

JAMES R. THEOFELIS, M.C, CDC, CHT

Clinical and Consultative Services

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QUALIFICATIONS:

Highly motivated professional with forty years+ experience in human services including clinical, organizational development, management, and legislative advocacy experience; a proven track record of working successfully with diverse communities, organizations and systems. Demonstrated expertise in media relations, senior management, fundraising, advocacy, and government relations. A leader and innovator with extensive experience in coalition building, public speaking, budgeting, strategic planning, program development, public policy, and an ability to communicate successfully with people from diverse backgrounds.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS CHILDREN/YOUTH/FAMILIES

- Founding Executive Director NorthStar Advocates
- Founding Executive Director-A Way Home Washington (AWHWA)
- Founder and Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society
- National and regional trainer and consultant to social service organizations
- Over forty years' experience serving children, youth and families as a behavioral health therapist, program and organizational consultant, administrator, and trainer.
- Thirty+ years of senior management experience with increasing responsibilities.
- Demonstrated success in fund development.
- Proven leadership in community organizing and advancing legislative proposals.
- Provide training, consulting, and executive coach services to a variety of organizations, and national conferences including Seattle Public Schools, Washington State Child Welfare System, Social Service Organizations, Legislative and Advocacy Movements.

MANAGEMENT

- Extensive experience managing staffs as large as 80, responsible for personnel, budget development, Board of Directors, program development and evaluation.
- Founding executive director of two non-profit organizations both beginning with budgets less than \$50,000 and within 3 years grew to \$2 million dollar budget
- Consultant and Executive Coach to Senior Executives in non-profit organizations
- Associate Director of Clinical Programs for YouthCare, was responsible for multiple 24/7 shelter and long-term housing programs, launched first HIV+ case management program for homeless youth and young adults, clinical, program and

administrative oversight of residential, drop-in, outreach and case management programs

COMMUNICATIONS/ADVOCACY/GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

- Leadership role in passage of over thirty+ pieces of legislation at The Mockingbird Society focused on improving outcomes for the child welfare system including Extended Foster Care, Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Act, Healthcare to 21, Sibling Visits and the Office of Homeless Youth
- Drafted, developed and led the advocacy strategy to pass the 1999 Washington State HOPE Act, landmark legislation that provides services, opportunities and hope to all children and adolescents in Washington State
- Experience as primary contact person for media relations
- Proven track record in communication, writing journal articles and serving as a public speaker and trainer for a wide variety of audiences.

WORK HISTORY

NorthStar Advocates Founder and Executive Director	2021-present
Strategic Advisor A Way Home Washington	2020-2021
Inaugural Executive Director A Way Home Washington	2016-2020
Senior Advisor on Youth Homelessness Partner for our Children University of Washington School of Social Work, Seattle Washington	2016
Special Advisor on Homelessness City of Seattle, Seattle Washington	2015
Founder and Executive Director The Mockingbird Society, Seattle, Washington	2000-2015
Private Practitioner and Consultant Seattle, Washington	1987-present
Director, University District Youth Center Catholic Community Services, Seattle, Washington	2000

Director, Mental Health Clinic, Detention King County Department of Youth Services, Seattle, Washington	1998-2001
Associate Director of Clinical Programs YouthCare, Seattle, Washington	1995-1998
Clinical Director Community House, Seattle, Washington	1992
Seattle Mental Health, Seattle, Washington	1982-1988
Coordinator, Therapeutic Family Home Project Youth Advocates, Seattle, Washington	1981
Director, The Loft, Crisis Residential Center Ruth Dykeman Children's Center, Seattle, Washington	1979-1981
Coordinator, The Residence (Youth Shelter) Youth Advocates, Seattle, Washington	1977-1979

EDUCATION

Master's in Counseling and Education	Seattle University	1989
Bachelor of Arts	Evergreen State College	1983
Associate of Arts	Seattle Central Community	1979

CERTIFICATIONS

Washington State Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Washington State Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor
National D Coach License, United States Soccer Federation

COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Office of Homeless Youth Advisory Committee (Governor appointed)	2022-present
Washington Children & Youth BH Workgroup (Governor appointed)	2019-present
Washington Coalition for Homeless Youth Advocacy	2012-present
Child Welfare Advocacy Coalition Co-Chair	2001-present
United Way Homeless Youth Task Force Co-Chair	2011-2013
Foster Promise Board of Directors	2011-2012
Advisory Committee – Assistant Secretary of Children's Administration	2010-2017

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Advisory Committee	2010-2012
Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Regional Steering Committee	2010-2013
Committee to End Homelessness: Interagency Council	2006-2015
CEH: Co-Chair, Youth and Young Adult Sub-Committee	2006-2009
King County Kinship Collaboration-Executive Committee	2006-2011
Catalyst For Kids Statewide Advisory Board	2006-2010
Jamie Moyer Foundation-Advisory Committee	2006-2015
Secretary's Select Committee for Adolescents in Need of Long Term Care	2002
Franklin High School Head Coach, Soccer	1998-2000
O'DEA High School Soccer Coach	2001-2005
Holy Names Academy Head Coach, Soccer	2001-2012

AWARDS

Seattle University Alumni Hall of Fame on Homelessness 2020
 Tacoma/Pierce County 2017 Excellence in Affordable Housing-100 Day Challenge
 Seattle Central College Distinguished Alumni Award-2017
 Amara's "Shining A Light" Award - 2015
 Columbia Legal Services Community Advocate Award - 2015
 National Jefferson Award, Washington state - 2011
ParentMap Magazine Awards – The Innovator 2010
 Seattle University Alumni Award for Community Service 2009
 Intiman Theatre King County Hero 2009
 Washington State Foster Parent and Caregiver Award 2008
 Community Hero Award, Washington State Coalition for the Homeless 2007
 Children's Alliance Voices For Children Award 2006
 Lee Ann Miller Award, Children's Justice Interdisciplinary Task Force 2006
 Real Change-Change Agent Award 2006
Seattle Magazine, 25 Most Influential Citizens 2006
 Angels in Adoption Award, Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute 2005
 Washington State "Coach That Makes a Difference" Award 2003
 Children's Alliance Outstanding Advocate for Children Award 1999
 Advocate Award, Washington Coalition Against Homelessness 1999
 Decency Project, 1999 Special Achievement Award
 Housing and Urban Development, Best Practice Award 1999
Seattle Post Intelligencer Jefferson Award Nominee 1999/2001
 Soccer Coach of the Year, King-Co 4A, Franklin High School 1999

PUBLISHED WORK

The Mockingbird Society. Chapter included in The Illusion of Hopelessness by Fran Fisher, 2015.
 Mockingbird Family Model. Fostering Families Today, September-October 2006

The Mockingbird Family Model. National Advocate, Fall 2005

The Characteristics and Mental Health of Homeless Adolescents: Age and Gender Differences. Ana Mari Cauce et al, Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, Vol. 8, 2000

Multiple newspaper editorials

*Veteran, U.S. Navy