

Snack Bar Report

The Snack Bar has been busy lately with monthly sales of \$2,436.00. This is not the most on record or the least, we've made more in a month but to explain the number is not all there is to it. The sales of hot dogs, hamburgers, cokes, chips and nuts is only part of the picture. It is also a representation of all the good Clubhouse work that gets done in the unit, where the actual "doing of the work" is the rehabilitation. There is a lot of good rehabilitation taking place in the Snack Bar. We continue to put out plenty of "good old bacon and egg breakfasts" and plenty of cheese grits, all of which are very good. But the thing we are most proud of is the members volunteering in the unit, and the cooperative atmosphere it brings to the Clubhouse.

Fred Mead

What an Amazing Movie !

On the Monday night of the 14th Annual ICCD Seminar, we were invited to special viewing of the award winning movie Canvas. It was a movie about a family dealing with mental illness, based on a true story. The stars of the movie were Joe Pantoliano, Marcia Gay Hardin and Devon Gearhart. The setting was in a nice community, although the neighbors were not accepting of the families problems. The mother struggled with mental illness. The father worked to support the family and his wife. The 11 year old son suffered from the stigma of his mother's illness. The story shows how everyone in the family was effected by mental illness and how they dealt with overcoming the problems they faced. I really enjoyed the movie and it showed me how my mental illness effects not only me but my children as well. I recommend that every Clubhouse community see Canvas when it comes to your local theater.

Crystal Byers

4



Adventure House News

October-November, 2007
Volume 21 Issue 3



Table of Contents

Page 1

What is Treatment

Page 2

Adventure House has a New Staff Member

Adventure House goes to the Cleveland County Fair

The Halloween Bash

New TEP!

Page 3

Thanksgiving

The Fourteenth International Seminar

Page 4

Snack Bar Report

What An Amazing Movie!

What is Treatment:

Although Adventure House is not a treatment facility, it provides services for people dealing with mental illness. It is not a social club, but is set up to help people deal with the symptoms of their diagnosis of mental illness. They can continue their education, and increase job skills by providing a work-oriented environment. Members can work Transitional Employment with staff support .TEP's pay members a fare wage.

There are many people from Cleveland County that have been diagnosed with mental illness, which is a chronic condition. It is the symptoms of the illness which cause harm to individuals as well as to their families, and their community. Most of the harmful symptoms can be controlled by medication or therapy.

The Clubhouse standards state that the program is not a treatment program. However, the Clubhouse does have a therapeutic effect on the lives of members, and how they deal with the symptoms of their mental illness.

With the daily support from Clubhouse members and staff, relapses are quickly dealt with before a serious crisis occurs. Members become comfortable and build trustful relationships with other members and staff. With routines in place, there is less hospitalizations. Some members have the opportunities to improve their lives by learning how to care for themselves, live independently, work and further their education.

Margaret's story,

All Margaret's life she has always needed to be taken care of. She has been in group homes where her finances, health care and even her social life was supervised. In 2001, she was 54 years old

when she became a member of Adventure House. That is when her life began to change. She soon was able to handle her own finances and was out on her own with her first apartment. With the support from Adventure House, she gained the confidence to make her own decisions, and take her medications. Although she has diabetes, she didn't need anyone to supervise her treatment. During the past 6 years, she has had 3 different TE job placements, earning her own money for the first time in her life.

Patricia's story,

Patricia started Adventure House in 1999. She had problems with schizophrenia and substance abuse. She had family support until she was 36, then her family moved away. Since joining Adventure House she gained the support needed with members and staff, and has not had any relapses since. She is enrolled in classes at Cleveland Community Collage, learning computer skills. Patricia has had 3 TE job placements.

