



BellevuePatch



About Town

By **Sherry Grindeland** November 15, 2010

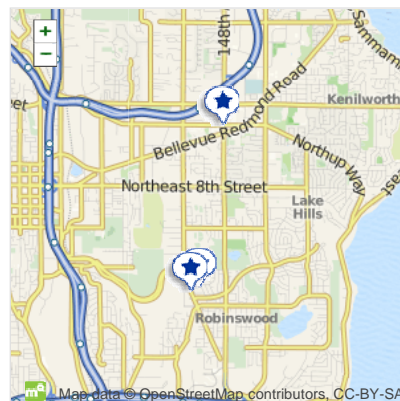
THE NEIGHBORHOOD FILES

Jubilee Reach Offers Hands Up, As Well as a "Heart and Home" to Help

Jubilee Reach offers many ways to help young people in the Lake Hills area, says Sherry Grindeland. A hand up, not a hand out – that's the mantra at

Jubilee Reach Center (<http://bellevue.patch.com/listings/jubilee-reach-center>) in the Lake Hills area of Bellevue.

At last count more than 37 languages were spoken at **Lake Hills Elementary School** (<http://bellevue.patch.com/listings/lake-hills-elementary-school>) and 64 percent of the students received free or reduced lunches.



Just a few blocks away at Jubilee Reach, 14200 SE 13th Place, kids receive a lot more than food although the breakfast and after school program helps keep them physically nourished.

Caring adults watch over these kids while their parents work – often at jobs that barely cover the rent, much less child care. The children are safe. There's homework help, a community garden and enrichment activities. Adults who need it can take English as a Second Language classes. There's free medical and dental care if needed – a biggie for families who have trouble keeping the lights on at home.

Brent Christie, executive director, helped start this organization more than four years ago. A more impassioned man would be hard to find. He believes simply that he's following God's plan to help this underserved population.

He's not alone.

A number of area churches and other organizations and hundreds of other volunteers have pitched in to help. The City of Bellevue folks are involved, too. But Jubilee Reach offers more than just a neighborhood center.

Organizers started a thrift shop to help cover expenses. You may have seen it in the **Fred Meyer Shopping Center** (<http://bellevue.patch.com/listings/fred-meyer-12>) on 148th Avenue Northeast – it is **Heart and Home Thrift Store**. (<http://www.jubileereach.org/site/pages/jrhvc.html>)

Jubilee encourages participants in its programs to find a way to give back. Next **Saturday, November 20**, Jubilee volunteers and program participants will be volunteering to help repair trails in Bellevue parks.

Got a couple hours to spare each week? Jubilee could use some more mentors. They've got the success stories to show how their system works.

Consider this from Christie's most recent newsletter.

"One adult who donates a couple hours a week can help move one middle school kid from failure to honor roll."

To find out more call them at **425-746-0506** or go to www.jubileereach.org (<http://www.jubileereach.org/>).

Interested in a follow-up to this article?

About this column: Sherry Grindeland, a longtime Eastside resident, brings her veteran reporting skills to Bellevue Patch's About Town column. Look for this column every day. She welcomes your input and ideas for About Town. You can e-mail her at sherry.grindeland@gmail.com

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