

# High Hopes Clubhouse

## The road to meaningful employment



Quarterly  
Newsletter  
Spring/Summer  
2012

### Three Week Colleague Training

High Hopes Clubhouse requires all of its staff to attend Three Week Colleague Training in the Clubhouse model. We truly believe that we remain a strong Clubhouse by having many members and all staff trained at ICCD training bases. In March, Debbie Marquis, Anita Anderson and Morgan Place attended the training at Independence Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Our training group included Clubhouses from San Antonio, Texas and Detroit, Michigan. Our director, Lisa Soucie joined us as the third week administrator and a new action plan was developed to further strengthen and grow our Clubhouse community.

We worked in the Independence Center Clubhouse units most of the day, then attended Clubhouse discussions late into the afternoon. Being from Waterville, Maine we were all struck by the size of the city of St. Louis and the size of Independence Center Clubhouse, the second largest in the world. They have a store and three units, but each unit has as many members as High Hopes has in total. They serve 300-400 lunches a day (in two shifts) and if they have a house meeting in their dining room they have to pass around a microphone for people to be heard by all.

But it was not all work and culture shock. We had a really great time! Our group (#93) was the first to be all women, ten of us! Independence Center let us borrow a van to get around and a member joined us on one of the weekends to be our tour guide. We of course went to the Arch, you can actually go up inside it if you are willing to climb into little round hobbit elevators. We then went to the St. Louis Zoo. Morgan (our youngest staff member) learned who Chuck Berry was when she saw his statue on Delmar Avenue and thanks to Pete Estrader of Independence Center, we were introduced to the famous burger joint, Blueberry Hill.

Since coming back we have presented our action plans to the Clubhouse and have made a lot of progress on them. Independence Center also offers follow up phone calls to assist us in meeting our goals.

Independence Center in St. Louis will be hosting the 17th International Seminar in October, 2013. So start saving, earning and fundraising now if you are interested in attending this life changing Clubhouse event.



Morgan, Debbie and Anita

### Inside this issue:

<i>Three Week Colleague Training</i>	1
<i>NAMI Walk Jim Schmidt Award</i>	2
<i>Staff Changes New ICCD Faculty Advisory Board</i>	3
<i>Employment Updates Quarterly Statistics</i>	4-5
<i>Young Adults New Intern Health and Wellness</i>	6

## NAMI Walk

On May 12th, 2012 around 40 members and staff participated in the annual NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) walk that took place in Portland, Maine around Back Bay. We raised close to \$4,000! A few members and a staff from our team were some of the first to cross the finish line. The weather was gorgeous. Congratulations to all who went down!



The High Hopes Team at the NAMI Walk in Portland, Maine

## Maggie Black Receives Jim Schmidt Award

Jim Schmidt had great passion for the role that employment plays in a person's life and recovery from mental illness. Jim wanted everyone of our members to have the opportunity to have meaningful employment. At High Hopes we are very fortunate to witness people's lives turning around almost daily by giving them the opportunity to work. Due to the high quality of our Transitional Employment site employers, it was difficult to pick just one to recognize with the Jim Schmidt Award. Maggie Black, Food Service Director of Inland Hospital and Lakewood Continuing Care has done a great deal over the past year to earn this award. She supervised two Transitional Employment placements, and as well as four supported employment placements in the kitchen and serving areas. Maggie joined the High Hopes Advisory Board, followed by a trip to Washington, DC to present at the National Employment Project Conference for all Clubhouses in the United States. In Washington, DC, Maggie was presented an award by Governor LePage. Maggie came back from the conference with a real fire for the Clubhouse. She immediately went to work to develop yet another TE site at Lakewood Continuing Care, and actively encouraged other employers in Waterville, Maine to do the same. Maggie was also the guest speaker at a state wide business conference supporting hiring people with disabilities; she answered questions and shared her experience of supervising six Clubhouse members. Maggie expects a lot from her employees, the great thing is that means all of her employees. She holds the members of the Clubhouse to the same standards as everyone else. Her willingness to work with the Clubhouse and her desire to see her employees succeed is inspiring. We would like to recognize Maggie as a real fire soul in her desire to and willingness to make a difference in people's lives. Congratulations Maggie on receiving the Jim Schmidt Award.



