Your generous contributions in action: Staff, volunteers and kids from our Youth and Family Services program on their way to a fun day in Leavenworth.
It is turning out to be a truly wonderful 2015 here at THS. We are happy to announce, after months of market research and close coordination with Snohomish county, we will be expanding once again. This time, in the city of Snohomish, where we will provide Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT), Alcohol and Drug Outpatient Services, Mental Health Services, and Access to Primary Care.

This will be THS’s tenth branch in the Puget Sound region and we are incredibly honored to be given the opportunity to expand our services and their reach within Snohomish county.

This expansion comes just in time to reflect recently published evidence from the University of Washington Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute (ADAI) which shows an increase in treatment for heroin addiction at a near epidemic scale while also showing a minor decrease in general opiate treatment admissions. The current movement away from prescription opiates to heroin is largely due to supply and demand. With tighter, high-tech controls being enacted on opiate prescriptions, as well as developments such as crush resistant tablets, heroin becomes a far more affordable, accessible, and deadly substitute.


**UPDATE: PHILIPPINES 2015**

In our previous newsletter, we featured our teaching partnership with St. Tomas University and its focus to bring further progress in addiction understanding and treatment to Southeast Asia. In February 2015, Dr. Joy Ruiz-Molleston, Dr. Fernando De Guzman, and CEO Norman O. Johnson returned with the goal of further expanding THS’s educational and treatment partnerships with agencies throughout the Philippines.

Highlights of the trip included the development of a new Memorandum of Understanding between Ateneo Medical School and THS, allowing for further addiction treatment modalities to be put into practice throughout the South Pacific. A meeting was also held with Philippine Supreme Court Justice Estella Perlas-Bernabe (seated left in photo) regarding Drug Court and how Federal, King County, and THS Drug Court practices and guidelines can be applied to the needs being faced in the Philippines.
Therapeutic Health Services will be offering A/DIS classes at its Eastside and Summit Branches throughout 2015.

What is A/DIS?

Alcohol and Drug Information School is a specialized course that helps people make more informed decisions about alcohol and drug use. With an estimated 10% of Americans struggling with addiction to illegal or controlled substances, programs like A/DIS are very important to the individuals, families, and communities we serve. The A/DIS classes at THS meet the requirements of Washington State Court and Probation guidelines as well as Department of Licensing requirements.

Locations and Times

Eastside Branch Classes:
1412 - 140th Place NE
Bellevue, WA 98007

Intake:
Mon. - Thurs. 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fri. 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Class Dates:
May 9
July 11
September 12
November 14

Summit Branch Classes:
1116 Summit Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Intake:
Mon. - Thurs. 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fri. 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Class Dates:
April 11
June 13
August 8
October 10
December 12

A member of the Board of Directors at Therapeutic Health Services for over twenty years, Barbara Cohen brings a deep understanding of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency issues to the board. Having studied at the University of Washington where she acquired her B.A. in Sociology, she then went on to receive her chemical dependency training from Seattle University. Her broad experience as a career counselor, case manager, pre-sentence writer and probation officer has brought a unique set of experiences and skills to the THS board leadership.

She has since retired from her work in behavioral health but still holds it as a personal passion, which eventually led her to become a member of the Board of Directors. Even before her nomination, she had always thought highly of THS. So much so that she often referred her clients to long time THS employee Kathi Kuciemba.

As a Board Member, Barbara has a passion for keeping our programs on the cutting edge, especially as it relates to mental Health and chemical dependency. When asked how she would sum up, in her own words, why she thought the work THS does is so important, she replied; “we guide people in living productive and caring lives for both themselves and others.”

We want to thank Barbara for her decades of hard work and service to Therapeutic Health Services.

BOARD PROFILE
Barbara Cohen
The holiday season can be stressful for any family. Kids are out of school for what can feel like weeks on end, there are gifts to buy, family and friends to see, and still only 24 hours in a day.

This past holiday season, one family’s story stands out in particular. LC’s family had been involved in the Wraparound program for over two years. Over the course of those two years, they made incredible progress. Because of their positivity, hard work and dedication, the Wraparound team decided to bring them some extra holiday cheer.

Going into the holidays, LC and his family continued to face some major challenges - they were living in various motels while dealing with the challenges of raising four children, three of which have special needs. With help of the Southcenter Sizzler Restaurant, Ray SRS Photography, Simply Phenomenal Social Club and the CoastIICoast Motorcycle Club, THS Wraparound ensured that LC’s family would enjoy a complimentary lunch, take Holiday photos and receive each and every gift on their holiday wish list.

Through the hardwork of Wraparound team members such as Arlene Hampton, and her coordination of community members, so many gifts were onsite that they could not be brought into restaurant and had to be handed out in the parking lot!

LC and his family had no idea about the fact that THS and community members were going to fulfill their entire wishlist and were incredibly thankful throughout the day for such generosity that put a smile on everyone’s face.

Since their holiday luncheon, LC’s family has found permanent housing and by the time this newsletter hits your mailbox, they will have moved into their home in Snohomish County.

It should also be noted that CoastIICoast has pledged to sponsor each of the four children’s future birthdays so as to ensure they never have to know what it is like to go giftless.

From front to back: Jared Skredvedt (Wraparound Team Facilitator), LC’s family, Simply Phenomenal Social Club and CoastIICoast Motorcycle Club at the Sizzler’s Restaurant.

THS PREFERRED FUTURE
THS will be the preferred provider to meet the growing need for accessible, culturally relevant, and affordable chemical dependency and behavioral health services, while remaining flexible and adaptable in meeting emerging community needs.