

# Community Café: Changing the Lives of Children through Conversations that Matter The Harvest

---

**Date:** July 9, 2011

**Location:** Wyckoff Farmworker Housing Camp in Grandview, WA

**Hosts:** Edith Mojica and Alicia Luna

**What community partners helped to support this cafe?**

Northwest Justice Project

**How many participants?** 22 (9 Males & 13 Females)

**How many children?** 28

**What was the purpose for this café conversation?**

The purpose of the Café was to provide Grandview's farmworker families a place to gather and have a conversation about the strengthening families protective factor framework and to come together to connect with each other, connect with resources, recognize the strengths within their community and work together to build community; forming a community to which all related want to belong and stay.

**What questions were used at this Café?**

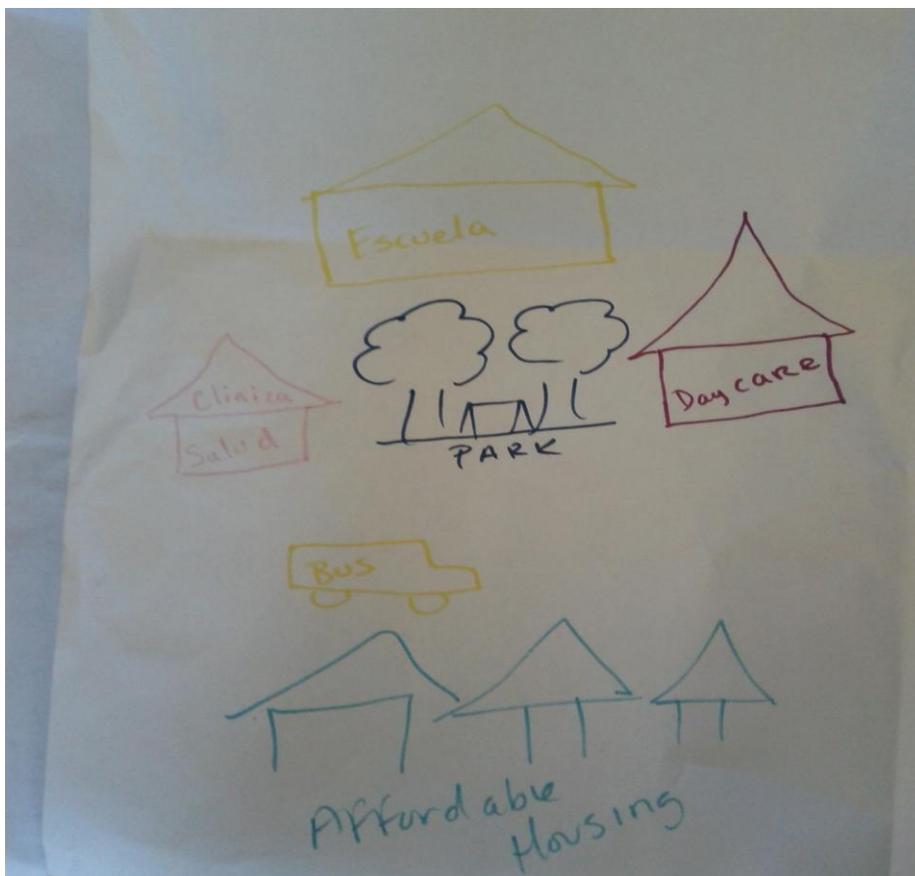
Question 1: What does a community that supports strengthening families look like?

Question 2: What are the assets and strengths of this community and what do we want to work on?

**What were some highlights, insights, and themes from the café?**

- We all need to participate, not just a few, in community activities and be community
- We need to be the example; stop criticizing those that don't participate
- We need to be united and be willing to ask for support/help when needed
- United we can work towards change and thus strengthen our families
- We want our kids to be active and learning; playground setting/recreation activities for our kids
- Trust and get to know other people including neighbors, service providers, etc.
- Support each other and be willing to talk about our struggles/issues; offer each other a helping hand
- Be good listeners and give of our time, efforts, and self
- Be willing to build trust and offer assistance with transportation to work and back
- Know where and who to ask for help
- Have faith that others will help; don't have doubts and fear about asking for help
- Need to be a community in harmony supporting each other
- Work together to address safety issues: the break-ins that have occurred in the camp, children's safety with the canal and the main road so close to the camp
- More information; resources available in our community; information about available, affordable, and flexible child care, leadership classes for parents, etc.

- Need ESL classes that provide childcare so that we can help our children
- Safe working conditions that will ensure we stay healthy and can care for our children; hot weather and long hours causes us to become weak, nauseated, and disoriented
- Fair and equal treatment at work; in regards to employment, wages, etc. so we can provide for our children
- Access to a medical plan especially for our children
- Access to food banks when we need help in feeding our children
- Affordable and safe housing
- Development of our farmworker housing; a Laundromat, fence around the camp, recreational activities for our children
- Have the opportunity to get a drivers license; make it less difficult to obtain one
- Help each other especially during difficult times
- Would like opportunities for personal growth for both children and adults
- Need to respect differences in opinions, culture, etc.
- Families live year round in this camp so we need to be connected with our community
- The camp is part of Grandview so why our kids go to Prosser school district is unknown
- Need assistance with children's school materials



This is what a community that strengthens families looks like. (Drawn by a participant of the community café)

**What did the Kid Café consist of?**

The kids had a Jumpy House so that they could have some form of exercise and have fun. Those that were waiting for their turn at the Jumpy House drew, colored, and made flowers. Books donated by the South Sound Reading Foundation were given to the children.

**What's next for this café community?**

There will be one follow-up Café.

**Who will you share this harvest with? (The Community Café Leadership Team posts harvests we receive on our website. Let us know if you prefer that we not post your harvest.)**

NW Justice Project (Michelle Besso, Graciela Navarro, and Alejandro Garza)

Grandview City Council (Diana Jennings, Council Member)

Wyckoff Farms (David Wyckoff, Owner)

Yakima Valley Farmworkers Clinic, YVFC (Maria Benavidez and Michael Young, Clinic Administrator for Grandview clinic and Mountain View Women's Health Center)

Catholic Family & Child Service Diocese of Yakima (Maria Vasquez, Parent Service Supervisor)

WA State Labor & Industries (Lisa Heaton)

Prosser and Grandview School Districts (Superintendent Dr. Ray Tolcacher & Superintendent

EPIC Prosser Early Learning Center (Director/Administrator)

Participants of Cafe