



Magnolia Times

A Quarterly Newsletter from Magnolia Clubhouse

A Division of Bridgeway, Inc.
A Network of Mental Health and Recovery Services.

Fall 2003

Come to our Open House Wednesday, October 8th, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Bring anyone who would like to know “What is a Clubhouse?”

Magnolia Clubhouse Wins Award for Peer Support Group of the Year at Ohio Advocates for Mental Health Conference

By Claudia Kowalski, Curtis Fitts, Jeff Bitler,
and Willie Johnston

The 20th annual meeting of the Ohio Advocates for Mental Health was held August 15th-17th, 2003 in Canton Ohio. Five of us attended and made a presentation. Our keynote speakers shared their struggles with the stigma of mental illness and their life experiences of surviving it. Gilberto Romero, a keynote speaker, told us that we can empower ourselves by giving ourselves permission to do what we need to do. Krista Keir told us not to connect our happiness with our performance, to forgive people, and to enjoy each day.

We attended many workshops, as well as presenting the workshop called “Magnolia Clubhouse: A Community of Growth.” Several people were interested in information about running a clubhouse and wanted to visit and learn more. We enjoyed meeting with people and we learned a great deal. The conference challenged us to network with other

advocates in Ohio and support each other and that’s what we plan to do. Magnolia Clubhouse will take an active part in the network and in leading the work of the network in this region.

At the awards luncheon we were highly honored to receive the Peer Support Group of the Year Award. Also award winners from Cuyahoga County were Judy Jackson - Winston, Community Advocate of the Year Award, William Denihan, Administrator of the Year, Lois Anderson, Employment/COOS Advocate of the Year, and Craig Fallon, OAMH/TLC Community Advocate of the Year.



*Doug DeVoe, Willie Johnston, Chuck Huth,
Curtis Fitts, Claudia Kowalski, Lori D’Angelo,
Lynette Collier, William Perez
OAMH 2003 Peer Support Award
for Magnolia Clubhouse*

Clubhouse Happenings

Spotlight on Employment and Consumer Involvement

by Paula Feher and Wei Huang

On June 2, 2003, the Cuyahoga County Mental Health Board held their Annual Meeting, with the Presentation of the Seventh Annual Helping Hand Awards. The theme of this year's program was "Employment", with Doug Devoe, Executive Director of the Ohio Advocates for Mental Health, as the Keynote Speaker. The Clubhouse was honored to be part of the program, with all of our Transitional Employment employers given special recognition and awards. Eight members, all who had worked on a Transitional Employment Placement, joined in the luncheon festivities. While the Clubhouse tries hard to show our employers how much their efforts are appreciated, this was really a special way to acknowledge how our partnership benefits so many people. We are grateful to the Mental Health Board for this recognition.



Bledsoe.

*Photo courtesy of the CCCMHB
Award Winner- our Claudia Kowalski, Lois Anderson, and
Valeria Harper-Bledsoe*

In addition, the Clubhouse was delighted to have one of our members, Claudia Kowalski, presented with the Helping Hand Award for Consumer Involvement. Claudia has truly become a leader in the areas of peer support and advocacy. It was quite a thrill to hear her name announced and see her receive this award.

Here's what members had to say about Claudia: "Claudia is easy to talk to and a good listener. She supports, helps and encourages people to work toward their strengths, to be more independent, and to meet their goals and needs. Claudia motivates other members by example and will assist others whenever

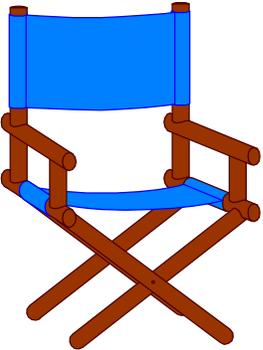


*Photo courtesy of the CCCMHB
Our TE Partner -Gio DiLalla of American Copier Solutions, Lois Anderson, and Valeria Harper-*

possible....Claudia challenges herself to work side-by-side with others, in a patient and respectful way with all members and staff....It doesn't matter who you are, she will help you."

Clubhouse Happenings

by Lori D'Angelo, Ph.D.



The Clubhouse has been bustling this spring and summer. Renovations have improved our exterior and heating and cooling systems. Fresh interior painting and a new dining room ceiling complete the package, thanks to Bridgeway's maintenance team! Our flowers and garden are blooming and we will be improving our landscaping next spring. If you would like to help or have tools or plants to spare, please let us know!!

