25-26 CIS Newsletter #2

Hello, Squalicum community!

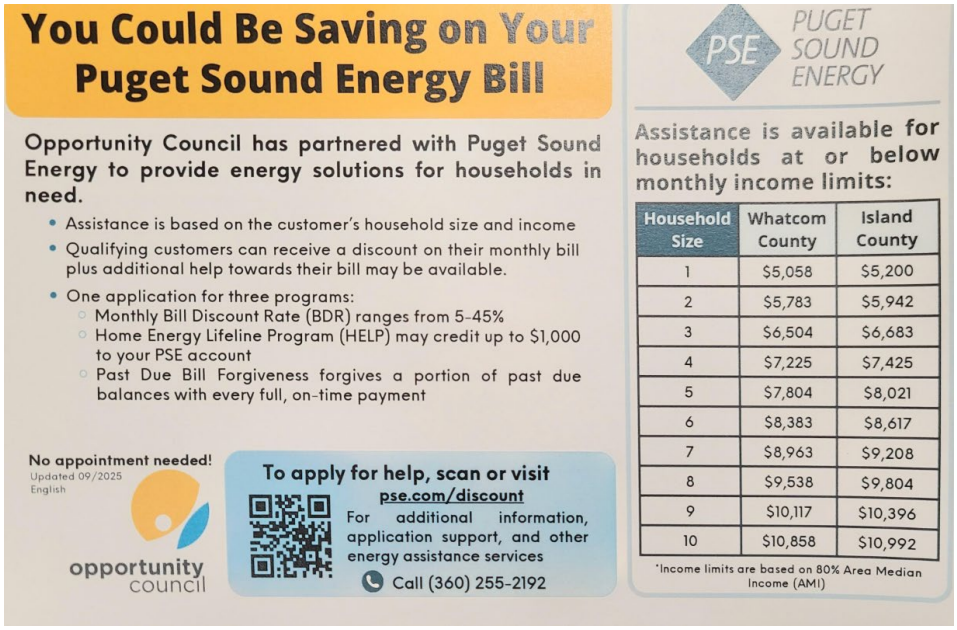
My name is Justin Sanchez, student services coordinator at SQHS. I work for the nonprofit Communities in Schools which is dedicated to supporting K-12 youth on academic, behavior, and social-emotional goals, ensuring they have the basic necessities at school and home to thrive. I also work with 30-35 students a year for targeted, ongoing support in all those areas.

My office is in the Student Services and Family Resource Room (B214). Kids can get snacks, hygiene products, school supplies, resource flyers, and take-home meals.

Here is my quarterly newsletter on resources/events. This focus will be on energy assistance, SQHS food pantry nights, the Family Resource Center, and things to do over winter break!

Opportunity Council

- Opportunity Council's mission is to educate and provide direct service to our community. They offer a wide range of services, one being energy assistance partnerships with Puget Sound Energy and Cascade Natural Gas!
- The utility assistance webpage and application process can be found here
- 1111 Cornwall Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225. 360-734-5121



Storm Food Pantry Nights

- We are hosting Storm Pantry Nights before each break in the year! Our next one is **December 18th 3:30-6:30**. Come by before, during, or after school to shop for food and hygiene items in the staff room. There will be bussing and delivery options available

- While there are designated days for this event, you can **still reach out any time** to Justin, Frank Alvear, or admin to schedule a delivery or a pick up at school



Family Resource Center

- Connect with our Family Resource Center at Shuksan Middle School and Carl Cozier Elementary! Call the numbers below for food, diapers, toilet paper, laundry soap, shampoo, conditioner, etc. If transportation for pick up is needed, reach out to Justin or Frank Alvear. Donations of these items are also welcome if you have them
- **Shuksan**: 2717 Alderwood Avenue. Open Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. 360-676-6456. Multi-lingual message line is 360-647-6816
- **Carl Cozier**: 1330 Lincoln Street. Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. 360-676-5085

What to Do Over Winter Break?

