



CHANGING LIVES

The newsletter for the Joyce L. Sobel Family Resource Center



For more than two decades, Homes for Islanders (HFI) did something remarkable, they have helped 129 families across San Juan County build homes and futures through sweat equity and community spirit. This spring, that legacy lives on in a new way. As HFI closed this chapter of their work, they transferred a portion of their assets to the Joyce L. Sobel Family Resource Center, including a wonderful facility space on Price Street.

We are deeply honored by the trust this represents and by the values it carries with it: a belief in community stability, in neighbors helping neighbors, and in investing in the long-term well-being of everyone who calls these islands home.

The Price Street space is already buzzing with activity. Community groups are gathering here, programs are taking shape, and new possibilities are coming into focus every week. What comes next is up to all of us.

We believe community input is a vital part of creating the best possible local resources, and we want to hear from you. In the coming months, we will be hosting input sessions to explore how this space can best serve San Juan Island for years to come.

Would you like to join the conversation? Add your name to our contact list at jlsfrc.org/price-street-input, and we will make sure you are the first to know when sessions are scheduled.

SERVING ISLANDERS AT EVERY STAGE OF LIFE



Community Baby Shower & Perinatal Mental Health

Becoming a parent is one of life's greatest joys — and most demanding transitions. Last year, our Community Baby Shower connected expecting and new families with resources, support, and each other. This year, the Lopez Family Resource Center hosted this all-island event and continued to weave in our growing Perinatal Mental Health initiative, so no one navigates new parenthood's emotional landscape alone.

Being a young mom with a baby can be isolating sometimes. Having events that are open to all ages was eye-opening to see how many young families there are here. I was able to connect with friends and also make new ones! I am so thankful to the FRC for facilitating community events that foster long-lasting relationships and support systems.

- Makayla Totten

Kindergarten Transitions Program

That first day of kindergarten is a milestone for kids and caregivers alike. Our Kindergarten Transitions Program helps families prepare for the big step with tools, information, and community connections.

The Kinder Transitions program was a gift to our family. Meeting his teacher one-on-one and building a picture of what school would look like gave my son the confidence to walk through those kindergarten doors without fear."

- Leah Gaye



Middle School Boys Program

Middle school can be a challenging stretch. Our Middle School Boys Program creates a steady, trusted space where young men on the island can talk, learn, and support one another with mentors who show up every single week. Through guidance and shared activities, the program helps boys build confidence and a stronger connection to their community.



SERVING ISLANDERS AT EVERY STAGE OF LIFE

Sage Café

For our island elders, Sage Café is a lifeline of connection, laughter, and belonging. Led by facilitator Cindy Baker with help from Pam Stewart, the Sage Café became a beloved weekly event for some of our older islanders. We're thrilled to share that JLSFRC has a new grant to expand the program, bringing islanders more of what makes Sage Café so special.

I appreciate participating in the Sage Cafe for many reasons. The blend of ages and life experience is very inspirational to me. I am especially grateful for each person's interest and encouragement. The opportunity to have this broadened connection is vital and a happy circumstance.

-Smithy



Bringing Mainland Services to the Island

Living on an island means that some services require extra effort to access or simply aren't available. The Family Resource Center regularly coordinates visits from the DSHS Mobile Services Office, Washington State Department of Health Care-a-Van, and support for claiming the Washington Working Families Tax Credit – so islanders can access government benefits, healthcare, and financial services without leaving the island. This year we were fortunate to have all three here at the same time!



If you would like to learn more about the availability of these services, call our office at **(360) 378-5246**. Agencies tend to visit the island on a quarterly basis.



LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

A gift that endures

Every day at the JLS Family Resource Center, we see what community investment makes possible. A planned gift — whether a bequest, a percentage of your estate, or a gift of assets — ensures that islanders in need will always have support and that programs and services helping our community flourish continue long after we are gone. Make sure your values remain part of our community for decades to come.

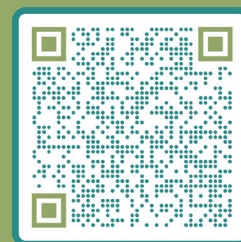
This initiative gives us the flexibility to adapt and respond to the community's changing needs, ensuring the Resource Center remains a vital source of support for future generations of islanders to come. JLSFRC is committed to preserving the strong sense of community that makes this place so special. We are fortunate to live on an island where people care for one another — from supporting new parents or to helping our island elders remain healthy and connected as they age in place.

To learn more about legacy giving and its impact on our community, please contact **Jennifer Armstrong** at (360) 378-5246 or via email at jennifera@jlsfrc.org.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Monthly giving is equally powerful. Recurring gifts help us plan ahead, sustain programs year-round, and respond quickly when neighbors need us most.

Visit jlsfrc.org/donate and select “*Monthly Gift*” — every dollar stays right here on San Juan Island.



DONATE TODAY



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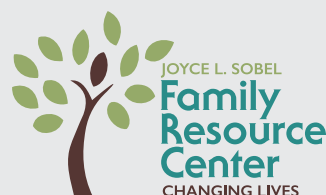
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