

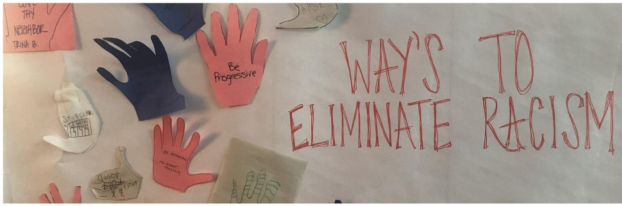
# Happy Mother's Day!



Resident Leticia (Tish) is an employee at the YWCA Seattle|King|Snohomish, which employs over 200 staff members, all whom have their own unique stories and reasons as to why they choose to work at the YWCA. Tish was only 13 years old, a 7th grader living in Chicago, when she gave birth to her oldest child. She has experienced homelessness and has had poor experiences at other agencies where she felt belittled. Tish says, "... at a shelter in Seattle. That day fish was being served for dinner. I am highly allergic to fish... I had my 3 boys... stand in line while I sat in the dining area far from the food. But because I didn't stand in line with my kids, a staff member kicked my kids out of line and that night we all went hungry. I didn't care that I had nothing to eat but my kids deserved a meal. It is completely devastating as a parent to not be able to feed or house your kids. Did my kids have to suffer because I had a dietary issue? When I spoke up about this incident I felt I was blacklisted, the rest of my experience at the shelter was awful and my 30-day voucher was not renewed". Fortunately, luck turned around for her. DSHS notified her that the YWCA was hiring for a front desk position. Tish says, "I work here because I have been in the client's shoes. I know the importance of the first contact and how you are treated when you walk into a place and are asking for help. You are vulnerable but not helpless. Though sometimes you are treated like you are your condition and I work to make sure that doesn't happen".

Her experiences from homelessness has helped shape the work she does in order to make an impact for women and their families and to provide a brighter future for her own children and family. Please join us for our Mother's Day Event to honor our mothers at the Village! Look out for upcoming details.





YWCA Family Village Issaquah partnered with Education Unchained on April 24th, whom presented the foundations of racism that largely go unaddressed. Most often, people think of racism as being held up by discrimination, but seldom ever look at indifference and apolitical behavior that is very well accepted. Education Unchained shared findings using visual aids and anecdotal data along with group discussion.



On April 11th—Staff and Residents went on a field trip to University House, a senior retirement living community for a Spring Egg Hunt! The youth were able to explore parts of the campus in their search for eggs, make their own egg baskets, and nibble on food and dessert.

Much thanks to University House for giving us a warm welcome and opening up your community to our families here at the Village! We would also like to thank our volunteer (Nupur) and parents/guardians (Citlali, Deana, and Shohreh) for chaperoning during this event.

**Your Family Village Staff**  
**Front Desk #: 425-270-6800**  
[fviinfo@ywcaworks.org](mailto:fviinfo@ywcaworks.org)

**After-Hour Emergency #: 206-461-4888**  
 Monday—Friday 10:00am—4:00pm

**Housing & Services**

**Trina**..... **Housing Services Manager**  
**Lisa**.....Assistant Manager  
**Victoria**.....Program Coordinator  
**Michelle**..... Program Assistant

**Children Services**

**Eric**..... **Youth & Children Director**

**Facilities**

**Dan**..... **Maintenance Supervisor**  
**Tony**.....Maintenance  
**Jesus**.....Custodian



**OUR MISSION**  
 We partner with youth and families to provide the relationships, resources, and skills they need to attain personal growth and success.

**OUR VISION**  
 Friends of Youth envisions all youth having every opportunity to succeed.

  
**Friends of Youth**  
 13116 NE 132nd Street, Kirkland, WA 98034  
 (425) 869-6490 info@friendsofyouth.org

**Youth and Family Services**

**Healthy Start**  
 for  
**Parents & Kids**



**Friends of Youth Healthy Start**

Are you pregnant and/or parenting a child who is younger than 5 years old? You can be a grandparent, foster parent, or other custodial parent.

Do you wonder if your child is growing the way they should be? Are they meeting their milestones?

Would you like to have someone to talk with about parenting?

The Friends of Youth Healthy start program is voluntary and offered at no cost to families.

All personal information is kept confidential.  
 For more details call (425) 844-9669 x102 or send us an email at [info@friendsofyouth.org](mailto:info@friendsofyouth.org).



[FRIENDSOFYOUTH.ORG](http://FRIENDSOFYOUTH.ORG) 13116 NE 132nd Street, Kirkland, WA 98034-2306

**Healthy Start:**  
 strengthens young families and promotes health and success for their young children.

**The Program**  
 provides these services for free:

- help with basic supplies
- parenting support and information
- health screenings
- child development information
- resource connections
- fun monthly group events

**Requirements:**  
 participants must live in the following areas:  
 Snoqualmie Valley, from North Bend to Duvall; Sammamish, Issaquah, Maple Valley and Skykomish.