2008 was a year of growth for THS. We developed new friendships and relationships with a number of our partners, including various service providers, volunteers, and donors. We are looking forward to meeting and overcoming the many challenges that may be presented in 2009. In spite of economic uncertainty, we remain extremely optimistic about our ability to serve the thousands of individuals and families who rely on our services to remain faithful to the thousands of people turning to alcohol, drugs and mental health services within our region.

Mark Buckley
Director of Development and ‘Friend-raiser’

Mark Buckley explains what a typical day is like and how the agency is doing in such an awareness-heavy environment. He highlights the importance of developing friends and relationships. The agency aims to create a ‘friend-raising’ culture that enables everyone to feel a part of the mission.

According to Mark, ‘friend-raising’ is essential for the agency to thrive. It is about building relationships with key stakeholders who share the agency’s mission.

The agency is passionate about its ‘friend-raising’ efforts and believes that by establishing strong relationships, they can continue to grow and evolve. They are committed to maintaining an optimistic outlook, no matter how challenging the economic climate may be.

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2008 was a year of growth for THS. We developed new relationships and built relationships on the financial, attracting our assets, investors, and raising more of our base Stewart to a competitive market rate. Much of our financial success can be attributed to our repositioning with Horace Mann and Company, our financial contacts, who responded to our request by overcoming our financial department with reach-skills and an unexpected operating structure.

THS explored existing relationships such as our relationship with the American Counseling Treatment Services (ACTS) in Kent, Washington, which primarily serves the Korean population in King County. We also established new relationships with WebMD, a health information portal, and identified new opportunities.

In 2008, we completed a successful, one-year Doug Court Pilot Project, “Change to Change” (CTC), which has proven to be effective in helping young people transition within the juvenile justice system. In addition, we established and funded a full-time alcohol, drug, and mental health referral treatment service at the Madison School.

This pilot project has grown to be a major resource and service for the Madison administration, staff—and most important—the students. THS also received its fifth continuous national endorsement by being awarded a three-year accreditation from CARF for all seven branches.

Randon Aea, a four-year employee, is managing our Rainier location. Tom Finley, a ten-year employee, was promoted to Branch Manager of our Shoreline location and has recently been awarded a National Business Honor Award for his commitment to serving the community. Tom was joined in the move by Donny, our Director of Housing, who came to us from the Seattle Housing Authority.

THS expanded existing collaborations such as our relationship with Asian American Counseling Services (AAC), with whom we have been working for many years. We also entered into new relationships with Consejo at our Eastside branch, and developed a new relationship with Hero House in Bellevue.

We remain focused on our key staff members to position ourselves for growth. Manager, Ben Ross, a two-year employee, was promoted to Business Manager of our Federal Independence location and Executive Director, a new year employee, in managing our Federal location.

In 2008, the THS Board, working with the Collins Group, developed a five-year fundraising plan and hired a full-time Development and Marketing Director. This plan helps to ensure that the board, staff, and administrator have embraced this concept with an emphasis on THS as a fund raising agency. The focus of future outreach and fundraising will be on developing new funding sources involving mental health and alcohol and drug prevention services. Within the family services, a priority will be given to serving youth in the larger King County area.

My name is Mark Buckley, Director of Development and ‘Friend-raiser’. I believe that it is not only important to help those families and friends who struggle to overcome substance abuse and mental illness, but also to help those who struggle to overcome the challenges of life itself.

Mark is a native of the South, born and raised in a small town near the South Carolina. A child of the 1960s, I have experienced many of the challenges that we face today. As a Boeing engineer, I experienced firsthand the economic challenges that I face today.

Working together, we will find our way through these difficult times. I believe that it is not only important to help those families and friends who struggle to overcome substance abuse and mental illness, but also to help those who struggle to overcome the challenges of life itself.

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Thank you for your generosity and for giving our young people in need an opportunity to thrive.
THS Summit Branch
On Top of Serving the Community

Every day, approximately 400 to 700 people walk through the doors of the THS Summit Branch, which opened its doors for the first time in 2004. That number has increased dramatically in recent years, and for good reason. For those who are dealing with the daily struggles of addiction and mental illness, THS offers a place to get help when they need it most.

The Summit Branch is a key component of the broader network of community-based care that THS provides to help people get the support they need to break the cycles of addiction, violence, and mental illness. That is why we need your help.

We work to improve treatment retention through culturally relevant case management services, educational activities, peer bonding, recreational field trips, and involvement in the community, especially young people of color facing social and economic challenges. During 2008 alone, THS Summit Branch served more than 23,000 individuals and families. We are proud to be a part of the growing number of young people in crisis, but the fact is that only a fraction of those are getting the support they need to break the cycle of addiction and mental illness.

Your generous donation today will go to work immediately to respond to our community's need. Every day, we help the children to transform a lifetime of hardships into one of hope and possibility. For many families, the Summit Branch is their only affordable treatment option as mental health care costs continue to spiral out of control.

THS offers other outstanding treatment programs, including drug and alcohol treatment, HIV treatment, outpatient treatment for substance use disorders, and more. We believe that every individual and family deserves the opportunity to heal and find hope.

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Every day, approximately 400 to 700 people walk through the doors of the THS Summit Branch. For the first 15 years, we served mainly women. For those reasons, many services are offered primarily for women, and we have seen a steady increase in male clients, particularly for treatment programs. We provide services, educational activities, peer bonding, recreational field trips, and involvement in a variety of self-help programs.

Since its inception, the Summit Branch has been a leader in developing and delivering services to young people aged 18 and older who are facing critical needs from education and delinquency to homelessness. We work to improve treatment outcomes through culturally relevant case management services and peer support programs. We provide treatment services in a variety of settings.

For some, that means receiving daily doses of methadone and intensive outpatient treatment immediately to expand our outreach and manage mental illness. For others, that means receiving support and guidance to navigate daily challenges facing youth in the community, especially young people of color facing unusually high risk for alcohol abuse, drug abuse and failure in school.

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About the value of our agency’s vital work in the communities we serve.

We are looking forward to meeting and overcoming the many challenges that may be presented in 2009. In spite of economic uncertainty, we remain extremely optimistic.

Within the family services, a priority will be given to serving youth in the larger King County community.

In 2008, the THS board, working with the Collins Group, developed a five-year fund raising agency. The focus of future outreach and fundraising efforts will be on our branches in White Center, Tukwila, Renton, Kent, Shoreline, and Kirkland.

A ten-year employee, was promoted to Branch Manager of our Shoreline location and a four-year employee, is managing our Rainier location.

We promoted two in-house staff members to positions of Branch Manager. Ben Ross, a ten-year employee, was promoted to the Branch Manager of our Shoreline location and a four-year employee, is managing our Rainier location.

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In 2008, the THS board, working with the Collins Group, developed a five-year fund raising plan and hired a full-time Development and Marketing Director. We are happy to report that the board, staff, and administration have embraced this concept with an emphasis on THS as a fund raising agency. The focus of future outreach and fundraising will be on our branches in White Center, Tukwila, Renton, Kent, Shoreline, and Kirkland.

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Associate Director of Development and ‘Friend-raiser’

Mark Buckley shares a story that will make you laugh and cry at the same time. His story will challenge you to do more to make the world a better place. He will share his passion for helping others overcome substance addictions and mental health challenges and how one of the local stories will bring about our nation’s economic woes.

‘When they see our story and hear how lives are changed, I feel confident that they’ll respond.’

Save the date

Excitement is building around our annual event/luncheon at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Seattle. Who will be the recipient of the Alvirita Little Award? Save the Date

Wednesday 10.28.09

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The Alvirita Little Award

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