual core medical plan is \$61 per month)

Applicants can apply at www.Aacresllc.com. They are also invited to attend our weekly group informational interviews held every Thursday at 3:00 in our office located at 4405 7th Ave SE, Suite 101, Lacey, WA 98503. 360-539-7650. No appointment is necessary.

If you or any of your colleagues have any questions, please call me at 360-816-1513. Again, thank you so much for your thoughtful suggestion of using your network to help.

Best wishes,

Carolyn Partridge

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Carolyn Partridge, Human Resources Coordinator

Aacres WA, LLC / 4317 NE Thurston Way, Suite 220 / Vancouver, WA / 98682

Direct [360-816-1513](tel:360-816-1513) / Office 360-256-3808 / Fax 360-256-3818

carolynpa@aacresllc.com

7. HIRING ANNOUNCEMENT

SafePlace is currently hiring for a 35-hour Program Director. The announcement and job description are attached for your review. If you are not interested in applying, please help us by sending this information to anyone in the community who may qualify.

To Apply: Please send a one-page cover letter addressing how you meet the qualifications for the position, a current resume, and a list of three professional references to sandys@safeplaceolympia.org.

Deadline: **Thursday, July 10, 2014, by 5:00 pm**

Interviews: **Thursday, July 17, 2014**

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Warmly,

Sandy

Sandy St. Dennis

Human Resources Director

Safeplace

360-786-8754 ext. 105

sandys@safeplaceolympia.org

Job Title: Reports to: FLSA Status: Salary Range: Hours Per Week: Benefits:

SUMMARY

SafePlace Job Description

Program Director Executive Director Exempt Schedule E

35 hours per week

Medical and dental insurance, paid holidays, and vacation and sick leave are provided, as per SafePlace personnel policies. Vision insurance coverage will be provided after completion of one year of continuous employment. Retirement benefits will be available when simple plan qualifications have been met.

Ensure oversight for trauma informed, culturally relevant best practice sexual and domestic violence service programs of SafePlace.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Essential Duties and Responsibilities of this position include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- A. Ensure all services delivered or developed are trauma informed and best practice.
 - 1. Research and implement strategies to reduce vicarious trauma in the provision of client services.
 - 2. Ensure the delivery of culturally relevant sexual and domestic violence community education, prevention and outreach strategies.
 - 3. Ensure that sexual and domestic violence services acknowledge and mitigate barriers for underserved populations.
 - 4. Develop and ensure an ongoing service evaluation system for feedback and appropriate program improvements.
- B. Ensure the community services, residential services, youth and parenting, and sexual assault program coordinators, and other employees or volunteers supervised, fulfill their job description duties in a supportive manner.
 - 1. Recognize and respond to vicarious trauma exhibited by employees or volunteers supervised.
 - 2. Ensure regular meetings are held with employees and volunteers supervised.
 - 3. Use empowerment based counseling skills in supporting staff and volunteers.
 - 4. Provide reflective listening skills in assisting staff and volunteers to complete their job duties.
 - 5. Ensure administrative duties are performed by staff.
- C. Ensure community, residential, youth and parenting, and sexual assault program coordinators provide staff development, supervision, and evaluation of employees, volunteers, and interns.
 - 1. Ensure program coordinators provide supervision, staff development and trainings in service provision, cultural responsiveness, and skill development through quality initial and ongoing trainings
 - 2. Supervise and regularly evaluate coordinators and other staff, as assigned.
 - 3. Maintain regular and consistent employee, volunteer, and intern meetings, and other communication opportunities.
 - 4. Ensure quality annual training opportunities for supervised coordinators, including non-profit management trainings.
- D. Oversee direct service administrative requirements of Sexual and Domestic Violence Programs.
 - 1. Develop and ensure oversight, evaluation and analysis of program services.
 - 2. Ensure adequate and timely entry of accumulated program service data into HMIS, INFONET and other systems, as needed.

3. Maintain compliance with state RCW's and WAC's, agency policies and contractual requirements regarding services and their delivery.
4. Ensure adequate financial documentation, management, and input regarding program area budgets.
- E. Ensure and maintain involvement with community task forces relevant to agency, client, and program needs.
 1. Maintain a program balance of participation in community wide committees, task forces, or groups responding to the service needs of victims of sexual and domestic violence by:
 - a. Determining, with the Operations Management Team and the Program Management Team, agency involvement priorities.
 - b. Ensuring involvement supports the agency strategic plan, mission and vision statement.
 2. Proactively develop and maintain good community relations, including outreach and engagement of historically underserved populations.
 3. Ensure solicitation of regular staff, client, and community input to help shape agency service delivery that enhances accessibility for diverse populations.
 4. Network with individuals, businesses and other non-profits within the community, as needed.
- F. Meet regularly with the Executive Director and other agency directors, coordinators, employees, volunteers, and interns to ensure adequate communication and appropriate program development.
 1. Participate in regularly scheduled Agency Management Team, Program, Direct Service, All Staff, and Supervisory meetings with coordinators and other supervised staff. Participate in individual meetings with the Executive Director.
- G. Perform duties, including program management and supervision, in a culturally relevant manner.

