

TECC NEWS

Thurston Early Childhood Coalition

Who we are



TECC is a community based organization who is working together to build and support high quality early care and educational environments for Thurston County children and their families caregivers.



This month's guest speaker is Elizabeth Hawkins who is presenting on youth suicide awareness

All event flyers in newsletter are events in Thurston County and are in order by date.

Join us

ALL are Welcome!

9:30AM - 11:00AM
4th Thursday of every month.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82182024692?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82182024692?pwd=9sV77oJrMR82NgaX8VvnNbG0HCvIa0.1)
[pwd=9sV77oJrMR82NgaX8VvnNbG0HCvIa0.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82182024692?pwd=9sV77oJrMR82NgaX8VvnNbG0HCvIa0.1)

Meeting ID / 821 8202 4692

Contact

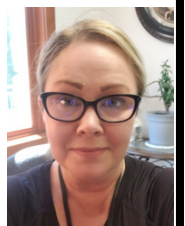


thurstonecc@gmail.com
sthurman@ssp2p.org



360.485.2985

Shawn Thurman
Thurston County Lead





Thurston Early Childhood Coalition



TECC Members Meeting / Thursday, Oct 22nd 9:30am-11:00am

- Welcome!
- Reminder- Due to Thanksgiving Holiday, November meeting will be on Thursday November 20th.
- Guest Speaker for November is Anna-Min Kellogg with Thurston County Food Bank
- ICC update (Interagency Coordinating Council) Kim Smith
- Guest Speaker
 - Elizabeth Hawkins with the Thurston County Public Health Dept. will present about youth suicide awareness.
- Agency updates

Meeting ID: 821 8202 4692 Passcode: 084432

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82182024692?
pwd=9sV77oJrMR82NgaX8VvnNbG0HCvIa0.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82182024692?pwd=9sV77oJrMR82NgaX8VvnNbG0HCvIa0.1)

**For questions or how to learn more about TECC, please contact:
Shawn Thurman sthurman@ssp2p.org / 360.485.2985**



THURSTON EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION

October 22, 2025

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our coalition and for everything you do for Thurston County families and beyond.

As we all feel the impact of rising costs—from rent to groceries—many families in our community are facing tough choices. With recent and potential cuts to WIC services and other supports, it's more important than ever that we combine our knowledge of resources and opportunities to help families through this season.

Next month, Anna-Min Kellogg from the Thurston County Food Bank will be our guest speaker. Please bring any additional resources you're aware of so we can share them out together.

Thank you for all that you do. Your commitment, creativity, and care make a real difference!

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Shawn Thurman'.

Shawn Thurman

*County Lead for the Thurston Early Childhood Coalition
360.485.2985 / sthurman@ssp2p.org*





Meet your 2025/2026 Board

Thurston Early Childhood Coalition (TECC) Monthly Meetings

TECC meetings are held monthly via Zoom, free to attend and open to the public. **Your voice matters!**

If you are a parent, provider, or community member who is passionate about supporting local Thurston County families, we invite you to join us. Come share your ideas, learn about resources, and be part of a collaborative community working to make a difference.



Izi LeMay

Chair



Genrietta Parker

Vice Chair



Trista Houdyshell

Secretary



Kenny Brock

Treasurer



Tom Parnell

Member at Large



Jenny Cimbalnik

Member at Large



Jess Lee

Member at Large



Shawn Thurman

County Lead

If you would like to learn more about TECC, please contact :

Shawn Thurman

360.485.2985 / sthurman@ssp2p.org



ASHHO

CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER

Cultural Bazaar

SAT. NOVEMBER 1ST

11AM - 3PM

SAT. DECEMBER 6TH



**SHOP
INTENTIONALLY**



**FAMILY
FRIENDLY**



**SUPPORT
LOCALLY**

**DINE WITH PURPOSE
ENJOY LUNCH AT RUNIA'S SOUL CAFE!**

**SCAN QR
CODE TO
BECOME A
VENDOR**



**5757 LITTLEROCK RD SW TUMWATER, WA 98512
(ACROSS FROM TUMWATER COSTCO)**

**FOR MORE INFO:
360-918-8625 | INFO@ASHHO.ORG
WWW.ASHHO.ORG**

JOIN US FOR Buddies & Beyond!

South Sound Parent to Parent and Hawks Prairie Head Start are partnering to bring a program created for children & families to make connections and build on social skills. Fun activities, with some free play included!

