



2011

Highlights report from Saturday, Aug 13, 2011

On Saturday Aug 13 (and with pre-CAREfest & post-CAREfest events) over 500 men, women, youth and kids from 5 local churches in the Snohomish and Lake Stevens areas moved out in projects in the community to serve people in Christ's name and demonstrate God's love in practical, hands-on ways. This was our 6th year for CAREfest. This year was unique in that we joined forces with Jesus University students. Youth have always been involved in CAREfest, but this year, the last day of JesusU was CAREfest day. It was a dynamic and exciting day. This is also the first time we have done CAREfest in the summer, and are looking for feedback on how that went.

The directive for CAREfest comes from Christ's own words in Matthew 5:16.

"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

During the week, JesusU kids were out on their own projects in the community. All told, between JesusU and CAREfest, the teams did over 100 projects and touched, in some way (especially the food drive) thousands of homes in our area. On CAREfest day alone, the volunteer teams worked on over 50 community serving projects at over 40 locations, partnering with local community service organizations, ministries, and schools. Three other churches led projects besides SCC. One late addition church sent some people but did not lead a project, but are really looking forward to doing it next year.

Several local business donated supplies, food, and price-discounts to the effort. The rest of this report tells the results (though not all the great stories!) of what was completed at each location. You can see photos and more about it at www.carefestnorthwest.com.

Hospitality team

- Every year we've kicked off with some food, coffee and prayer, and these behind-the-scenes folks got up really early to make it happen. They fueled us up with pastries, fruit, coffee and juice.

CAREfest Car Care

- For the 6th year, Bickford Ford professionals, plus volunteers serviced cars of low income or financially stressed families, including single moms and elderly. They changed oil,

replaced filters, installed new tires and other things to make cars road-safe. Some cars will have further follow up work paid for by participating churches. Bickford Ford provided the shop location and many of the supplies used.

Car Care wash/detail

- A team of JesusU youth scrubbed, vacuumed and detailed inside and outside each car that had been serviced in Car Care repair project above. Bickford Ford also provided the location for this work as well.

Photography/Video teams

- Individuals on the team traveled all around to the projects taking photos and video so that the volunteers could see what others were doing, and so lots of other people can see and multiply the vision for serving Jesus all year round.

PowerPoint/Webpage

- These two people are crucial! One has set up and manages the CAREfest website that is such a huge tool for making CAREfest work. The other received all the photo and video of CAREfest; sorts, selects, adds music, and puts it all together so others can see what CAREfest is all about.

Worship House (transitional house for women and children)(Millennia Ministries)

- Multiple projects here: Installed signs (hand crafted) and lighting system for the signs so that emergency vehicles can see where to go.
- Another team stained the deck and added a step off the back side.
- One group got really sweaty when they took on the task of cleaning out an overgrown area they use as a prayer garden.

Deaconess Childrens' Services

- The team focused on cleaning windows at this location, as well as worked on landscaping. This is the first time we've worked with Deaconess Services. We're sure it won't be the last.

Firewood for folks in need

- Like previous years, this team delivered free firewood to folks in need. Additionally, they cut, split and stacked enough to refill the storage shelter for the next time it's needed. And they also served a widow by splitting up firewood for her at her home.

Cocoon House

- Cocoon House staff office – This team installed engineered flooring in the main office. Very professional job.
- Another team, using youth from the Cocoon House, dug out an area and installed concrete so dumpsters can be rolled against the building. This team also created a way to turn a Basketball hoop around so it could be installed in a more open play area.

Sewing for Jesus

- This talented team created beautiful lap quilts for elderly, shut ins, and foster children graduating out of the foster care system in Snohomish County.

Monroe Women's Gospel Mission

- This team did some interior painting, while others did general yard work and maintenance around the grounds. Richly blessed the women at this place.

Matthew House

- This team painted 3 interior apartments and several meeting rooms. They did general clean-up inside, and painted the Matthew House main sign on the road. This team will finish up the project scope as a community group throughout the year.

Snohomish Food Drive wrap up

- The JesusU kids collected tons of food during the week, and the Saturday JesusU/CAREfest team got the final collections in the neighborhoods and delivered them to the Food Bank

Snohomish Food Bank

- The team sorted the food collected. Over 2,000 lbs that had been collected through the week. This will help get them through Summer. They also deep cleaned the Food Bank

and got it prepared for the next distribution day.

Lake Stevens Food Drive wrap up

- The JesusU kids collected tons of food during the week, and the Saturday JesusU/CAREfest team got the final collections in the neighborhoods and delivered them to the Food Bank.

Lake Stevens Food Bank

- The team sorted the food collected. Over 1,700 lbs that had been collected through the week. This will help get them through Summer.