Wanda's story,

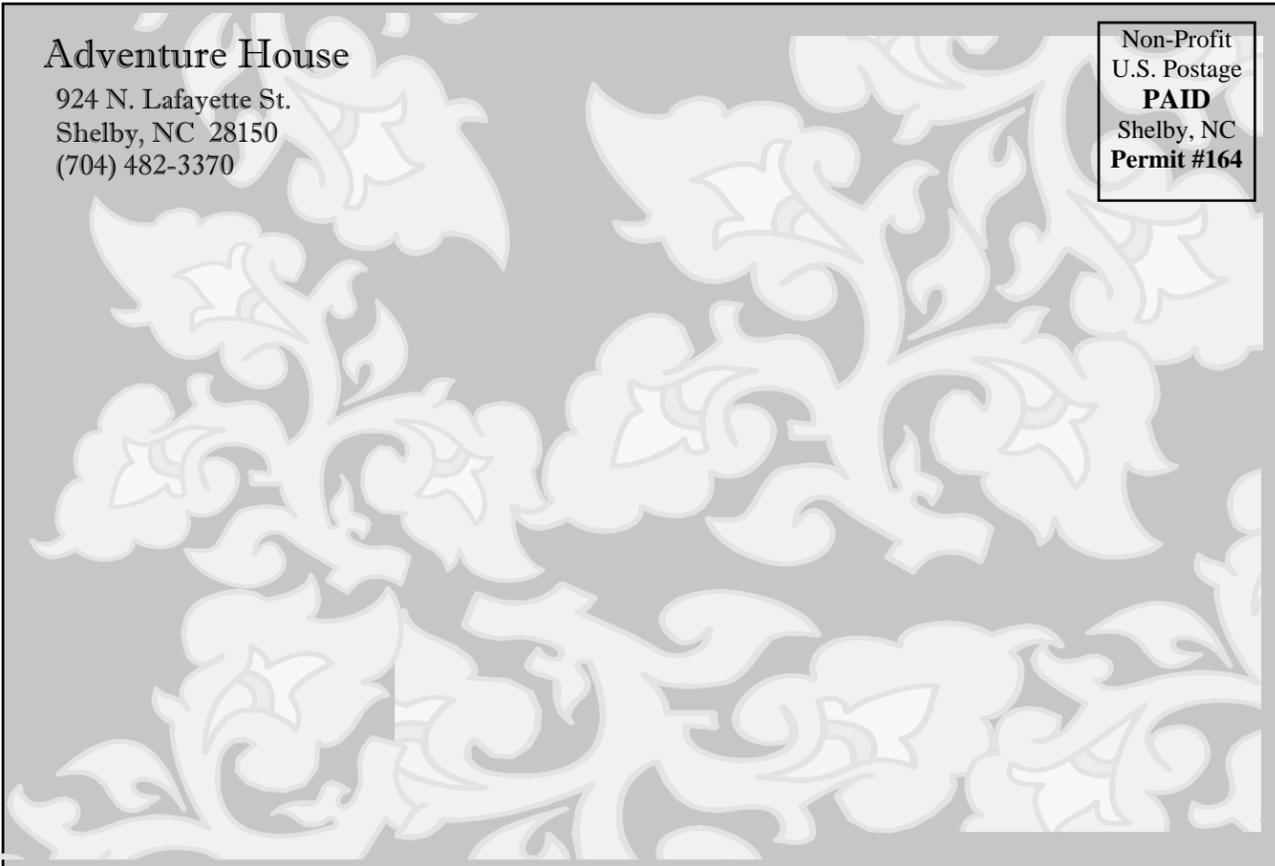
Wanda was once told she would never be able to live on her own. She was first committed to Broughton state hospital in her early 20's, and has been in several institutions.

She has been diagnosed with schizophrenia. She has spent most of her life in different group homes. While in partial hospitalization in 1992, she heard about Adventure House, and decided to look into it. She started to gain confidence in herself with the support she was now getting at Adventure House. She has worked in all the units and is now in the kitchen unit. She then decided to try and get her own apartment for the first time in her life. Since then, she has taken care of

Adventure House

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her own needs. She says "It's all because of the support she gets from all the people at Adventure House."

These are just a few examples of the Clubhouse success.

Eddie Beauregard

Adventure House has a new staff member;

We would like to welcome Stan Logan to Adventure House. Stan will be in charge of the Adventure House Players when we start the group back up. Stan has experience with acting and directing plays like, Into The Woods (musical), A Streetcar Named Desire, Oliver (musical), Noises Off (comedy farce), To Kill A Mockingbird, The Trip to Bountiful, Barnum (musical), Funny Money, DA, and The Secret Garden (musical).

Meanwhile, he is working in the different units to learn the way we do things in each unit. He started out in the Member Service Unit and is doing an excellent job.

Phyllis Chitwood

Adventure House goes to the Cleveland County Fair

It is that time of year again, gather up your walking shoes and lots of money. It is time for the Cleveland County fair. On Tuesday October 2nd, 68 members and staff attended the fair. A special thanks goes to John Gjelhough and Brenda LeGrand for making arrangements for Adventure House to get gate tickets. Everyone enjoyed the time they spent while at the fair, eating, playing games, riding rides and watching the entertainment. Lewis Acree stated "It was fun talking with friends and meeting up with old ones. It is awesome to come to the county fair" Quintesah Rogers says "I had a good time at the fair. Everyone was smiling and having a good time. I walked around, and had ice cream to eat. I bought ride tickets, had fun riding, and watching others play games. I enjoyed going to the fair and I am grateful that Adventure House and the Cleveland County fair grounds made it possible for us to enjoy the activities and I am looking forward to going again next year."

Lewis Acree and Quintesah Rogers

The Halloween Bash

The ghost and goblins were definitely out when Adventure House hosted the annual Halloween party for members, board members and staff.

