



GILEAD
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC

Improving Lives, Building Futures

BALM OF GILEAD

Winter 2013

THE ROAD TO RECOVERY CONTINUES

Many of you might remember a recent article I wrote about DC and how well he was doing in the Shoreline Community Apartment Program's (SCAP) Group Home. The article ended with a reflection of DC's success at the group home, yet knowing that the time for him to move on to the apartment program was approaching. Now, DC has taken what is for him, a giant step forward to being successful in the community.

After a multitude of team meetings about DC moving into an area apartment and ways that the SCAP program would be able to support him, a plan for success was developed. This plan required that the apartment be close to SCAP, it needed to have a spot for DC to work on his moped, and in the beginning at least, not having a roommate, to offer DC the proper environment to be able to work with SCAP staff to incorporate his treatment plan goals and objectives into his new style of living. The team decided that these criteria would assist DC in taking ownership and having pride in his own apartment.

The move went very well thanks to DC's close supervision and he was involved in figuring out how to set things up to his liking. At first, DC seemed to be spending most of his time at the Group Home as he always had. He was taking meals there, working on his moped there and actually spent a few nights sleeping in his old room. It became clear that DC was taking time to adjust fully to the idea of having his own apartment and moving on. Many discussions were had about his goals/objectives from his treatment plan and how to incorporate them into living in an apartment. In other words, use the same treatment plan to ensure his success in this new lifestyle.

After about three weeks, I asked him if he could show me his apartment and later that day we could go food shopping. When I arrived at his apartment, DC was very proud to show me around and point out how he had cleaned the entire apartment and set up his belongings. When I pointed out that he seemed to like his apartment, he said "every time I get up and look at these wood floors, I feel like a millionaire." This truly put everything into perspective.

As we were walking through the grocery store and DC was putting things in his cart, it became evident that he had benefitted so much from going on all the shopping trips with SCAP staff when he was in the group home. Each trip allowed DC to learn and develop daily living skills that were obviously helping him navigate through these uncharted waters of successful independent living.

DC has found his niche, successfully incorporating his treatment plan goals and objectives into his new lifestyle of independent living. DC still looks toward his extended family of SCAP to help him but we are all confident that DC will show staff and clients new tools for success.

-Dave Norman, SCAP Group Home



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GOOD NEIGHBORS



Josh Oulette (left) fundraising for the bridge project



BOY SCOUT BUILDS BRIDGE

Boy Scout Josh Ouellette has volunteered his time and effort to build a bridge at the Social Rehabilitation Center. It will enable us to provide a safe avenue to cross over a wet area on our property here at Social Rehabilitation Center. This bridge will give us access to our large garden, approximately 50' by 100'. We will be growing vegetables there all summer to supplement our meals with healthy, fresh produce. The Boy Scout leaders will also rototill the garden for us. Josh has already completed one fundraiser at Community Baptist Church for the cost of the project.

Our clients live on a limited income, and often the noon meal at the "Clubhouse" is their only meal of the day. We hope to be successful with our garden, the first step of which is to build the beautiful bridge to enable access to it.

We are very grateful that Josh Ouellette and the Boy Scout leaders have chosen us to donate their time on this Eagle Project.

Patricia Burke - Social Rehabilitation Center

STEP N UP

Natural Team Leader



Alex Turchioe

Since Alex transitioned to the Liberty Program Senior Case Manager position, she has brought a level of professionalism, enthusiasm, and organization to the team that is greatly appreciated. She was vital in reorganizing the program staff office. Her excitement and commitment to the model of the program is reflected daily through her interactions with staff, supervisors and clients. Alex continuously goes above and beyond in making sure that the program is operating smoothly. She ensures that all clients are able to access community activities by proactively reviewing the schedule on a daily basis.

Alex's demeanor, experience and gentle personality have proven to be an asset in leading the team in a positive manner. Alex is highly respected and viewed as a reliable team leader in only a short time in this role.

WISH LIST

- Portable sewing machine
- Soup bowls for homemade soups
- Volleyball net
- Wii sports games
- A new or used free standing basketball hoop with net
- Single bed for a client moving into own apartment
- Deck of cards
- Dark colored aprons and oven mitts for the kitchen(8)
- Art supplies including Disney coloring books, crayons, paints



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Prom at Social Rehabilitation Center

Many Gilead clients have missed out on some significant milestones as they were growing up. One of the milestones is the yearly Prom that many high school students participate in. In light of that fact, Gilead's Clubhouse decided to hold their First Annual Prom Night in 2012. The center was decorated with twinkling lights, soft colors, music playing and vines decorated around the gazebo for picture-taking. A fabulous dinner (choice of steak or shrimp) was served along with a famous sherbet punch. Prom goers were dressed to the nines and danced the night away to live music.

Patricia Burke - Social Rehabilitation Center





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LEAVE A LEGACY



Members of Gilead's Legacy Society commit to remember Gilead Community Services through their estate planning which can include annuities, transferring of life insurance policies, outright bequests, and retirement benefits payable upon the death of the member.

There is no end to the good you can do.

Each year, 72 percent of Americans give to charities but only 5.7 percent leave a charitable bequest in their wills, keeping their charitable gifts alive once they've passed

away. The number one reason people gave for failing to leave a charitable bequest is that they were never asked. The top seven things you can do today,

1. Prepare your will.
2. Set aside a gift in your will for your favorite charity or religious organization that has made a difference in your life.
3. Name your favorite charity as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy, or purchase a new policy and name the charity as the beneficiary.
4. Remember your loved ones with a charitable bequest in their honor.
5. Name a charity as the beneficiary of your pension plan or IRA.
6. Discuss with your advisors or your favorite charities the tax advantages you can enjoy now by leaving a gift to a charity.
7. Spread the word. Let family, friends and advisors know that you've taken responsibility for your legacy and for the well being of a cause you care about.

Please consider including Gilead Community Services, Inc. when you are preparing your will.

To find out more please call Lucy McMillan, Director of Development and Public Education at (860) 343-5300 ext. 3423.