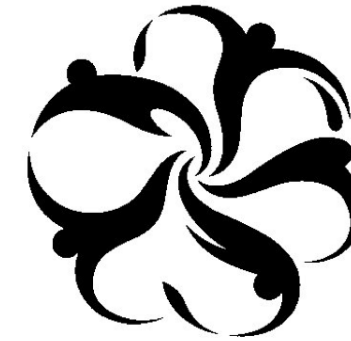


# The Junction

Spring 2011



junction

-noun

1. an act of joining; combining.
2. the state of being joined; union.
3. a place or point where two or more things are joined.
4. a place or point where two or more things meet or converge.
5. an intersection of streets, highways, or roads.
7. something that joins other things together.

## WORDS FROM JEFF

The Jeremiah center is such a great place! I started going during my sophomore year and have been going every week since then. Going to Kazba has improved my social life after school and the staff there are really fun people to hang around with. When I go there they always make time to talk to me and hang out when they can. Ever since I started going to Kazba, I have made more friends. I now work there as well. All the events that they plan give me things to do after school and I think it keeps me out of trouble. When I started going I really didn't have too many friends. One of my friends brought me to The Jeremiah Center during the summer

and I really enjoyed it. I started going again once school started. It was something to look forward to during the week. During my junior year I started going every single day and I have made a lot of new friends there, both from my school and people who I wouldn't have met because they are at different schools. Now as a senior I work behind the counter and I get to meet even more people and I get to talk to them as I serve them. Going to Kazba is a huge improvement on my life. I am really glad that I did!

~Jeff



**Jeremiah Center**  
**8330 212th St SW**  
**Edmonds, WA**  
**98026**

**Please be aware that  
 our phone number's  
 have changed!**

**The new Jeremiah  
 Center number is**

425-954-5347

**The new confidential  
 counseling line is**

425-954-5641

## WISH LIST ITEMS FOR THE JEREMIAH CENTER

- ♦ **\*Kazba Camping Scholarship**  
 \$25 will pay for 1 youth to go on a 3 day camping trip this summer with Jeremiah Center Staff. These trips play a vital role in youth connecting with staff and community here at the JC. (12 Scholarships Available)
  - ♦ **\*Bus Passes**  
 The JC Youth are always in need of bus passes; these booklets cost \$40 and provide a bus ride for 30 youth. We often have youth who run out of cash and need bus fare; this is a simple solution that can really brighten a youth's day.
  - ♦ **\*Circular saw, drill, and tool kit combo**  
 The JC has made due with old, borrowed tools for years but it would be nice to have a set of our own for some of those pesky fix it jobs around the building, \$200.
- The Jeremiah Center is in need of some handyman work. If you're interested in helping fix 1 or all the following things it would be greatly appreciated!
- ♦ 2 Broken Gutters
  - ♦ Broken Window
  - ♦ Leaky Faucet in Counseling Bathroom
  - ♦ Replacement of sign lighting in front of building

*Please specify on your donation what wish you would like your donation to go towards.*

Jeremiah Center  
 8330 212th St SW  
 Edmonds, WA 98026

We're on the web!  
[www.JeremiahCenter.com](http://www.JeremiahCenter.com)

Phone: 425-954-5347  
[JeremiahCenter@Gmail.com](mailto:JeremiahCenter@Gmail.com)

### SHOP AMAZON — AND GIVE TO THE JEREMIAH CENTER!

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, your purchase can benefit the Jeremiah Center.

Before shopping, please visit our website, click the Amazon link, and for any purchase you make Amazon will pay a referral fee to the Jeremiah Center.

As an Amazon Associate, the Jeremiah Center currently receives 6% back as a referral fee for purchases made by using the link on our website. The referral fees have ranged from \$25 to \$680 a month! The percentage we receive increases with the number of items purchased using our link (up to 15% possible).

Purchases must be made via the Amazon link on our website.



### Great response to the End of the Year!



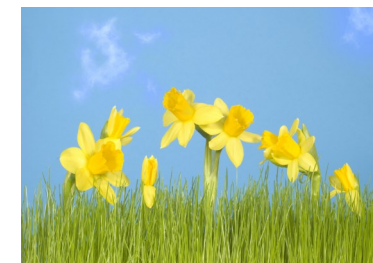
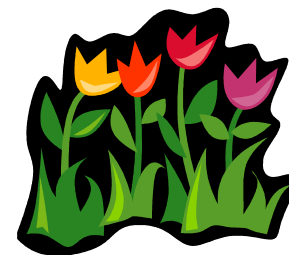
The Jeremiah Center sent out to its friends and supporters a letter in December, sharing that we were afraid that for the first time in 5 years, we would be ending the year in the red. A projected \$15,000 short-fall was more than “reducing expenses” could overcome.

The response was amazing. We received lots of small and large gifts and we ended the year in the black, bringing in more than \$13,000 and holding the line on spending. The donations were from near and far and they all came together to help us begin this year with all bills and salaries paid.



The Board of Directors passed a budget for 2011 that allows us to pursue finding a half-time executive director this year as well as supporting our growing drop-in & counseling services. This January [2011] was our best one to date. We are excited about all the opportunities the Jeremiah Center has before it.

Thank you to all who gave toward the appeal and to those who give to us throughout the year!



JUST JOSH

The First Half of the Year has been amazing here at the Jeremiah Center. With the addition of extra staff and volunteers we have been able to amp up our programming for youth. The Jeremiah Center in February started one of many life skills programs that we plan to implement over the next year. This program called “Kazba Cooks” enables youth to learn how to cook an economical, sensible, and healthy meal right here in our kitchen! Eric Harada currently leads the class and has been a long time volunteer of the Jeremiah Center. Eric also serves food to youth during the weekday programming from our kitchen, so the transition for a cooking class led by him was very organic.

Another programming piece that was implemented in February is the Jeremiah Center homework night. Three Thursdays a month the Jeremiah Center now offers tutors and space for youth to concentrate on their schoolwork. The first night 8 youth participated and we expect this program to grow from there!

I end this article with a story that I believe reflects what the Jeremiah Center is doing in the community and in youth’s lives.

Nick (not his real name) is a youth we have worked with for a long time. He is energetic, funny, and very smart. He is also one of the youth at the Jeremiah Center that has sworn off drugs, alcohol, and even tobacco use since he has been part of our community. Nick is without a doubt one of my favorite youth here, not just because of his positive choices, but because of the way in which he carries himself regardless of his circumstances.

Nick’s mom is a struggling alcoholic, and his brother has been in and out of trouble with the law and has struggled with substance abuse since I have known Nick. Nick doesn’t know who his dad is. His mother has been unemployed for years and they live off a government disability check from what I have gathered. He goes home to this atmosphere on a regular basis. His home life is rough at times, real rough. Despite this kind of life he is an astounding youth overcoming astounding odds. Nick’s choices reflect not only the amazing person that he is but also a drive to be someone different than his circumstances might dictate. Nick and I have had many conversations about being who we want to be not what we are told to be. Nick is working these issues out not in a classroom but in everyday life, his life.

I asked Nick if he was going to graduate from high school this year. He replied, “Probably not, I can’t find a mentor to do my senior project with, and it’s too late”. I then asked if he had the grades (I knew he did) he replied “sure but its too late now, it’s over”.

Later that week Nick and I started working on his senior project together (one of the 3 I am currently responsible for being a mentor in). If Nick can get over the last few hurdles of his senior year, he will graduate from high school. I am honored to know that the Jeremiah Center played some small part in Nick graduating. I am more honored that Nick would complete his senior project with me as his mentor.

Joshua Jones

Program Director

### JEREMIAH CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010

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