This was my first Halloween party at Adventure House as a staff member. Lewis Acree and I were in charge of the Severed Head display for the "Human Oddities" show, which was performed in the garage. We started preparations for the show three days ahead of time. The performance included the likes of Osama Bin Laden, the Dead-Alive man, the Severed Head man, and the Bearded Lady. Each of the units was responsible for one of the acts. John Gjelhough, Fred Mead and several members did a great job on the construction of the sets for the show.

Pumpkin carving on Monday kicked off the Festivities. Thanks to Elizabeth Ross for getting everyone involved with the traditional carving of the pumpkins. The designs were very creative and were displayed on the night of the party.

A BBQ dinner was served for everyone, then the fun and dancing began with music provided by Cecil & Co. D.J. and More. The house and dining room were decorated in traditional Halloween decorations with an orange, black, and purple theme. Members and staff wore a variety of original costumes. Door prizes were awarded every thirty minutes. The evening ended with the costume contest. "Big Mama" (Elizabeth Ross) took home the Grand Prize of the evening. There is no doubt in our minds that Adventure House throws the best Halloween bash in town.

Lewis Acree and Drew Stallings
New TEP!

Spurgeon Woods recently opened up a new TE at Goody's. As the first person working the job, it took a lot of patience on Spurgeon's part to get a schedule worked out.

The new job is in housekeeping. It is quite a big responsibility. Spurgeon is responsible for maintaining all the tile flooring throughout the store as well as keeping the glass entrance way clean and welcoming for customers. Spurgeon is also responsible for cleaning the bathrooms each day. Hours through the holidays are 18 hours per week. After Christmas they may drop to 15 hours.

Even though Spurgeon has only been at this job for a short period, he has made friends with many of

the sales associates and management. After a surprise visit from the district manager, he stated, "I am proud of Spurgeon's thoroughness and the seriousness he has about his TEP." The store manager said the store had gotten great feedback from the district manager on the cleanliness of the store.

Bryan Eaker worked side-by-side with Spurgeon in training and creating a good work schedule. Stan Logan, one of our new staff members, will serve as the placement manager for the Goody's TEP. Great job Spurgeon!

Bryan Eaker

Thanksgiving

It is time again to remember the past year, and reflect upon what we are thankful for. The first thing on the list is that we have Adventure House to come to everyday. The second thing to be thankful for is the support and encouragement we give each other everyday. We celebrated the holiday together by sitting down for a Thanksgiving feast prepared by members and staff involved from all of the units.

The meal consisted of the typical fare, turkey dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, yeast rolls and pumpkin pie for dessert. The dining room was festively decorated with white and gold table clothes and fall table centerpieces.

Everyone enjoyed their meal, and had plenty to eat. The best part of the day came when Tommy Gunn opened the afternoon with some of his thoughts on what he was thankful for. He then invited anyone else to express their feelings and sentiments in an open mic time. After many happy thoughts, and even some tears, members and staff once again pitched in together side-by-side for a quick and efficient clean up.

Teresa Woods stated "I give thanks to all here at Adventure House, to all members and staff. For me it has been a life saving journey back to a meaningful life. It has enabled me to work with some of the best people I know. I hope for many more blessings for the Clubhouse. Working together is a great thing."

Teresa Woods and Diana Boswell

The Fourteenth International Clubhouse Seminar

The Fourteenth International Clubhouse Seminar was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on October 13-18, 2007. Clubhouse members, staff, advisory boards and anyone with an interest in Community Based Rehabilitation attended the seminar. The seminar was sponsored by the International Center for Clubhouse Development (ICCD) and was hosted by the Grand Avenue Club House, one of the 325 ICCD Clubhouses. Over the years, Adventure House has sent representatives to eleven of the fourteen seminars.

Adventure House provided the opportunity to three members, Crystal Byers, Joyce Fox, Robert Curry, and four staff Diana Boswell, Beverly Dawkins, Bryan Eaker and David Walsh to attend the seminar. Tommy Gunn, Executive Director of Adventure House also attended and participated in the seminar. The Milwaukee Hilton City Center was the official hotel. The seminar was an exciting experience for members and staff. The seminar began each day with Plenaries at the Midwest Airlines Center, where members from various Clubhouses shared their stories. The workshops we attended included the following topics: Clubhouse-Based Supported Education, Effective Reach out to Absent or "Disconnected" Members, Employment Success for Clubhouse Members, and Building Relationships that Lead to Recovery.

We toured the Grand Avenue Club House. The Clubhouse had four levels including a Thrift Store and Exercise Room for the members. Joyce, Bryan and David took pictures of the many beautiful sites in Milwaukee. David put together a slide presentation for the members to view. Milwaukee is a historical city. We had the opportunity to visit several historical sites including Lake Michigan, Milwaukee Museum, and The Boston Street Mall.

The flight to Milwaukee was the first for Crystal, Joyce, and Robert. They were a little anxious and afraid at first, but when we returned home they said "the flight was great, and they would like to someday take another flight."

Beverly Dawkins
Joyce Fox
Bryan Eaker