ONE TIME registration required visit us at
ssp2p.org or click on qr code:



**Meets quarterly from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM:
Next meet up: November 1, 2025**



For information, please contact:
Sylvia Davenport
360.352.1126 / sdavenport@ssp2p.org

Trista Houdyshell
thoudyshell@esd113.org





BUILDING

THROUGH PLAY

**FREE
Family
Event!**

**STREAM
Activities**

**Early
Learning
Fun**



November 19th

10 AM - 1 PM

**Lacey
Community
Center**

BLOCKFEST!

Join us for large
and small block
play for all ages!

PARTNERS!

Visit with CCAC
programs and other
community partners!

STREAM ACTIVITIES!

Bring the whole
family to enjoy
STREAM-focused
activities and
games!

Event info: www.ccacwa.org/building-through-play-2/



**Thurston County
Inclusion**

CURIOUS IN THE KITCHEN EVENT

partnering with

Soup 'n Ladle

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH

**Ages
6th Grade-
22 Year Old**



**Meal
Budget
Planning**



**Explore
Your
Palate**



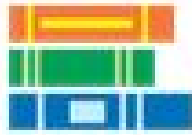
**Build a
Shopping
List**



**Cook
Together**

**OLYMPIA REGIONAL LEARNING ACADEMY- Home EC Room
2400 14th Ave SE Olympia**

Registration Required www.thurstoncountyinclusion.org

Lacey Loves to
Read 


**Renée
Watson**



Author Presentation & Book Signing
Thursday, February 12, 2026 6pm—8pm
Koval Performing Arts Center

IDEA Parent Guide

Individuals with
Disabilities
Education
Act

<https://www.ssp2p.org/resources-1>



Thurston County
**FOOD
BANK**
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Grocery Pick-Up Locations

Map of Locations and Schedules for Getting Groceries

<https://tcfb.org/services/locations/pick-up/>



Olympia School District

Child Find Notice



- Are you worried about your child's development?
- Does your child have difficulty communicating with people outside the family?
- Does your child have difficulty keeping up with other children their age?
- Does your child have concerning behaviors?
- Does your child have a medical disorder or birth defect that interferes with their development?
- Does the child seem to have hearing or vision issues?

Olympia School District can help! **Any child, birth to five**, whose family has concerns about their child's development and lives within the **Olympia School District Boundaries** can contact our office to receive a free Child Find Screening.

For details visit bit.ly/OSDChildFind or scan the QR Code above.



"If I'm concerned about my child's development, who should I call?"



South Sound

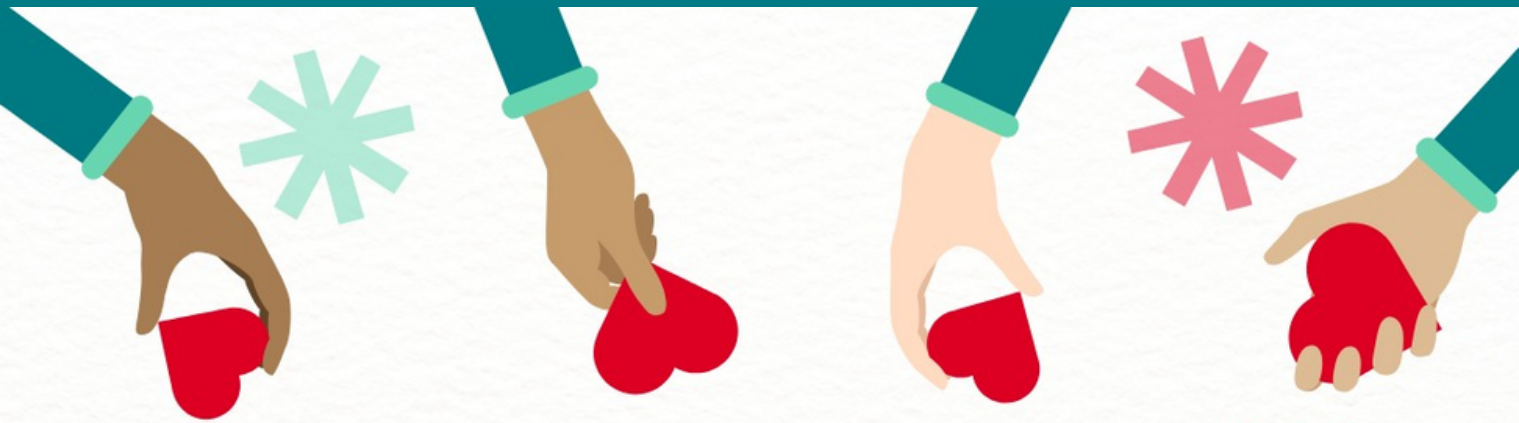
PARENT to PARENT

Research shows that most learning happens in the first 3 years. If you think your child, age birth - three, should be crawling, walking or talking and isn't, please contact South Sound Parent to Parent and schedule a **FREE** evaluation to see if your child qualifies for early support services. **NO Physician referral required**

For more information or to schedule an evaluation, please contact us at: **360.352.1126** / www.ssp2p.org



*Proudly serving families in Grays Harbor,
S. Mason & Thurston Counties.*



VOLUNTEER WITH



Family Support Center is non-profit, based in Olympia, serving families and survivors of domestic violence.

