



# 2010

## Highlights report from Saturday, May 1, 2010

**On Saturday May 1 (and with pre-CAREfest & post-CAREfest events) over 650 men, women and children representing 12 local churches in the Snohomish and Lake Stevens areas, fanned out into the community with one goal: To serve people in Christ's name and demonstrate God's love in practical, hands-on ways.**

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."*

The volunteer teams worked on over 65 community serving projects at nearly 50 locations, partnering with local community service organizations, ministries, and schools. Even the rain didn't dampen the attitudes. Projects they were unable to complete were rescheduled and completed later. After an 8:00 AM prayer launch, most teams were on the job by 9:00. 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](http://www.carefestnorthwest.com).

### **Cedar Springs Camp**

- A big team of adults and kids picked up trash, weeded, cleared brush, removed nuisance trees, power-washed, and a host of other work at the camp that serves so many people through the year.

### **Hospitality team**

- These behind-the-scenes folks got up really early and started the CAREfest day right with coffee, pastries, fruit and juice to fuel up the volunteers. Special thanks to Top Foods of Snohomish for the fourth year in a row of providing a lot of the food, plus snacks and bottled water for a mid morning break!

### **CAREfest Car Care**

- For the 5<sup>th</sup> year, Bickford Ford professionals, plus volunteers serviced 25 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 adults and teens 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. Boy were they wet by the end of their day! But the rain didn't stop them!

#### **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 guys are amazing. 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)**

- Multiple projects here: Spread gravel for volunteer parking lot and the circular driveway.
- Built add-ons to back deck, cleaned hen house, added chicken wire, built new nesting boxes, and restocked baby chicks
- Re-dug and relaid the firepit, cleaned out and replanted all gardens, windowboxes, and rose beds.
- Sorted the work shop, added bike hangers, and trucked away debris.

#### **Firewood for folks in need**

- Like last year, 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.

#### **Cocoon House**

- Cocoon House staff office – This team started CAREfest off early by building and installing some excellent shelving and storage areas for their staff's office.
- U-Turn Resource Center – This team is a community group that wanted to serve together, so they brought their families, landscaped outside, shampooed carpets fixed a downspout, cleaned furniture and delivered a huge bag of clothes, snacks, books, games and toys provided by someone who had, herself, received help during CAREfest 2009.

#### **Sewing for Jesus**

- This talented team created beautiful lap quilts for children who are graduating out of the foster care system in Snohomish County.

#### **Teams served neighbors in need**

- For one woman (MS, wheelchair bound) in Everett – a team painted the inside, installed new flooring, replaced a moldy door, donated a new couch, did outside clean up and landscaping as well.
- For an elderly couple in Granite Falls- they transformed the outside area where things were totally overgrown. The wife of this couple has Alzheimer's.
- For a neighbor: One team rebuilt the front porch.
- For a disabled Worker: A team worked through a short list of projects: cleaned out the gutters, weeded, replaced light bulbs in outdoor fixtures.
- For a Lake Stevens elderly couple: weeded flower beds, planted flowers and shrubs, weed-eating around the house and along the fences, and general yard cleanup.

#### **Snohomish Seniors**

- 3 teams went out with the goal of serving Snohomish senior citizens from the Snohomish Senior Center. They did yard work, felled trees, washed windows, replaced toilets, and a variety of other tasks at 7 different locations.

#### **Snohomish Food Bank**

- This team helped the Food Bank get ready for their open house. They planted flowers, powerwashed a shed roof, cleaned out the shed, powerwashed stacks of food containers, sorted food, cleaned, you name it.

#### **Snohomish Boys & Girls Club**

- This team washed most of the interior walls, washed all the windows, inside and out, weeded the flowerbeds, pressure washed the sidewalk (which they'll finish later).

### **City of Snohomish Hill Park**

- Major zone of impact here: Excavated and built a terraced retaining wall at a shelter, and installed new electrical panel and lights.
- Installed new sidewalk at the entry
- Installed a peeled pole fence along driveway
- Installed new bark at the play structure
- Graded out and installed topsoil for lawn area repair

### **City of Snohomish Gresso Building**

- Ripped out carpet in entire building
- Moved wall and installed two doors
- Cleared out the overgrowth in the back area (10 big truck loads)

### **City of Lake Stevens**

- One team worked on garbage pick up and graffiti clean-up in downtown.
- One team gave a fresh coat of paint to the Gazebo.

### **City of Lake Stevens Kids and Families Project: Bios-wale**

- Families installed plants, drain rock, soil, bark and totally transformed this area into a garden spot that not only looks great but takes care of the flow of water from the parking lot around it.

### **Lake Stevens Police Department**

- This team weeded, fertilized the grass, mowed, trimmed, and spread about 5 yards of bark and made this facility look even sharper.