Lisa Souice and Maggie Black

## Staff Hellos and Goodbyes

**Goodbye-** David Sovetsky, Assistant Director of High Hopes Clubhouse will be moving on to his new job at Capitol Clubhouse. David will be missed here at High Hopes Clubhouse and surely his dedication to the Club-



Good luck to David

house community will be missed as well. It has been a pleasure to have David as part of the Clubhouse and we know that he will be successful at Capitol Clubhouse as well. Good Luck David! Be sure to keep in touch!

**Hello-** High Hopes Clubhouse welcomes Amy Kirkpatrick as our new Unit Coordinator. Amy comes with 10 years of Clubhouse experience and has recently completed ICCD Faculty Training. Some of you may remember Amy as she worked at High Hopes Clubhouse in the past. Amy will be working in the Membership Services Unit.



We look forward to having Amy in our Clubhouse.

Welcome Back, Amy!

## New ICCD Faculty Member

The International Center for Clubhouse Development (ICCD) promotes, develops and strengthens Clubhouses world wide. One part of this organization is the Faculty, whose function is to accredit Clubhouses. Both members and staff of Clubhouses can be Faculty members. I have been working toward this goal for over six years now. I've done many community presentations and workshops at International Seminars. Last year, I spent 10 months earning, saving and fundraising, so I could attend IS16 in Stockholm and present in workshops. I've improved my communication skills and worked a few TE jobs. I've been involved with High Hopes since Jim Schmidt first came to Maine and held round table discussions about the Clubhouse program, about 15 years ago. The requirements to be a Faculty member include Colleague Three Week Training, I was very grateful to be chosen to go to this training this past March in St. Louis. I was excepted for Faculty training and went to Genesis Inc. Clubhouse in Worcester, Massachusetts for the Intensive One Week Faculty Training. I was warned that Faculty training was very grueling. But I actually thought it was a lot of fun and had a great time. In June, I traveled to Massachusetts to do my first accreditation visit and I am already scheduled to do my next accreditation visit to a Clubhouse in Connecticut this September. I still can't believe I've reached this personal goal and that I'll be able to help other Clubhouses offer members like me, the opportunity to reach their goals too. I'd like to thank all the people who have helped and encouraged me along the way, some day I hope to believe in my abilities as much as others seem too. Anita Anderson

## Advisory Board News

High Hopes Clubhouse would like to welcome new High Hopes Clubhouse Advisory Board members, Kelly Winslow, Assistant Vice President Area Sales Manger of Bangor Savings Bank and Kim Croswell, Agent for Coldwell Bankers, Plourde Real Estate. They have both hit the ground running in advocating and serving the members of the Clubhouse community. Kelly supported us with nominating and receiving two grants from Bangor Savings Bank. Kim has been successful at partnering with a community dental clinic to provide services for our members. She has also been the guest chef in our kitchen and brought in community folks to help her out and get to know and work with the members. It is a great pleasure to have these two excellent additions to our Advisory Board. Thanks to all our Advisory Board members for their hard work and dedication.

# Employment Update



Darin Beaulieu ("DJ") is the newest member to work a TE job at our longest employer, Marden's Surplus and Salvage. DJ is working in the food department.

Kirsten Roy continues to work in her TE position at Marden's Surplus and Salvage in the clothing department. Kirsten will soon be completing this TE site and looking forward to her next employment opportunity.

Marden's also continues to employ two members who work full time and one member part time. Great jobs, great employer!



High Hopes Clubhouse has teamed up with a new employer. Thanks to owner, Zac Sclar and managers Carol Landry and Tobey Rose, who agreed to give one 15-20 hour Transitional Employment placement to High Hopes Clubhouse. Samantha (Sam) Clark started her new job in May. It is a wonderful job and Sam is enjoying her work. We hope to build a strong employer relationship with this new business in downtown Waterville. Stop by and see Sam and check out some great deals at SAVE-A-LOT!



Justin Jurdak started his new Transitional Employment site in February and loves his job! Justin has built some great relationships with all the workers at Applebee's and fits right into the team. Thanks to Mike Foss, Brian Putkis and Roger Pauly for giving High Hopes Clubhouse members an opportunity to work with their company! Justin received Employee of the Month in June!



Dairy Queen is open for the season. This Transitional Employment placement covers both Dairy Queen locations in Waterville. Gage Perry is excited to be working and is doing an awesome job! Gage has not missed one day of work since starting the job! Thanks to Duane Wheeler, owner of the two Dairy Queens for both the TE position and for being a member of the High Hopes Clubhouse Advisory Board.