We're in need of volunteers in our Family Room!



What you'll do: Offer a warm welcome to visitors, organize and sort donations, helping distribute basic need items, and more!

When: Anytime during our business hours!
M-Th 9:00am-5:00pm, F 9:00am-2:00pm

JOIN US!

fscss.org/volunteer-opportunities

For more information: ✉ keylacb@fscss.org





WE BELIEVE PARENTS ARE THEIR CHILD'S FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT TEACHER



Parents as Teachers

is a free home visiting program partnering with families to share information, resources and encouragement to support them through their child's most crucial years.

SERVING FAMILIES IN THURSTON AND LEWIS COUNTY FROM PREGNANCY THROUGH AGE 5

Two monthly home visits

Developmental, health and family screenings

Monthly group connections

Access to the CYS resource network

At each visit Parent Educators bring activities and information suited to enrolled children's development, while additionally supporting families in creating goals and making connections to community resources.

Play is learning! The activities in our curriculum support language, motor, cognitive, problem solving, and social emotional development.

when possible
PAT brings families

**BOOKS
DIAPERS**

Household and hygiene products

Child proofing and safety supplies

& more

PARENT EDUCATORS CAN SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH

potty training
positive discipline
tantrums
sleep transitions
school readiness
finding dentists, childcare and pediatricians
building routines
finding new ways to connect
creating a safe home
understanding their child's development and how to support it

PROVEN OUTCOMES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Research shows that when families participate in Parents as Teachers

- Children enter kindergarten ready to learn and the achievement gap is narrowed
- Children achieve school success into elementary grades
- Children's developmental delays and health problems are detected earlier
- Parents improve their parenting knowledge and skill
- Parents are more involved in their children's schooling
- Families are more likely to promote their child's language and literacy



OUR VISION

All children will develop, learn, and grow to realize their full potential.

OUR MISSION

Promoting optimal early development, learning and health of children by supporting and engaging their parents and caregivers.

OUR APPROACH

PARTNER
FACILITATE
REFLECT

Contact us for more information on getting started!

Ryanne Zielinski, Program Director
(360) 701-2528
rzielinski@communityyouthservices.org



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



Parents as Teachers
Affiliate

What is Vroom?



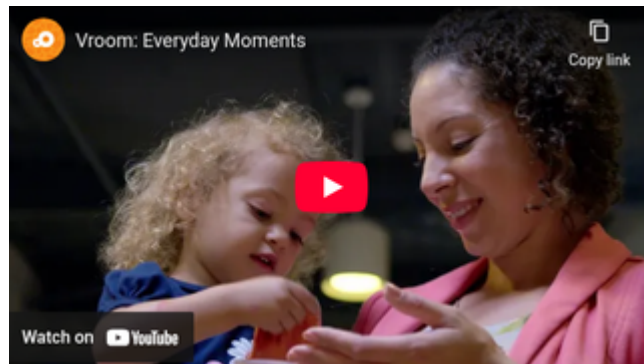
WASHINGTON
COMMUNITIES
for CHILDREN



vroom
Brain building moments

VROOM STATE ANCHOR PARTNER

As a Vroom State Anchor Partner with the Bezos Family Foundation, Washington Communities for Children utilizes our existing infrastructure to integrate Vroom materials into our communications efforts, as well as into our Health Provider Voice and Family Voice Learning Networks. Our continued goal is to connect health providers and hard-to-reach families across the *entire* state of Washington to Vroom.



<https://youtu.be/SzqNM1gjh00?si=LtTlovJ5wEQLEQVJ>

Try a Vroom tip: <https://www.washingtoncfc.org/vroom>

To receive complimentary Vroom materials, please contact
Shawn Thurman sthurman@ssp2p.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



If you would like to share flyers on our next newsletter,
please email : Thurston ECC thurstonecc@gmail.com

For more information about how you can be involved in TECC,
please contact: Shawn Thurman 360.485.2985 or email:
sthurman@ssp2p.org