

## Mark Your Calendar: Golden Hearts Luncheon

Northwest Center is cooking up something new for this year's Golden Hearts Luncheon. We are inviting a celebrity guest chef to do a cooking demonstration and speak to the power of inclusion.

In a recipe, each ingredient adds something to the dish and creates a deeper experience. In society, we all bring something to the table—and contribute to the strength of our community.

You are invited to join us on September 24th to create something special. With your help, we can bring together 500 community leaders and guests to create inclusion opportunities for people of all abilities.

**Date:** Friday, September 24,

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Washington State Convention Center

**RSVP:** 206-378-6389 or <http://conta.cc/goldenhearts>

**GET INVOLVED:** We want to create a cookbook for the event!

If you'd like to participate, send us your best recipe, a photo and a story about what inclusion means to you.

To learn more, call us at 206-378-6389 or e-mail [goldenhearts@nwcenter.org](mailto:goldenhearts@nwcenter.org).

## Donor Profile — Great at Tax Time

Did you know when you sign up for Northwest Center's My Donor Profile, you can save valuable time at tax season? By scheduling your pickups online, you'll be able to view your donation history and get your tax receipts—all in one convenient place.

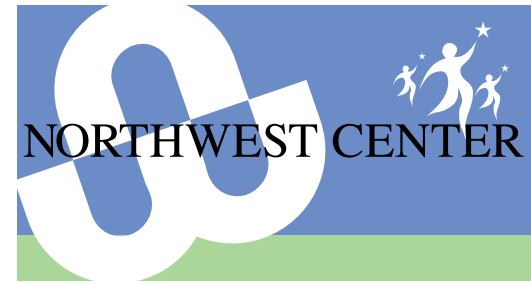
Why not clean out your closets and donate your reusable clothing and household items? Visit our website at [www.bigbluetruck.org](http://www.bigbluetruck.org) to schedule a pickup and set up your donor profile today!

We appreciate you helping us Go Green by scheduling your donation pickups online.



## Northwest Center expands services for local children pg. 2

7272 W. Marginal Way S.  
Seattle, WA 98108  
[www.nwcenter.org](http://www.nwcenter.org)  
206-285-9140



July 2010

## A Message from President & CEO Tom Everill

If you had a chance to read Steve Kelley's recent Seattle Times column about the wonderful relationship between the Seattle Sounders and a young man named Will Daniel, you might have wondered how it is that a young man with Down syndrome could inspire the world's soccer-playing elite.

Will isn't simply a passing fad or a lucky recipient of the team's benevolence. He has become a valued part of the Sounders family—particularly to coach Sigi Schmid, with whom Will has built a 13-year friendship. Coach Schmid values Will's unique perspective so much ("there's such a truthfulness and an honesty to him that just cuts through so much of the bull") he asked Will to address the team before the June 26 game.

I've seen countless examples of this mutual enrichment in workplaces, school rooms and other community locations. Business owners remark to me that after hiring a person with a developmental condition, they see sales, productivity, and morale go up—and absenteeism go down. Employers realize that inclusion is not charity, but rather a smart business strategy.

When people of all abilities engage with each other, it creates a richer experience for everyone (just ask the Sounders). Inclusion is an elixir that strengthens organizations by evoking the highest potential of everyone involved. Given the value Will contributes to the Seattle Sounders, it makes you wonder why we call his condition a "disability."

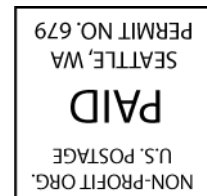


## Spotlight on...Harvey!

Harvey's relationship with Northwest Center began with the School-to-Work program, where he gained critical skills that prepared him for a job after graduation. Harvey spent his last year of school doing internships at businesses like Fred Meyer and Home Depot, where he learned the professional skills and personal habits that contribute to success at work.

During that year, Harvey's job coach observed his meticulous nature. He used hand tools with dexterity and confidence—and he excelled at tasks where he could be physically active. So toward the end of the school year, he was matched with a job at the Ballard Health Club that turned out to be a perfect fit.

