We're back in action!

The Jefferson Farm to School Coalition is back, with a new name, a new mission, and a new set of projects!

During our first incarnation you helped us launch Farm-to-Cafeteria and School Gardens programs in Quilcene and Port Townsend. Our dedicated group of core volunteers, visionary school partners, and wonderfully supportive community made real change for students in those schools.
Chimacum wasn’t quite ready to tackle those projects at the time, but they are now! So we recently re-launched as the Community Wellness Project, with a new board of directors and a mission to cultivate the health, resiliency, and wellness of our Jefferson County students and families.

While we continue to cultivate wellness in all of our schools, we are currently focused on supporting Chimacum as they embark on this process. CWP is doing this by bringing extra capacity, community organizing, volunteer coordination, and fundraising so that they can build programs that will help meet their wellness goals.

Once again we’ll need your help, enthusiasm, and energy to accomplish great things. Read on to learn more about what we’re up to and how you can get involved!

Current Projects

**Food & Farm Entrepreneurship CTE**
First, we are supporting the existing High School horticulture and foods classes as they work toward a robust Career and Technical Education program around agriculture and food entrepreneurship. Horticulture teacher Greg Reed and Foods teacher Gary Covan are bringing incredible energy and vision to the project; we are honored to help their programs grow and thrive.

**K-8 School Gardens**
We are also working to add teaching gardens for K-8 and the Pi Program.
School gardens are wonderful places to teach about whole foods, nutrition, and to encourage healthy eating. They help ensure the success of Farm-to-Cafeteria programs in schools. And of course they also serve as rich learning laboratories where students can see the real-life application of core academic concepts.

**Wellness "Mini-Grants"**

We also award mini-grants to teachers working on special wellness initiatives in individual classrooms or throughout entire grades. Read on for recent stories of progress!
The Corn Project

CWP is the recipient of this year’s PT Food Coop ’Fuji Apple Fund’, which we used to support Spanish teacher Reed Aubin's inspired and interdisciplinary Corn Project. The Corn Project weaves together language, culture, history, food, and farming. First students from the Spanish class plant, grow, and harvest corn. Upon harvest, the students learn to process and "nixtamalize" the
kernels in preparation for grinding into *masa harina*, or the corn meal used for making tortillas and many traditional dishes. They then learn to prepare tacos, tamales, and other traditional foods that celebrate Latin cultures. This fall they will celebrate with foods cooked in honor of a Day of the Dead Festival! Check out the delicious fruits of their labors:

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**Hydration Station**

Chimacum recently received a grant to add water bottle filling stations at each filtered water fountain. Third grade teacher Matt Orr was inspired to apply for a mini-grant to purchase reusable stainless steel water bottles for each student in the third grade so they could keep hydrated for optimal brain function. Each student
personalized their water bottle with original art and sticker collage.

Ready to get involved?

Become a volunteer! We are looking for many diverse skills as we plan, prepare for, and build gardens, write grants, coordinate events, and share stories of progress with our community!

Donate! You can make a donation through our website, or mail a check to PO Box 314, Chimacum, WA 98325.

Upcoming events

CWP is participating in Give Jefferson, a month-long fundraising campaign to raise resources for local nonprofits. Our goal is to raise enough money to fund a half-time Garden Coordinator at Chimacum for one year. Stay tuned for more info in September & October!

Visit our website at www.jccwp.org, and like us on Facebook!
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The Community Wellness Project
PO Box 314
Chimacum, WA 98325-0314

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