We'd like to thank the Ogden Nash Consulting Group and Business Volunteers Unlimited for helping us kick off some work beginning a transition for the Clubhouse into a free standing incorporation. We will feature this development at a later edition, to keep you in suspense! A special thank you to our hard working advisory board as well, who has been working with the Clubhouse in this exciting process.

The Clubhouse has obtained some grants from the Abington Foundation and from the Cleveland Foundation. These will be used to support program expenses. We are still working to obtain ongoing program support and capital funding to complete our renovations. The renovation work to be done includes accessibility improvements and expansion.

Congressman Sherrod Brown will be visiting the Clubhouse at the end of September, in response to our letter informing legislators about the television showing of "West 47th Street". Hope you all

caught it. We are hoping to eventually obtain some federal support for the Clubhouse model in Ohio. Lorain County is interested in developing a Clubhouse.

Also in Ohio, Jefferson House continues to work towards becoming a Clubhouse in Eaton, Ohio. Corwin House is no longer following the Clubhouse model.

We are excited to attend the upcoming International Clubhouse Conference in October. This year the conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Magnolia Clubhouse is represented on the Clubhouse Program of Research Advisory



Board and the Faculty of the ICCD. We are very committed to the growth and development of the Clubhouse model to provide opportunities for people with mental illness in Ohio, and around the world.

Goteborgsfontanen (Fountain House) in

Clubhouse Happenings

Sweden, where John Larson, a member from Genesis Club in Worcester, Mass., and I recently conducted a certification visit. The Clubhouse was wonderful, very

much like ours and it was very interesting and enjoyable to visit Sweden. We have Clubhouse friends around the world.

House News

BUSINESS UNIT

The Business Unit has been busy keeping up with our major responsibilities: Welcoming and orienting new members (we had 20 new members join from April through August); keeping track of Transitional Employment hours; running the Magnolia Mart and keeping accurate records of the Clubhouse finances. In preparation for becoming a free-standing Clubhouse, we have been researching software programs to help us with bookkeeping and financial reports. This has also been a time of growth for members who have been writing up presentations and practicing them in front of people. We have revised the Magnolia Handbook to reflect changes at the Clubhouse. This handbook is given to visitors to acquaint them with how the Clubhouse operates. We also took an active role in revising our mission statement. We no longer have TEP's at the Free Clinic. We have added new TEP's at Zagara's Marketplace. So far, one member is grocery bagging in the evening. The Magnolia Mart is thriving. We have been receiving donations from a variety of people. Members enjoy shopping for clothes, household, and personal items for bargain prices. If you have household goods or clothes (larger sizes especially needed), to donate, please call for a pick-up.

CLERICAL UNIT

The Clerical Unit has been holding the Transition Plan meetings on our unit each week. We put together an organizational chart and packets for our advisory board as part of our transition plan. We are working with clubhouse members who are interested in becoming members of our advisory board and eventually the board of directors of a free standing Magnolia Clubhouse. We have updated our display board for conferences and also created videotapes for presentations. We will be taping the Cultural Diversity In-service for Bridgeway at the end of September. The Unit has been working with supporting our artists by getting their work displayed, see article "Art in the City". We now have a stone sculptor working at the clubhouse, (we hope to work with him to create a fountain for our pond) and we are encouraging everyone to express themselves artistically. We are making sure all our satisfaction and outcome measures are administered and completed on time. We are increasing our skills with the ACCESS program that we use for our mailing list.

HOSPITALITY UNIT

Thanks to lots of hard work we had a successful garden which yielded herbs, tomatoes and other various vegetables. We will be having a mess of greens soon! We hosted a luncheon

Clubhouse Happenings

for 40 people, a preceptorship of University Hospitals for pharmaceutical reps from Bristol Meyer Squibbs, from across the United States. The renovations are coming to a close and we are planning a breakfast to honor the maintenance folks who have worked so hard on our dining room.. As we moving toward being a free standing clubhouse our unit is planning to take on more of the landscaping and maintenance duties.

Advocacy News

GIVING TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

by Claudia Kowalski

Lori and myself were very excited about the prospect of giving testimony. On May 29th we went down to Columbus to further educate the legislators about the need for increased funding for mental health. I shared my own personal experiences and was the voice for other members. We wanted to convey the uniqueness of the Clubhouse and how it provides



a special community that supports work and connection with the broader community. Lori emphasized the need for psychosocial rehabilitation and the beauty of the Clubhouse model. She also gave statistics to back it up. I spoke about how much the Clubhouse means to its members. Just as working in the Clubhouse helps build my self-esteem so did talking about it in front of the Senators. We must have done a good job. The State increased spending for mental health by 2-3%. And Senator Ray Miller congratulated us on a job well done.