Over a year later, Harvey is happily detailing the equipment and machines at the health club, as well as doing some vacuuming and locker room checks. Although he has limited verbal skills, he has found ways to communicate with the staff and members—and vice versa! Harvey says he enjoys his job, and he can often be found singing or dancing to the music as he works. Keep it up, Harvey!



# Northwest Center Program Expansion

## New Early Learning Facility to Open in Downtown Seattle

Northwest Center is opening a new early learning program in September! We will launch an innovative childcare facility in the King County Chinook Building that recognizes the power of inclusion—participants will include children of all abilities, including those with significant disabilities; children of all income levels; and children of diverse cultures.

The facility is the result of a successful partnership between King County, the City of Seattle and Northwest Center—and will serve approximately 60 children in five classrooms. “Strong advocates at both the City and County have worked tirelessly to create an excellent opportunity that will have a tremendous impact on the lives of local families,” said President & CEO Tom Everill.

The new facility will address the need for childcare in downtown Seattle, especially the need for infant care. Northwest Center Kids will serve a diverse population through an exceptional early learning program and the support of an early intervention therapy team. An application process for participants is under way now! Of the available childcare spaces, 20% will be reserved for children whose families earn below 80% of the mean Seattle income. In addition, children with special needs will be given priority. Additional spots will be filled via a lottery drawing.

The five classroom facility features two-story windows for natural daylight, an indoor play area and an on-site outdoor playground. “Everything in this space—from the lighting to the layout—has been designed based on our decades of experience and best practices in the field today,” said Jane Dobrovolny, VP of Children and Family Services at Northwest Center. “And the secret ingredient is complete inclusion of kids with all abilities from all backgrounds, where everyone brings something special to the table.”



**TOP:** Child-height sinks in the waddler room. **MIDDLE:** Light filled space in the infant room. **BOTTOM:** Director Rebecca James checks out the sandbox on the rooftop playground.

## Laundry Gets New Contract, Builds Job Opportunities

What does a new laundry contract have to do with Northwest Center’s mission? A lot! When St. Joseph’s Hospital in Bellingham recently signed a contract with Puget Sound Laundry Services (a Northwest Center business), five new jobs for people with disabilities were created.

In a year-long process, Puget Sound Laundry Services competed head-to-head with other regional laundry services and came out on top. St. Joseph’s chose our commercial laundry based on quality, capabilities and experience—as well as our regional impact. “St. Joseph’s Hospital loves our mission,” said Mike Quinn, Northwest Center VP of Manufacturing, Production and Assembly. “As a community-oriented organization, they truly understand the power of this investment.”

The contract represents an increase of 30% in revenue at the laundry, leading to critical job opportunities for people with disabilities. Puget Sound Laundry Services is an inclusive workplace, where people with and without disabilities work together to offer outstanding service to hotels, the military and private companies. The leadership and staff at the facility have fully demonstrated—to St. Joseph’s and the entire business community—how inclusion and success go hand in hand.



## Seattle Sketcher Captures The Big Blue Truck™

The Seattle Sketcher, who documents local life for the Seattle Times, recently put pen to paper and captured The Big Blue Truck™.

Gabriel Campanario donated at our Mukilteo Donation Depot and created a sketch of the experience, which appeared on his blog and in the paper.



## Partner Profile: Shaklee & Causemunity

Northwest Center has been working with two community partners to ramp up a special program that benefits everyone!

Shaklee and Causemunity created custom shopping portals for us—so every time a customer buys a product through Northwest Center, a portion of the profit goes to our programs for people with disabilities.

Shaklee is well-known for its green cleaning supplies and vitamins, and Causemunity is a collection of popular retailers, like Target.com, Amazon.com and BestBuy.com. Which means our supporters can get the things they need and buy while strengthening Northwest Center’s community services.

Thank you to our generous community partners for creating this fantastic opportunity!