- Whatcom YMCA: Drop in sports, open gym, and family time for members. For free teen programs now and upcoming, follow the link here
- Bellingham Public Library: For youth/teen events and clubs such as crafting, find dates at this link here
- Whatcom Kids Insider: For youth and family events for all ages, explore the event schedule each day here
- Self Care:

Additional Resources

- Community Resource Library: The Whatcom Asset Building Coalition has local guides for food, housing, clothing, and holiday meals
- Maple Alley Inn: Opportunity Council's hot meal program services a diverse community of families, veterans, seniors, individuals in recovery, and others by coming together for a shared meal **Wednesdays and Thursdays 11:30 AM-1:00 PM** except major holidays.

- Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center: The WDRC can provide and promote constructive and collaborative approaches to conflict. They offer education trainings, 1-on-1 sessions for identifying issues and setting goals, mediation to a wide range of disputes (family, landlord, work, etc.). Located at 206 Prospect Street. Call 360-676-0122 or email wdrc@whatcomdrc.org



Holiday Food and Meal Guide 2025

November

Bellingham Salvation Army Food Bank - Holiday Foods
Mon, 11/17 (Seniors), Tue, 11/18 & Thu, 11/20 | 2912 NW Ave

Bellingham Recovery Cafe Holiday Meal
Thursday, 11/27 2-6pm | 110 Flora St.

Blaine CAP Thanksgiving Baskets
For families in need in Blaine, Birch Bay, Custer, or Pt. Roberts
Register by 11/14 at blainecap.org or call (360) 393-9483
Pick up on Tuesday, 11/25, 10-2:30pm in Blaine

Kendall Senior Center Holiday Potluck at EWRRC
Thursday 11/20, 4-7pm | 8251 Kendall Rd, Maple Falls

Lighthouse Mission Thanksgiving Dinner
Thursday, 11/27, 12-3pm | Lighthouse Mission, 1312 F St.

Lynden Project Hope Food Bank - Holiday Foods
Mon & Fri, 9:30am - 12pm, Tue, 3 - 6pm | 205 S BC Ave., Lynden

Maple Alley Inn Harvest Feast at Faith Lutheran
Thursday, 11/27, 11:30am - 1pm | 2750 McLeod Rd.

Southside Community Meal at Our Savior's Lutheran
Sunday, 11/16, 5 - 6:30pm | 1720 Harris Ave.

Sent Ones Ministry Community Meal at United Church of Ferndale
Thursday, 11/27, 12 - 1:30pm | 2034 Washington St, Ferndale

December

Maple Alley Inn Holiday Meals at Faith Lutheran
Wednesday, 12/17 & 12/24, 11:30am - 1pm | 2750 McLeod Rd.

Bellingham Salvation Army Food Bank - Holiday Foods
Mon, 12/8 (Seniors), Tue, 12/9 & Thu 12/11 | 2912 NW Ave.

Bellingham Recovery Cafe Holiday Meals
Wed, 12/24 12-4pm, Thu, 12/25 2-6pm, & Wed, 12/31 12-4pm | 110 Flora St.

United Church of Ferndale Christmas Dinner
Saturday, 12/13, 1 - 5pm | 2034 Washington St, Ferndale

Lynden Project Hope Food Bank - Holiday Foods
Mon & Fri, 9:30am - 12pm, Tue, 3 - 6pm | 205 S BC Ave., Lynden

A Watered Garden - Holiday Meal
Thursday, 12/18, 6pm | 700 Strandell St., Everson

Little Cheerful Cafe's Soup Kitchen
November through March
Wednesdays at 6:30pm
133 E Holly Street, Bellingham

If you have questions, would like assistance with these resources, or need something not listed, contact Justin at justin.sanchez@bellinghamschools.org or (360) 676-6470 ext. 7607. Our family liaison Frank Alvear can be reached at frank.alvear@bellinghamschools.org, as well as for bilingual support.