

Dan's Report

January 2009

Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

With these words, the Apostle Paul closed one of the most famous chapters of Scripture in the entire Bible, 1 Corinthians 13. This beautiful writing of Paul tells us that when we strip away all of the various cultural understandings, complex doctrines and denominational trappings we so often pile on top of the Christian message, what we find residing at the very core are "faith, hope, and above all love." It's these core Christian understandings that guide both our mission and ministry at New Horizons. *Faith*, given to us by God's Grace, informs us and calls us to live out lives of service and love in the manner of Jesus. *Hope* continually holds out the possibility for changed lives and new ways of living for Seattle's street involved youth. And God's never-ending, never-failing *Love* empowers our team of professional Christian care givers and loving volunteers to tirelessly work to build trust and relationship in the face of pain, mistrust, and rejection.

I'm Dan Shelly and I feel humbled to be given the opportunity to serve as the new Executive Director of New Horizons Ministries. Even as God leads our departing Executive Director into new areas of ministry and service, Rita leaves behind a wonderful legacy - a healthy and vibrant ministry with 30 years of experience making a real difference in the lives of Seattle's street youth population. I'm excited to participate in the vision, growth, healing, and hope that God has in store for New Horizons Ministries over the next 30 years.

At New Horizons we remain an intentionally diverse community of Christian believers united by a common call of service to these discarded youth, loving them in the way of way of Jesus. As we walk together, it is my heartfelt desire to come to know each of you as friends and companions on this journey. There will be several informal gatherings over the next few months to help us meet one another, but I also invite your phone calls, emails, letters, and especially those times when you are able to drop by and say, "Hi!"

I look forward with Joy to our journey together.

In Christ's Love,

Dan