QUALIFICATIONS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- * Bachelor's degree in business administration, social work, counseling or related field, or six years relevant education, training and experience may be substituted for education.
- * At least four years progressively responsible experience in administrative management. *
- At least four years experience providing services in domestic violence or sexual assault program. *
- At least 2 years experience in reflective supervision, coordination and support. *
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills. *Experience with Microsoft Word for Windows, or similar word processing system. *
- Experience in case management. *
- Experience providing services in a culturally responsive manner. * Demonstrated ability to understand and communicate with people of different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. *
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in a crisis intervention work environment. *
- Have (or be willing to obtain) a car and liability insurance. *
- Have (or be willing to obtain) a telephone. *
- Commitment to the need for client and agency confidentiality. *
- Agreement with the SafePlace philosophy statement.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

* Bilingual and bicultural. * Experience in facilitating support groups. * Experience in financial management.

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE

Bachelor's degree in business administration, social work, or related field. Six years relevant education, training and experience may be substituted for education. Four years progressively responsible experience in administrative management and four years experience providing services in a domestic violence or sexual assault program.

Specific knowledge and abilities acquired must include the following:

1. Experience in providing services in domestic violence and sexual assault programs.
2. Experience in administrative management.
3. Experience in staff supervision, coordination and support.
4. Experience in case management.
5. Demonstrated ability to communicate and work with a diverse population.
6. Experience in participating in a team oriented work environment.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Directly supervise program coordinators and other staff as assigned and carry out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the organization's policies and applicable laws.

Responsibilities include training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work; appraising performance; carrying out disciplinary procedures; addressing complaints and resolving problems; and providing direction, support, feedback and motivation.

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must possess the following interpersonal skills: 1. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisor, employees, volunteers, and community members.

2. Ability to manage personnel issues and conflicts with confidentiality, fairness and respect with a diverse staff.
3. Ability to respond to crisis, set limits and maintain healthy boundaries.
4. Ability to interact in a confidential manner that is sensitive to the needs of agency clients.
5. Ability to maintain a positive attitude in a crisis intervention work environment.

VERBAL and WRITTEN SKILLS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must possess the following verbal and written skills:

1. Ability to read, analyze and interpret funding contracts and federal, state and local regulations and laws.
2. Ability to effectively write proposals, reports, policies, procedures, and administrative correspondence.
3. Ability to effectively write job descriptions, operational manuals and program development plans.
4. Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in order to present information and respond to questions from employees, volunteers, clients and community members.

REASONING ABILITY

To perform this job successfully, an individual must possess the following reasoning abilities: 1. Ability to assess complex problems and make sound independent decisions. 2. Ability to analyze and resolve a variety of personnel problems. 3. Ability to interpret and apply agency policies.

4. Ability to gather, correlate and analyze data from multiple tracking systems. Must be a strong systems thinker.

5. Ability to prioritize multiple tasks. 6. Ability to create proposals and reports. 7. Ability to look at multiple sides of an issue and take appropriate action objectively.

MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must possess the following mathematical skills: 1. Ability to accurately prepare, analyze and interpret budgets; ability to calculate figures, percentages, and formulas; ability to develop cost-effective proposals.

COMPUTER SKILLS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must possess the following computer skills: 1. Intermediate skills in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel or other similar word processing, presentation and spreadsheet applications.

2. Ability to send and receive e-mail and to navigate on the Internet.

3. Ability to provide oversight for data tracking systems (WA State InfoNet and HMIS).

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS

1. SafePlace initial training certification.

2. Valid driver's license and current automobile liability insurance.

3. CPR/First aid training certifications preferred.

PHILOSOPHIES

To perform this job successfully, an individual must commit to the following philosophies:

1. Commitment to the SafePlace mission and philosophy.

2. Subscribe to the theory of empowerment of women.

TRAINING REQUIRED

Employee is required to complete the initial SafePlace Advocate Core Training, and 20 hours of non-profit management training. Employee must attend 12 hours of on-going management training a year.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk and hear. The employee frequently is required to sit and use hands to finger, handle, or feel. The employee is required to stand; walk; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 30 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, and ability to adjust focus.