## Employment Update



We currently have two TE job sites with Lakewood Continuing Care (see the article on page two). Ellen Wilson is working as a server on the dementia unit. Ellen is

doing a great job and looks forward to going to work everyday. Corie Clough successfully completed her placement at Applebee's, but she didn't miss a beat as she transitioned to the food service department at Lakewood Continuing Care. Lakewood also employs four additional High Hopes Clubhouse members in supported employment sites. Thanks to Maggie Black, director of Food Services and her entire staff for including High Hopes members into your team.



Paul Grenier is close to finishing his TE placement at Joseph's Fireside Steakhouse. Paul has been working this TE position since partnering with this employer.

With the support of Kevin Joseph, owner and Pat Goodno, manager not only did High Hopes Clubhouse get a dishwashing position at 20 hours a week, but they also employ a second member in an additional TE site cleaning. Celina

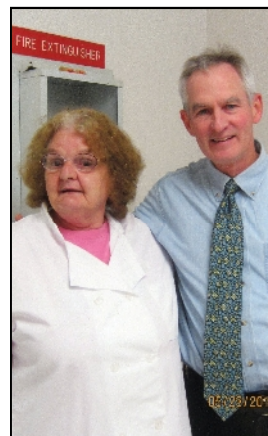
Kuhn is working the cleaning position and both Paul and Celina are doing a good job and gaining valuable employment skills.

We look forward to a long lasting employer relationship with Joseph's Fireside Steakhouse.



## Quarterly Statistics For March, April & May 2012

Members in TE:	12
Members in SE and IE:	27
*Full Time Employment:	17
Members in Education:	6
Average Active Membership:	125
Average Daily Attendance:	46
*Successful Alumni members working full time with verified wages	



Shirley and Tom McAdam

Shirley Ware, 77 years old started her first job in April of 2012! Shirley is running a sandwich/salad bar at Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH) two days a week. It is a service for the employees and a great job for Shirley. She not only provides a sandwich for people but some wonderful entertainment as well! Stop by for a laugh and a great sandwich!

Anita Anderson has started a three day a week Transitional Employment job in maintenance of grounds of the Facilities Department of KBH. Her new boss Scott Berry, director of facilities is glad to have Anita on board.



## Young Adult Committee

The Young Adult Committee (YAC) held its first graduation. Tasha Handley, Maria Wark and Jon Duffy all received certificates and were honorees' at a Wednesday Night Roast.



We are working YAC Alumni at a Wednesday Night Roast on many different projects including orientation for new young adult members and doing presentations in the community with our own DVD show.

On May 17th, we went to a concert at Port City Music Hall in Portland, Maine. One of the bands was Last Chance to Reason from Winslow. Thanks to Candy Lessard, whose son is in the band for getting us tickets.

Many of us are also working, Justin Jurdak, Corie Clough and Gage Perry, are all working TE positions (see the employment pages for more info).

We have recently chosen new officers. The new officers we have chosen are Ashley Fisher for the Chairman position, Justin Jurdak for Co-chairman and Michael

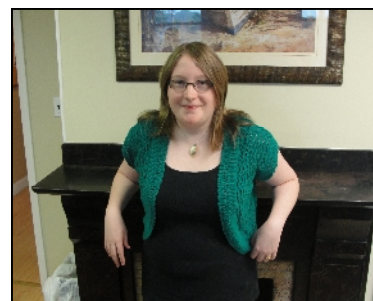


YAC going to the hard rock concert

Binette for Secretary. We have our Meetings every Wednesday at 2:00pm and social events once a month.

## Summer Intern

We would like to welcome Ashley Nichols, from Smith College, who will be interning at High Hopes this summer. Ashley is looking forward to getting to know everyone and learning more about the Clubhouse model.



Ashley Nichols

## Health and Wellness

We have been able to continue our full gym membership for the entire Clubhouse community with the support of a recent grant from Inland Hospitals Community Benefit Program. High Hopes Clubhouse was awarded funds to work towards strengthening the overall health and wellness of our Clubhouse community. Currently over 45 members have attended the gym in the past six months and regular attendance during lunch breaks has increased.

Members and staff are also encouraged to use the gym in the evenings and weekends. Thank you Inland Hospital.



High Hopes attends the Gym



Find us on Facebook!



High Hopes Clubhouse  
26 College Ave.  
Waterville, Maine  
04901  
(207) 877-0038  
Fax: 877-0322  
Highhopesclubhouse.org  
ICCD.org