ART MEETS THE CITY By Frank Zingale and Paula Feher

*Photo courtesy of CCCMHB
Lori D'Angelo, Darlene Golias, Bonita Caplan,
Frank Zingale, William Deniham, Paula Feher*

In April, the Clubhouse displayed over 20 works from various Clubhouse artists at the CCCMHB. This was a month long show, and it was exciting to see our member receive this exposure and recognition. At the Board's monthly Board Meeting, 2 of the artists, Darlene Golias and Frank Zingale, received awards for themselves, and on behalf of the other artists for the Clubhouse. They also were invited to display their art at the CCCMHB annual meeting

at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel in June.

Currently, Frank and Darlene have over 20 works of art on display at the Chicago Title Building, thanks to the Department of Workforce Development. Robert Papanetti, on first seeing some of our art while at the Clubhouse, issued an invitation to set up a display in the lobby and offices of their building. The reception has been great, and Darlene and Frank have each sold a painting. We welcome other opportunities to display Clubhouse members' artwork. Anyone interested in a future art show, please contact the Clubhouse and ask for the Clerical Unit. (721-3030 #130).

Our Community

Employment News

TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENTS		
COMPANY	POSITION	MEMBER
American Copier Solutions	Custodial and Shipping	Mark Miller
Jennings Place	Dining Room Server	Walter Saunders
Sight Center of Cleveland	Kitchen Assistant	Robert Apel, Ramsey Fountain
Botanical Garden of Cleveland	Custodial and Gardening	Kathy Steidel
Zagara's Food Center	Custodial	Susan Clemmons, Sanford Spivey
Zagara's Food Center	Bagging	Brian Johnson
Community Mental Health Board	Clerical	Bill West
Six Flags - Worlds of Adventure	Park Hosts	Dan Freeborn, Daniel Clemons, Anthony Mosley, Al Vincent, Ernest Dean, Garcia Jones
Free Clinic	Custodial	Donald Molton, John Austin
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<u>January-June 2003</u>	<u>47% of members in employment</u>	<u>14 people in independent employment</u>
<u>January-June 2003 in TE</u>	<u>3165 hours worked</u>	<u>\$17,516 earned</u>
<u>21 members in TE</u>	<u>98% of scheduled hours worked</u>	<u>80% of placements completed</u>

Independent Employment Highlights

Several members have recently been hired in independent positions. John Blount is working part-time at Jennings Place, while he is attending job readiness program at the Employment Alliance, with the goal of an independent job closer to home.

Brian Egan recently started working at Spectrum's Near West Woodworks, and is really enjoying the opportunity to learn how to use wood-working tools.

Greg Leverette has been hired permanently at Zagara's Food Center, where he is doing custodial work. Congratulations to these 3 newly hired members.

Our Community

Employment News

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

by Pat Acey

William M. Denihan, Chief Executive Officer of the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board announced a new consumer and Provider Work Program. This new program allows for employment opportunities for consumers at contact provider agencies. Funding for this program is made possible through an \$11,083.71 reimbursement from the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission. This program offers a monetary enticement to agencies if consumers are hired through any of the following four ways.

1. \$500 to an agency that becomes a Community-Based Work Adjustment site, whereby a consumer enrolled in this vocational service would be working onsite four hours per day from four to 12 weeks;
2. \$600 to an agency that becomes a Transitional Employment site, whereby a consumer who is a member of Magnolia Clubhouse would be working onsite four hours per day for six months;
3. \$1,000 to an agency that hires a consumer in a permanent part-time position for at least 20 hours per week; and
4. \$1,500 to an agency that hires a consumer in a permanent full-time position.

Here at the Clubhouse, we are hopeful that

this program will bring us additional TEPs, and

THE FREE CLINIC - AN EIGHT YEAR EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP

by John Austin and Chuck Huth

The Free Clinic T.E.P. started February 4, 1995 and ended September 5, 2003. In those 8 years, 30 different members have worked over 12,000 hours and earned over \$ 61,000. The T.E.P. started at \$ 4.25 an hour and final pay was \$ 5.25 per hour. At least nine members have gone onto independent employment from their start at the Free Clinic T.E.P., including one member, Michael Washington, who now works full time at the Clinic. Michael was featured in a Channel Five, WEWS "Live on Five" health report segment featuring Magnolia Clubhouse, the Free Clinic and Transitional Employment Placements.

