



This Week from the Mayor



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City honored for work with supported employment

FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS, the city has benefitted greatly from the work of Mahamoud, a participant in Highline College's Supported Employment program, which provides supported education and vocational training to students with disabilities.

In 2017, our human resources staff included a supported employment component into the the [HR Inclusion Tactical Plan](#). This component aligned with our business plan goal of "building an inclusive informed city with opportunities for all." Human Resources staff worked with



Mahamoud

city departments to identify appropriate work and then reached out to Highline College to identify participants who met those needs. For their efforts, the city was awarded the 2019 Outstanding Employer Award from the Community Employment Alliance.

Mahamoud divides his time between the City Clerk's office and public works, modernizing the city's records and information management program. The job puts him in an office environment and pays him a living wage with good benefits, which is important as he works towards greater independence. Hiring Mahamoud has taken the city another step towards meeting our goals of inclusion and diversity and reinforces our goal of employing a workforce that reflects the diversity of the Renton community.

Congratulations, Mahamoud and thank you for your contributions to the city.

Communities in Schools Renton continues to invest in students

NO GROUP IS MORE INVESTED in the youth of Renton than [Communities In Schools Renton](#) (CISR). That's why I was so pleased on Wednesday morning to join Dr. Damien Pattenaude, Renton School District Superintendent, and many others at their annual Partners for Equity fundraising breakfast. The event showcased their tremendous work during the past year and raised almost \$50,000, according to Executive Director Jaime Greene.



Renton School District Superintendent Dr. Damien Pattenaude (left) poses with Trishaunie Lewis, the featured student speaker, and her parents Ebony Ellington and Marlon Lewis at the CISR breakfast. (Photo courtesy Communities in Schools Renton)

It's no secret students today face a myriad of challenges both inside and outside the classroom. What you may not know is nearly one in four Washington students fail to graduate on time. From last year until now, CISR supported an estimated 7,700 Renton students with one or more of their unique programs, a yearly increase of 44 percent. CISR staff also reach out to Renton businesses to secure food, clothing and health care items, as well as assistance with mentoring, college and career preparation and after-school programs. The breakfast showcased the vital work CISR is doing for our youth, but their work continues long after the breakfast ends. I urge you to take a minute to look at their site and [make the choice to donate or volunteer](#).

KCSARC sees 19 percent increase in sexual assault cases

THE [KING COUNTY SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE CENTER](#) (KCSARC) is another group with a long-standing commitment to Renton. Under Executive Director Mary Ellen Stone, KCSARC helps victims of sexual assault become survivors. In 2018 they helped 4,888 survivors and their families, a 19 percent increase over 2017, and their legal advocacy department helped another 2,287 survivors navigate the criminal justice system.

KCSARC has also developed preventative education programs for schools. In 2017 they partnered with Renton School District to develop trauma-informed classrooms for middle and high school students and teachers. Last year they expanded this program to elementary educators via Launch Pad. KCSARC also supports non-English speaking victims with their Time to Fly program, which has helped remove barriers for underserved Spanish-speaking adult survivors of child sexual assault.

Their workload is growing and they, too, can use your support. Their 31st annual "Be Loud" benefit breakfast is next March, but there are several other ways you can help before then. I urge you [to get involved](#).



The city has had a long standing relationship with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center. Executive Director Mary Ellen Stone (above) briefs the City Council earlier this year.

Feedback

Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please [email](#) me. Thanks for reading. [Translate](#) | [Archive](#)