**IN THE HOUSE**

**NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2020**

---

**What Matters Most**

**Breakfast**

**Wednesday, April 8**

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Washington State Convention Center

Since our founding in 1906, we’ve helped refugees, immigrants, and low-income community members in King County through education, job training, a pathway to citizenship, and more.

We continue to support those with limited means. With your help, we can reach more and do more.

Join us at the 114th Anniversary Breakfast.

Visit www.nhwa.org for tickets and sponsorship information.

---

**Career Opportunities:**

**We’re Hiring**

Neighborhood House offers meaningful career opportunities. We have many great positions available at the agency right now!

See all job descriptions and apply at www.nhwa.org, under the “Careers” tab.

---

**Go Green Survey**

Coming Soon

Do you prefer electronic delivery? Let us know!

We will be sending a survey about how Neighborhood House communicates with you and your preferences around receiving updates from us. Look for it in your email!

---

**Tax Letters**

We will not be mailing out annual year-end tax letters this year.

If you would like a copy of your donor statement from 2019, please email Arturo at arturom@nhwa.org.

---

**A message from Janice**

As I embark on month 5 of my journey as Neighborhood House’s Executive Director, I am overcome by the caring and commitment I feel when I visit different sites, talk with donors, and meet with members of our community.

Part of my learning process has been to visit with different teams at Neighborhood House and conduct listening sessions with staff. What I hear over and over is how much our staff love Neighborhood House, especially our diversity and the impact we have because we are embedded in the community. These listening sessions have taken me all over King County to Auburn, White Center, Kent, Burien, Rainier Valley, High Point, and Tukwila, and I’m not done!

In November, I met our newly elected Policy Council. The Policy Council is a group of parents, elected by their peers to serve in a governing role over our Child Development programs. The Policy Council is a powerful group. They approve of our budget and program goals. They are the voice of parents and children in the program, holding us accountable and ensuring we’re responsive to their needs.

In August, I met several young people in our STUDIO program who were showcasing their photography and other art projects. STUDIO is an oasis for youth; they are paired with a UW student and work together on projects that develop leadership, artistic abilities, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills.

I embark on this journey with humility and gratitude to my predecessor Mark Okazaki, the Board of Directors, the incredible staff of Neighborhood House and you, our supporters. Each day is a new opportunity for all of us to live the values of our founding mothers, Tikkun Olam (repair the world).

With gratitude for your support,

Janice Deguchi

---

**Spotlight on ADS**

The Aging and Disability Services division (ADS) at Neighborhood House is a robust team of nearly 40 professionals: case managers, home care specialists, compliance coordinators, and more. ADS staff run and support programs for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their families. They assist with planning for care needs, identifying resources, and connecting to services.

Recently, staff were able to work with a client who had been previously approved for Medicaid and Medicare. However, the client was being denied services from urgent care, pharmacies, and even had to pay for her own flu shot due to her name not being in the system. Bilingual ADS staff provided translations and connected her with pro bono legal aid. The client was then able to attend a DSHS hearing where it was settled that all back bills would be covered for. She thanks the help of Neighborhood House and its special attention to cultural and linguistic needs with helping her walk through a system that felt foreign.

---

**facebook.com/neighborhoodhouseseattle**

**twitter.com/neighborhouse**
Gatherings and celebrations

It was a busy fall season here at the agency last year. On September 13, we said farewell to Mark Okazaki, Executive Director of 19 years, with a celebration at our High Point site. The following week, we had a chance to catch up and build community with Sparklight donors at the annual appreciation event, Grillin’ with Dillon. This summer, our staff were busy brainstorming and came up with a new engagement event and as a result, in early October, we had our very first Welcome to the Neighborhood happy hour.

Janice Deguchi officially joined the team as Executive Director in September and on October 15, we gathered with supporters and friends at the Pacific Tower for a welcome reception. Fast forward to November, where over one hundred of you came out for a night of Brazilian food, music, and dance at the 2019 Caravale. Thank you for helping us raise over $60,000 toward the agency’s mission!

These gatherings and events were an opportunity to connect with you, our supporters, and continue to build our capacity to do more in the community.

In between these public-facing get-togethers, our divisions put out numerous events: Early Head Start parent engagement socializations, student showcases at afterschool programs, meetings of aging and disability services providers. The President of the University of Washington even paid a visit to our STUDIO program where volunteers and mentors engage teens to cultivate STEM interests.

We’re excited to start the new decade strong and look forward to more chances to meet supporters, connect with our mission, and aid our communities.

Thank you to our supporter

Meet Volunteer Raul

Raul began volunteering as a photographer with Neighborhood House last summer. In just a short amount of time, he has photographed numerous events, including fundraisers, social gatherings, and classes. His work helps us visually communicate the agency’s programs and their impact.

Fun fact: Raul has a degree in Aerospace Engineering and worked for Boeing until he transitioned to full-time photography last year.

Want to get involved with Neighborhood House as a volunteer? Check out our current opportunities!
Visit www.nhwa.org, under the “Make a Difference” tab.

Hear Ally’s Story

When Ally was referred to Neighborhood House, she was facing roadblocks in finding a stable job due to her background of being incarcerated years ago. An advocate worked with her to enroll in an employment training program and walked by her side throughout the job search, including assisting with career coaching and life skills training.

Within months of coming to the agency, Ally was offered a full-time office position with a local manufacturing company. Ally has been enjoying her role and sees much potential for growth with her employer. Additionally, she has been able to find a new apartment for herself and her two kids and no longer has to stay with friends in order to have a safe place to live.

Ally maintained contact with our agency and the people that believed in her from the start. She was even able to refer and facilitate the hiring of another client from Neighborhood House at her office! She enjoys helping others and being able to advocate for them too.

IN THE HOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020

See all photos from recent events on our Facebook!

Caravale, Nov. 2019
Youth Program Showcase, Dec. 2019