If you want to Shop for our Cause, visit [nwcenter.org](http://nwcenter.org) and look for the green button on the right side of the homepage.



# Thank You!

## Northwest Center Donors: January – June 2010

Northwest Center appreciates everyone who made a donation or pledge in the first half of 2010. Many partners have stepped up and invested in our programs for children and adults with disabilities. We're thrilled that so many people in our community believe **it's what's inside that counts.**

### **\$10,000+**

Tom and Sue Ellison  
Tom Everill and Joan Christ\*  
Parul and Gary Houlahan\*\*  
The Estate of Kenneth B. Matthews  
Value Village Stores

### **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Anonymous  
Baldwin Resource Group, Inc.  
Deacon Charitable Foundation  
The Estate of Norman Heutmaker

### **\$2,000-\$4,999**

Anonymous  
R. Dean Aldridge and Dr. Brenda Aldridge  
Jean and Rudolf Kantu\*  
Mercury Mail Services, LLC  
Moneytree  
Mike and Amy Quinn\*  
Tony and Cindi Williams\*\*

### **\$1,000-\$1,999**

Rhonda Dallas  
Food Services of America  
KIRO Television  
Mary Maddox and Kevin Cole\*\*  
Sheri Marzolf  
Mercer Health & Benefits  
Scott and Cindy Minette  
Jim and Nicole Wood\*

### **\$500-\$999**

Hector and Patricia Aldape  
Ronald Bemis  
Brad and Carla Berg  
Les Boudwin  
Sung-Eun Choi and Erik Hendriks  
Steven Corey  
Jane and Peter Dobrovoly\*  
Michael Friedline and Vicki Young  
Jason and Lynne Hepp\*\*  
Patrick McGuire

Timothy and Sharon McKenzie  
Allan and Eleanor Munro\*\*  
Elaine Nonneman  
Pacific Metallurgical Inc.  
Jill Scheuermann

### **\$250-\$499**

Anonymous (2)  
Gella and Dylan Aamodt  
Kathryn Bacon  
Tony and Meri Boisen  
Anne Bremner  
Lourdes Cates  
DeAnna and John Emborski  
Larry Kenney  
John Schmidt  
Dave and Julie Straus

### **\$100-\$249**

Anonymous (4)  
Regence BlueShield  
Diane and Michael Cavanaugh  
Richard and Carol Chandler  
John Daly  
Theodore and Barbara Daniels  
Jennifer Eggin  
John and Robin Emerson\*\*  
Mary Gorjance  
Samsara and Jeremy Irish  
Dave LeFevre  
Heinz Leistner  
Patrick Martz  
Laura McClafferty  
Robert and Barbara Nickles  
Kellie Nketiah  
Lottie Olver and Stuart McDowell\*  
Joseph O'Rourke  
Brian Reich and Panisima Kanokkaew  
Torina and Kevin Salcedo  
Albert and Rose Sather  
Andrew Sutton  
Jessica Underwood  
Erika Van Merr and Clarke Straus\*  
Brant and Sandra Williams

### **Matching Gift Companies and Employee Giving Campaigns**

Bank of America United Way Campaign  
City of Seattle Combined Charities  
Combined Federal Campaign - King and Snohomish  
Combined Federal Campaign of N Puget Sound  
King County Employee Charitable Campaign  
Microsoft  
PopCap Games  
Stafford Frey Cooper  
Truist

### **In-Kind Gifts**

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Janice Corbin  
Costco  
Happy Guests International  
KING 5 Television  
Seattle Aquarium Society  
Seattle Art Museum  
Theo Chocolate

### **Honorary Gifts**

Gifts were made in celebration of the following people and occasions:

Theresa Gorjance  
Candace Olmsted  
Mary Stone

### **Memorial Gifts**

Gifts were made in loving memory of the following people:

Janice Steffan  
Pamela Mary Parks  
Geraldine Sandberg

\*Northwest Center Staff Member

\*\*Northwest Center Board Member