



EDUCATION.
EMPLOYMENT.
IMMIGRATION.
ADVOCACY.

GRATITUDE
REPORT
2014



Volunteer and student during a Read2Me session at McCarver Elementary School.

Uniting Communities Since 1910

Tacoma Community House (TCH) aims to provide the highest quality of service to all individuals seeking self-sufficiency and a better life. TCH is a vital and valuable resource for immigrants, refugees and long-time residents seeking enrichment and pathways to becoming contributing community members. Serving the south Puget Sound region for more than 100 years, TCH has remained true to its founding principles: Commitment to Neighborhoods, Enrichment of Lives, Multigenerational Services and Ethnic Sensitivity.

MISSION

Tacoma Community House creates opportunities for immigrants and other community members in the Puget Sound region through comprehensive services focused on self-sufficiency, inclusion and advocacy.

VISION

We are a pathway to change leading to generations of self-sufficient people and a region welcoming of immigrants and refugees.

Today TCH serves more than 3,600 individuals each year through four core services: education, employment, immigration and advocacy.

Cover photo of Adult Basic Education graduation. Photo by Dane Gregory Meyer.



EDUCATION

The education department offers a range of successful literacy and language programs at TCH, including English as a Second Language (ESL), Adult Basic Education (ABE: reading, writing, and math), computer classes, Read2Me (1st – 3rd grade reading/ tutoring), GED preparation, youth education and support services.



IMMIGRATION

Immigration services is a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited program that provides high quality case management to all individuals seeking immigration assistance from US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Services include naturalization preparation and education, green card renewals, work authorizations and many others.



EMPLOYMENT

Employment services helps job seekers successfully enter the work force, offering employment assistance and job training. Currently TCH offers job preparation and job placement services, access to educational and career related technologies and internships.



ADVOCACY

TCH provides comprehensive services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and other crimes. Advocates assist individuals to develop safety plans and identify their immediate goals. TCH is also active in advocating for social justice.

Embracing the American Promise

We are pleased to share this Annual Report with you. We completed 104 years of service to the South Sound region and we look forward to an even greater year to come. Our multi-service, one stop approach to self-sufficiency is unique in the South Sound. An immigrant can come through the doors of Tacoma Community House with essentially nothing – and leave with their immigration status updated, speaking more fluent English after taking ESL classes and having a new job from placement services provided by TCH's employment team. If they are suffering from domestic violence or are victims of other types of crime, they can receive services from the agency's Client Advocacy team. And our services are not limited to immigrants - we provide education and employment services to a wide range of people in our community.

In 2014, we were able to serve more people than in the recent past and added new programs and initiatives. We started Crash Course to Employment, which is an intensive two week job preparation class. Nearly 7 out of 10 participants in the program found employment. Some participants have even obtained jobs before the course was completed.

We also expanded our Citizenship program with a \$250,000 grant from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services. We are able to offer all citizenship services free of charge and expand the number of classes and immigration staff. Immigration and Citizenship is now our largest program.

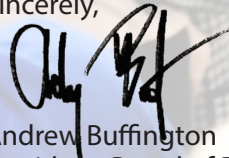
We expanded our work in advocacy to include a citizen engagement program. We conducted voter registration drives and voter education workshops, and we helped our students tell their stories to legislators in Olympia.

We added three US-2 Mission Interns to our team - the United Methodist Church sponsors these interns for a two year term to serve the community. They provide a fresh perspective and strengthen our relationship with the United Methodist Church, which founded TCH in 1910.

Read2Me, our tutoring program for developing readers, continues to grow as we add more volunteer tutors and assist those students who need the most help.

The opportunities for those we serve and the quality of their lives are greatly improved through these services and initiatives. None of that would be possible without your generous support. Thank you for your investments in the lives of those we serve!

Sincerely,



Andrew Buffington
President, Board of Directors



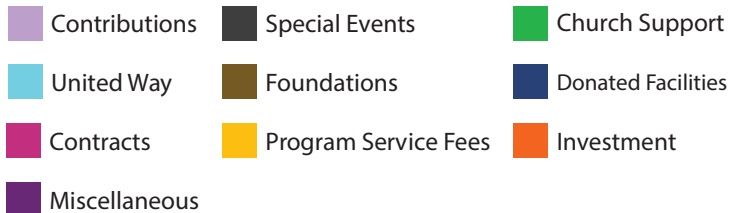
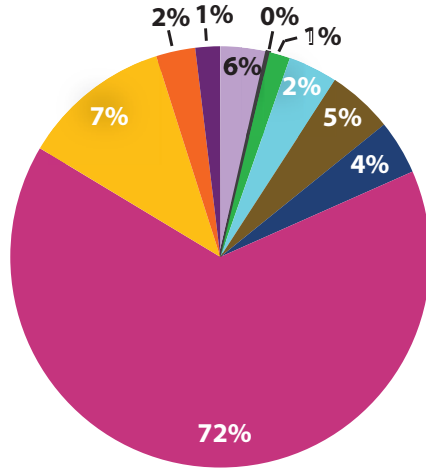
Liz Dunbar
Executive Director

*Photograph of Liz Dunbar awarding a scholarship during graduation.
Photo by Dane Gregory Meyer.*

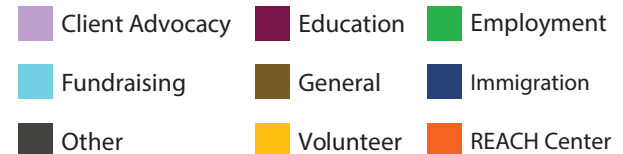
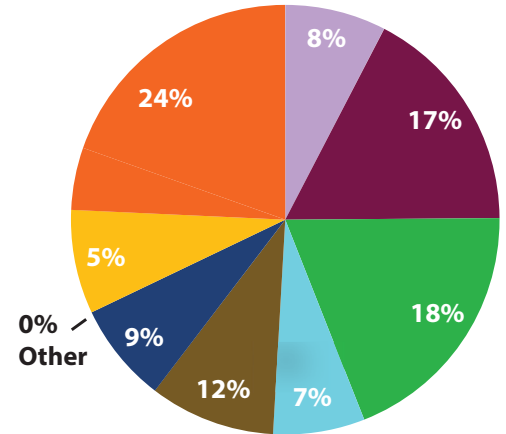
Financial Highlights 2014

FY14 Annual Budget \$3,865,427

Total Public Support & Revenue



Program Expenses



Program Highlights

343 Client Advocacy

555 Read2Me

594 Employment

739 Education

1,465 Immigration & Citizenship

3,696
INDIVIDUALS
SERVED



Former employment participant working at Home Depot. Photo by Dane Gregory Meyer.

Top 15 Countries Served

FACT

TCH participants
speak more than
120 languages!

2. United States

1. Mexico

13. Guatemala

10. El Salvador

11. Peru

4. Ukraine

6. Moldova

15. Iraq

14. Russia

12. Korea

5. Cambodia

3. Vietnam

9. Kenya

7. Yemen

8. Philippines

FACT

TCH has served
people from
over **90** different
countries of origin!

Thank You Donors & Partners

We wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of our supporters. Each and every contribution is meaningful and makes a difference in the lives of individuals in the South Puget Sound.

Great care was taken to ensure the accuracy of this listing, which covers the timeframe of 1/1/14 - 12/31/14. We would appreciate you notifying us to any errors or omissions. Please contact the Development and Communications Department at 253-383-3951 or info@tacomacommunityhouse.org.

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TACOMA
COMMUNITYHOUSE

EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT IMMIGRATION ADVOCACY
SINCE 1910

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