

From: Jane Shucklin [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 11:52 AM
To: Smith, Terry; Foran, Patrick
Cc: Houston, Monica
Subject: A note of thanks

Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Foran,

I would like to express my utmost gratitude to you, the City of Bellevue, Bellevue Sister Cities, Monica Houston and the staff at Highland Community Center for helping to make Zumba for Japan a reality instead of just an idea this past Saturday. Without the generous donation of such a wonderful space that allowed a community to join together and raise money for a nation struggling to put their country back together was an event that was inspiring to all.

Instructors came from as far away as Whidbey Island, and participants came from not only the neighboring eastside and greater Seattle area, but also from as far away as Marysville, Arlington and more.

This event was filled with close to 300 participants and collected just over \$8,000. This money will be handled by Peace Winds of America and designated for relief efforts in Japan. The Japanese attendees were moved to tears with gratitude for the support that they felt from our community of Bellevue, the Zumba community and from Highland Community Center in particular.

Highland Community Center is where I Zumba on Wednesdays, and I choose HCC for the wonderful programs that can be found there. To see the work that is being done for people with disabilities, and to watch the young men that come in to play basketball with missing limbs greatly humbles me. I am lucky to be connected to a city and a facility that cares about those that sometimes can be easily overlooked and forgotten.

As part of the Zumba family at HCC, I have been able to stay in shape, forge wonderful friendships, and help fundraise for the disability program. This allows me to be part of a caring community that I'm proud to be a member of.

Sincerely,
Jane Shucklin
Co-chair, Zumba for Japan

From: Smith, Terry
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 12:44 PM
To: Jane Shucklin
Cc: Houston, Monica; Lassiter, Dan; Indurkar, Kim; Foran, Patrick; Harvey, Nancy
Subject: RE: A note of thanks
Attachments: Terry Smith.vcf

Jane,

Thank you for your e-mail and compliment to the City and staff from Highland. They do a great job!

Your support for this event is also a reason to celebrate. Your time and commitment were a big part of the success of this event. The number of people that participated and contributed was amazing. Yet as you mention the fundraiser also provided an opportunity to build community especially with Japanese residents whose family and friends have been impacted by the earthquake and tsunami.

I also would like to thank you for your additional support to our specialized recreation program participants at Highland. For many of these participants Highland is the only choice they have for recreation and exercise.

Sincerely,
Terry

" Have A Great Outdoor Day"