Six different Clubhouse staff members have been placement manager on this T.E.P. including Willie Johnston for the past five years. We really appreciate all the support we have received from the Free Clinic staff. We especially thank Marty Hiller and Allen Vansel, who we worked with during the beginning of the placement Alfred Collins and Gail Bromley have been our most recent partners.

We really appreciate the opportunities The Free Clinic has given us, and look forward to a time when we may work together again as funding becomes possible to support future Transitional Employment

Our World

Placement opportunities.

applaud the CCCMHB for their continued support of employment!

NAMI Ohio Conference

by Claudia Kowalski and Steve Keller

Friday, May 2nd and Saturday May 3rd, a group of Clubhouse members and staff attended the NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) Conference held in Columbus, Ohio. NAMI is a grassroots movement that was started by concerned family members of consumers. It tries to educate the community, and advocate for those with mental illness.

The staff and members spent the first day attending workshops and presentations. They also enjoyed socializing and meeting with other members of NAMI from around the state. In the evening, there was a candlelight vigil and a dance.

On Saturday morning, the staff and members gave a presentation with slides and video. It focused on what an ICCD (International Center for Clubhouse Development) clubhouse is all about. The presentation was divided into specific areas such as history of clubhouses, employment, function of different units, etc. The accompanying video was of Magnolia News at One, the daily news show. The power point gave visual support to the presentation. A different staff or member covered each topic area.

There were so many questions that we were not able to complete the program. It was extremely positive feedback. "Great" and "refreshing" were just two of the responses. It was extremely educational

and we appreciated not only the chance to share the idea of Clubhouse, but meeting and connecting with those with similar interests and experiences. It was fun and a good time was had by all!

ICCD Faculty Training

by Wei Huang

Q: What is faculty training?

A: Faculty training is training to evaluate and certify a clubhouse based on the 36 International Standards for Clubhouses.

Q: Where did you go?

A: I went to Fountain House in New York City. It was very well done, very thorough, thoughtful and respectful of the complexity of the model. There were 16 of us being trained, half staff, half members. We discussed the process and we spent time at an area clubhouses to conduct shortened versions of the certification. All teams, one member and 1 staff, went to different clubhouses, evaluated the clubhouse and wrote and presented reports. The Clubhouse I went to was in Queens, Venture House.

Q: How do you think that being a faculty member will help our clubhouse?

A: It helps our clubhouse understand more fully how to do the Clubhouse Model extremely well; what it takes to have a strong clubhouse and understand standards and learn from different clubhouses—I can share information with people here for new ideas.

Looking Ahead

Q: Where are you going for your 1st certification visit?

A: I am going to Goteborgsfontanen in Sweden. Isn't that lucky?

Q: Is there anything else about becoming a member of the ICCD faculty you want us to know?

A: I hope members will think about becoming a part of the faculty.

- 1 End of Sept. Congressman Sherrod Brown visits the Clubhouse Bill Denihan and Ralph Fee to join us in visit
- 1 Fall thru Winter Bridgeway and Magnolia Clubhouse work on the Clubhouse becoming Free Standing
- 1 Early Oct. Open House October 8th 3pm to 6pm
- 1 Mid Oct. 12th International Seminar by ICCD, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 1 January-March Expansion of Thrift Store with help of the Junior League, need some items to attract college buyers as well!

Our Wish List

Floor Sander Rental	Paint
Wood Stain and Polyurethane	Art Supplies
Chandeliers-Antique	Pentium 11or higher computers
Oriental Carpets	Glass Drinking Glasses
Driveway Gravel	Picture Frames
Plants for Landscaping	Framed pictures we can use/reuse
Tools, Handy man and garden	Matting Materials
Commercial Kitchen Tools	Winter Clothing
China Plates	Larger sized clothing
Shop Vacuums	Furniture items for Thrift Store
Shelving for Thrift Store	Vintage Clothing for Thrift Store
Clothing Racks for Thrift Store	Items of appeal to college students
Aprons and Oven Mitts	Small Working Appliances

Special Thanks to:

Robert & Jean Stedfeld	Business Volunteers Unlimited
Goodbye Charlie	Ogden Post Consulting Group
CCCMHB	Marisa Abbe
Cleveland Foundation	All Our Students