

Northwest Center promotes the **growth, development and independence** of people with disabilities through programs of **education, rehabilitation and work opportunity**.



A Year in Review

The New Year is finally here, and Northwest Center has a lot in store for 2009. We look forward to sharing our news throughout the year -- but first, a look back at 2008!

Through much effort and planning, our employment training program blossomed this year. Many adults who previously faced significant barriers to community-based employment are learning new skills and surpassing the goals they set for themselves at the start of their training.

Our early intervention team is providing therapy and special education services to kids with disabilities throughout King County. The cool part is that we travel to whatever environment works for the individual child and family; as a result, our early intervention department grew to 11 therapists last year.

We also partnered with hundreds of individuals, corporations and foundations to build support for these great programs. We received grants that will enable us to purchase a bus for our children's program and develop a database to manage all of our adult client information. We also raised more than \$100,000 at our annual Golden Hearts Luncheon!

This is just a quick snapshot of 2008. Look for our annual report next month to learn more about Northwest Center and its recent accom-

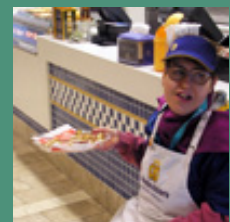


Child Development Program Connects with Families

The Child Development Program is very excited to expand our family enrichment program! We have identified this as one of our top priorities for both the Early Learning Program and the Early Intervention Program in the coming months and are thrilled to be able to increase support.

We'll offer informational events for parents with guest speakers, support groups, parents' night out, and the Hanen® It Takes Two To Talk

Client Spotlight



If you visited South-center Mall during the holiday rush, you might have bumped into a Northwest Center client who works there. Sandy hands out pretzel samples at Auntie Anne's—a job she loves and worked hard to get. Sandy previously worked at Northwest Center's document shredding enterprise, and when she set her sights on a community-based job, she went all-out to achieve that goal. She advocated for herself and eagerly participated in training on her march toward a more independent position.

Auntie Anne's turned out to be the perfect fit for her; Sandy's positive, outgoing attitude has already endeared her to the other staff. And the customers who visit Auntie Anne's are starting to recognize and greet her, which makes Sandy all the more delighted to be there. Great job, Sandy!

class. The Hanen® class is offered to Early Intervention families to support children with communication delays, and we are excited to offer it three times in 2009.

For more info about our programs, visit www.nwcenterkids.org.

Become Our Facebook Friend



Northwest Center is on Facebook! Join us today to show your support of all our programs. You can find causes for kids, adults and Nova Services. Also help us out by inviting your friends, family and co-workers to join our cause. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on our activities; head to our homepage at www.nwcenter.org to link to our causes.



Membership Information Session

January sees the first of many information sessions that we will be offering our members throughout the year. The first information session of 2009 will be on Benefits Planning with Scott Leonard, a benefits planner from King County DDD.

Wednesday, January 21, 2009
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Location TBA

Thank You, Donors!

Many donors came forward in 2008 to show their support of our programs for children and services for adults. Thank you to everyone for including us in your giving; we're honored to call you our partners. *List includes gifts from 11/07 through 11/08.*

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