

{ D R E A M }

WHAT DREAMS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE YOUTH IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
WE ASKED SOME PEOPLE. HERE IS WHAT THEY SAID.

"Our dream is that KATS has been a part of helping our students find 'hope' for themselves today and 'hope' for themselves tomorrow."

— JEFF ALLEN, PRINCIPAL OF KATS PROGRAM

"A dream I have is that every student is provided opportunity and exposure to develop passion for their own dreams. Opportunity and exposure is not necessarily found in curriculum, but discovered within the life experiences shared and compassion fostered by adults."

— REX GREEN, DEAN OF STUDENTS, MVMS

"I would like to see families and communities that provide both positive love and support as well as clear and strong boundaries and guidance for young people."

— CHIEF STRACHAN, BREM. POLICE DEPT.

"My hope for all of us is that we make a positive change in the world; that we do something good."

— LORENZO, PORT ORCHARD YOUTH

"That we wouldn't end up in destructive relationships and marriages but have real examples of successful marriages, families, and lives."

— POULSBO YOUTH

"First, to be healthy. Second, to be proud of their community and strive to give back to those who need a step up and are in need."

— EDWARD WOLFE, KITSAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

"To get a job, sustainable housing, to be an example."

— ARMANDO, BREMERTON YOUTH

"More job opportunities for those in need."

— TIANA, BREMERTON YOUTH

"My hope is that the students will be able to 'slow their roll.' To learn what is in front of them, spend time on their life."

— CORY MILLARD, TEACHER AT DISCOVERY ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

"My dream is for them to feel secure, valued and cherished as a vital part of our future."

— ROBERT GELDER, KITSAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

"I hope that our students can remove barriers that are preventing them from reaching their full potential."

— CHERIE THALHEIMER, SKHS INTERVENTIONIST

"My dreams for the youth in the city of Bremerton are their secure feelings of love, success in learning and appreciating their education and knowing they are safe to engage in both."

— MAYOR PATTY LENT

The Coffee Oasis began in 1997 with a dream...a dream to “make a difference” in the lives of Kitsap County’s street and homeless youth whom my wife and I had become burdened about while volunteering as a police chaplain and inviting homeless individuals into our home.

Over the years we’ve expressed this dream in many ways:

“Bringing the hope of Christ to the pain on the streets”

“Where the cold streets meet a warm welcome”

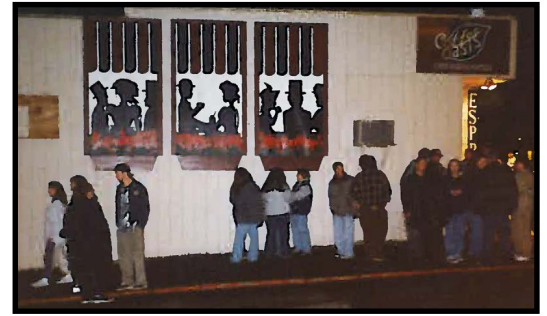
“Real Coffee. Real Hope.”

But, regardless of how we’ve framed the words, the dream was and is still the same: To see multitudes of broken and hurting youth in our communities, who we care about deeply, offered relationships and resources and services in order that they might have HOPE. The hope of healing, hope of really living, and hope of becoming what they were created to be.

Many of our young people have little hope...even to be able to dream. Our dream is to give them HOPE and something to dream about! I can’t tell you how thrilling and fulfilling it has been over the years to see what God has done and is doing to bring our dream to reality! And, I can’t describe the privilege it is to live in a community that is also embracing the dream to bring young people hope and so together seeing our dream become a reality!

Thank you so much for partnering with us in bringing young people hope!

Sincerely,



A Friday Late Night in 1998 at the original Coffee Oasis location in Bremerton. Since then, 1,000s of kids have found belonging at The Coffee Oasis.