City of Snohomish Hill Park/ Blackman's Lake

- Fun project here. The team removed an entire dock, then cut it up and disposed of it into the city trucks. No problem!

City of Snohomish Pilchuck Park.

- This team went after cleaning up the parks (garbage pick up, power washing play equipment, sidewalks, and parking areas, cutting back brush, clearing out a practice area) as well as painting areas that needed it. Super job of making the park look great again.

City of Snohomish Downtown Bathrooms

- This team of two took out a wall and installed a header. Removing this wall was an important visual safety factor, and our guys did it with quality.

Katie's Adult Daycare

- Katie's Adult Daycare Center is a low cost respite care center. Katie struggles to get by. Our team dug weeds and generally brightened the place up. Much yet to do.

Lake Stevens Senior Center

- This team weeded, cleaned windows and overall did a great job of sprucing up the outside of the Senior Center.

Lake Stevens Boys & Girls Club

- Team did a deep cleaning inside the club. With all the wear and tear on the facility, it really needed it.

Lake Stevens Family Center

- Team installed carpeting in the lower floor of the office. It was a challenge because it was used carpet and had been folded. The team worked hard to make it nice. They stuck around into the evening to help reset all of the furniture that had been moved.

Lake Stevens Schools

- Highlands Elementary – This team pressure washed sidewalks (they really needed it) and painted their shed. Custodian said they saved him a week of work getting ready for school.

Snohomish Schools

- Emerson Elementary: Landscape work to get the school ready for fall kick off. Weeding was the main focus.
- Central Primary: More weeding to get ready for school kick off.
- Snohomish AIM High: Some much needed landscaping work went on at this location. They also took down and removed an old brick wall.

Snohomish Seniors

- A great team of JU kids and leaders spent time cleaning windows for people who can no longer do it themselves.
- Another team did handyman projects for seniors who have a tough time doing things like that any more.

Snohomish County Parks

- Lord Hill Park – This team worked on the Lord Hill trails. Lots of overgrowth, and it needed some people to go after it. So we did!

Snohomish Historical Society

- Two big things here. They needed a new sidewalk, and they needed a new fence. Our teams went after both. JesusU kids helped break out the old sidewalk and huge rocks,

and installed fence posts. Then others came in behind to set up and pour the sidewalk and install the fencing. They are both beautifully installed and look great.

Housing Hope – 4 teams

- One team totally repainted a large entryway lobby to the Commerce building location. Beautiful, multi-color project. Bigger than we originally planned.
- Another team worked on Self-Help housing up at their latest project in Stanwood.
- Another team worked at Tomorrow's Hope Childcare Center, detailed the vans, and painted areas of the playground, and pressure washed the play equipment.
- See also the JesusU report because several teams worked on totally reorganizing the storage area for the Admin Building.

Equestrian Barn

- These horses get used in many ways, including encouraging special needs kids. We like to help them keep this service going. A lot of cleaning stables and helping make the grounds safe for kids and horses.

Kidzana VBS

- A team went to low income apartments over on Casino Road in Everett. They led a VBS for the entire apartment building, along with repainting benches, removing graffiti, and cleaning up a basketball court.

Widows, seniors, disabled and neighbors in need

- One team adopted a widow, and ended up not only worked on her place, but also some people she sent them out to. This team was pretty bold and headed down a Snohomish street looking for more people to serve. They found an elderly man who needed a lot of yard help, so they did it!
- Another team adopted a widow to clean up her yard. Earlier in the year, a team had replaced her roofing.
- Yet another team adopted an elderly couple, she has cancer. The team really ministered to these people and spent lots of time not only working but talking with her.
- Still another team helped a lady with MS to get her yard up to looking good again. She is so grateful because she is no longer able to even move herself from bed to wheelchair.
- Another one went to a home of an elderly couple and did some intense yard work.

The Farm

- A Cub Scout group connected to some folks from SCC really got after a bunch of projects for the Farm. They cleaned, weeded, did a lot of general upkeep, organized and overall encouraged this ministry.

Sanctuary Ministries

- This team painted the outside of the fellowship hall, trim and repaired broken things. Jesus U kids had already done some prep work for it.

Sherwood Learning Center

- One team totally reroofed a storage shed so things could be kept dry and well cared for.
- Another team served by steam cleaning carpets and doing general maintenance inside the building.

Special thanks to all the local businesses who partnered with us in various ways by donations of materials, labor, or discounts on supplies. They were (and are) great partners.

- **Ace Hardware - Lake Stevens**
- **Airport Welding**
- **American Building & Roofing**
- **Bickford Ford**
- **NAPA Auto Parts – Snohomish**
- **Trend Set Concrete**
- **Riverside Sand and Gravel**
- **Snohomish Valley Roofing**
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