



SAFESTREETS

Dec. 9, 2016

American Red Cross honors Everett's Community Outreach and Enforcement Team

COET and local community groups recognized at century of service heroes breakfast

EVERETT – The Community Outreach and Enforcement Team (COET) received the Clare Waite Humanitarian award Thursday morning at the Snohomish Centennial Heroes Breakfast, presented by Red Cross. COET received this in conjunction with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office homeless outreach program, part of the County's Office of Neighborhoods.

Both groups have done extensive work to address street-level issues, while helping those who are living on the streets to connect with resources. These groups are often able to find alternatives to the criminal justice system through housing

The COET team is comprised of law enforcement officers, Sergeant Michael Braley and Officer Shane Nelson, as well as [embedded social workers](#), Kaitlyn Dowd and Staci McCole. They are better able to help individuals on the street navigate complicated resources, such as housing, treatment, and much more, or assist through something as simple as transportation or letting them use a phone.

In 2016 alone, COET had many successes getting vulnerable community members back on the right track. For one success story, it took COET coordinating with Greyhound, and a bus ticket later, [the individual was on a Spokane-bound bus](#) where he would get back on medication and become more stable. For another, the team was able to provide transportation to SeaTac, where [the individual would be flown to Desert Hot Springs, CA. for long-term treatment](#).

In another [newsworthy story](#), several officers and Dowd encountered a pregnant woman who was addicted to methamphetamines and heroin. Through an establishment of trust and resources, the team was able to ensure that the mom-to-be and her boyfriend got into treatment, which ultimately led to a healthy baby.

Learn more:

For more information on the Community Streets Initiative, visit www.everettwa.gov/streetsinitiative.

For more information on the Safe Streets Plan, visit www.everettwa.gov/safestreets.

Sign up for email updates at www.everettwa.gov/notifyme.

Among others honored at these awards were teachers, students, adults and kids, as well as first responders from the Everett Fire Department, recognized for their lifesaving work during the Bluffs apartment fire on New Year's Eve 2015.

Learn more about the [Community Streets Initiative](#) or the [Everett Safe Streets Plan](#).

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