{ KENNY'S STORY }

Me growing up, at first it was easy, because my mom wasn't in the drug selling business. When I was 12 she kinda got ripped out of my life because she went to jail and I started floating around. It was just really crazy.

At first I thought it was normal, because I didn't know any other kind of life, you know. I started raising myself, going through my own obstacles. I was making horrible choices. Then reality started hitting me because I got in trouble with the law once. When I got out of jail I went to foster care.

I started going to Renaissance and met all these great people, like Darrell and Daniel (Oasis outreach workers). They encouraged me, but in my head, I didn't believe it. A lot of people would say they want to help me then shoot off to another place. I figured "I'm just going to do my own thing." I stopped going to Renaissance.

I got back to that stuff again, smoking again, stealing again. I honestly got kinda depressed, being back in the same position. One of my friends invited me to the Poulsbo Coffee Oasis. I met Donna (case manager), and she said she could get some job classes going for me. Then I realized I didn't want to be stuck in the same position all my life. So I started doing the job classes, got them all done.

I started looking for jobs. Jimmy Johns came up. I started the internship and worked hard. 40-50 hours into the internship I got the job! I don't know where I would be right now without the Coffee Oasis. I would probably be doing the same stupid stuff and in jail now. I have more self-worth. They made me realize that, that I could work hard and achieve anything.





Kids who participated in the Dreamz Becomin' Reality project got to record their works on an album that will be released later this year!



Darrell worked with youth during hip hop workshops to hone their skills and what they wished to express.



DEVELOPING DREAMS THROUGH HIP HOP

by Darrell Thomas, Manager of Street Hope

When I was a youth I loved expressing myself through hip hop music. Unfortunately, there was no one in my life to nurture that dream. Now as the Manager of Street Hope (street and school outreach program) for The Coffee Oasis I am pioneering a project with Kitsap Regional Library (KRL) and Kitsap Consolidated Housing Authority to develop dreams of youth in the way that I would have benefited from as a young man. In the project, I'm teaching hip hop and rap skills classes at KRL, helping kids express themselves through music. As part of the project, we gave the youth a chance to record an album showcasing their work.

We want to offer our youth an opportunity to share what they see, hear, and feel through the art form of hip hop, R&B, and poetry. We want to help them release, in a positive way, the rhythms flowing through their hearts and minds. The project is called Dreamz Becomin' Reality. The idea behind the name is that we all have dreams but require the necessary tools and support to make those dreams become a reality. We believe that mentoring the youth's gifts will impact their entire lives—even beyond music to careers, education, and sports.

At the end of the year we will be releasing their album. In January the youth will perform in a concert for others (you!) to celebrate their amazing abilities.

Lyrics: Alexis Jones

*Follow your dreams no matter how hard it be
You can complete anything that comes between
We had no money with no food in sight
When my head hit the pillow, saw the light shine bright.*

WATCH A VIDEO ABOUT THE HIP HOP CLASS HERE!

WWW.VIMEO.COM/THECOFFEEOASIS



Recent Highlights



2ND ANNUAL COFFEE OASIS GARDEN GALA!



Over 120 guests attended our second annual fundraising dinner and gave almost \$20,000 in support of the Oasis Youth Programs! It was a truly beautiful night. Guests enjoyed a mobile Oasis coffee cart in the gardens and the Coffee Oasis catered dinner and cupcakes. Our youth (like Kenny on the opposite page) shared from their hearts how their lives have been changed.



CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Have you ever felt helpless when you hear about a youth battling addiction?

Celebrate Recovery is our commitment to help kids find VICTORY over their "hurts, habits, and hangups." The group starts October 27th @ 7:00PM. It will continue weekly on Tuesdays.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROJECT



This Christmas...

GIVE LOVE AND FAMILY TO HOMELESS YOUTH IN YOUR CITY.

○ **\$50**

WILL PROVIDE GIFTS FOR ONE YOUTH

Give online at www.thecoffeeoasis.com

**THE COFFEE
OASIS**

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