### **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**

- This team spread 16 yards of bark, weeded, replanted some plants that had died. The place looks like new and the staff is incredibly grateful.

### **Lake Stevens Family Center**

- They really needed their storage renovated. So this team removed everything, put it under tarps outside, built and installed new shelving, reorganized and packed all into new storage bins. Later they'll be returning to reorganize their attic storage and to re-carpet the main facility.
- Another team weeded the property and did general outdoor clean up.
- Another team painted the lobby of the Center.
- A team of quilters made six beautiful quilts that are being donated to the Family Center to be, in turn, donated to the right family.

### **Lake Stevens Schools**

Mt. Pilchuck Elementary -Team of adults, kids and teens spread 10 yards of pea gravel under the play set at Mt. Pilchuck Elementary school. The tractor owned by one volunteer was a huge help!

Lake Stevens Middle –Installed new curtains on the stage in the cafeteria.

- The bushes and hillside were cleaned up and leveled to the ground.
- Repainted the counseling office.

Skyline Elementary

- Purchased the paint to paint the portables at Skyline Elementary but due to weather will wait till summer.

Lake Stevens High This team hauled out brush and picked up litter along the fence at entry points to the school.

### **Snohomish Schools**

- Emerson Elementary: Major work on the landscaping including weeding, bark, plant-installations and more.
- Central Primary: Refreshed track with new bark material plus did weeding and clean up

- in the landscaping areas.
- Snohomish High School: A team weeded and installed landscaping and plants all around the facility.
- Machias/Riverview: Window washing, weeding, and other general clean up was the focus of this project.

#### **Centennial Middle School**

- Brush-removal team: Cut brush, blackberry vines and cleaned up the detention pond, fence areas and all around the track.
- Painted Staff Lounge
- Pressure washed around the main patio area in front of the school.
- Moved fencing & gate – Heroic efforts by this small team to turn a fairly useless storage area into one with considerably more room and usefulness.
- Weeded between portables. Some volunteers who finished other projects early stayed late to complete this one.
- Painted storage containers – Afternoon sun allowed them to paint one of the three shipping containers.
- Cleaned parking lot curb drains so they will drain as they are supposed to.
- Cleaned up long jump track. The running track for the long jump had all but vanished under grass. This team opened it up.
- Installed a simple way to retain door stops for Fire Marshall approval.

#### **Snohomish County Parks**

- Flowing Lake Park- A big team of 26 cleaned up the campground and got to be a testimony to the campers. Pruned back bushes along all of the trails and campsites, cleaned the shoreline of the lake, picked up large branches, raked campsites, and spread a lot of gravel along the low spots throughout the entire road of the campsite.
- Willis Tucker Park- This team of college-age youth spread a bunch of bark to spruce up the planting beds.

#### **Housing Hope**

- Post CAREfest – This fence-staining project got postponed till June, but will be done!

#### **Frontier Heights**

- A team cleaned up around the Community Center and Park in this low-income housing area. Weeded play area, and cleaned out tires, junk and debris out of a perimeter ditch and hauled it away.

#### **The Farm**

- A group of teens installed a new roof over the western porch area, and also power washed the fences and lower parts of buildings, cleaned-up the bird area, and cleaned the center's kitchen.

#### **Habitat for Humanity**

- Sometimes you have to be flexible. They planned to paint, but got deployed to install doors, window coverings and much more. They had great (flexible) time and got a lot done.

#### **Everett Gospel Mission Women/children's shelter**

- Deep cleaned all 4 large kitchens & play equipment
- Landscaped by installing 5 yards of pea gravel, 20 yards of bark, and lots of installation of flowers.
- Another team conducted a craft party on Mother's Day weekend (post-CAREfest) for the residents at the women and children's shelter
- Others did painting touch-up

#### **Lunch for the homeless**

- A team went way out to Sultan to provide a BBQ and company for about 25 homeless people. The homeless enjoyed the company and the food, and were happy someone thought of them.

#### **Monroe Women's Gospel Mission**

- This team painted 3 bedrooms (tight squeeze with all the furniture), rebuilt the wheelchair ramp, serviced the furnace, cleaned the living-room and dining room carpets, weeded and pruned and edged in the flower beds.

**Sherwood Learning Center**

- Cleaned venetian blinds, patched sheetrock, filled emergency water supply barrels, painted, cleaned and moved materials to different locations.

**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**
- **American Building & Roofing**
- **Bickford Ford**
- **Clearview Nursery & Stone**
- **Heery**
- **Home Depot – Snohomish**
- **Iron Mountain Quarry**
- **Machias Nursery**
- **NAPA Auto Parts – Snohomish**
- **Spirit 105.3 Christian Radio**
- **Top Foods - Snohomish**
- **Wight's Nursery**