

Dear Supporter,

May 1, 2025

We all crave a sense of **belonging and community**, but those struggling with mental illness often find themselves sidelined and excluded. Twenty years ago, Ed was looking for a place to belong, and he found that when he walked through the doors of Gilead's Social Club.

"I came here, and right away, I made friends—lifelong friends."

Thanks to supporters like you, Ed found the deep connections he needed. The Social Club wasn't merely a place to pass the time; it blossomed into the community where Ed thrived. This supportive environment would prove to be his lifeline when he faced the daunting challenge of stage 3 colorectal cancer—a struggle he battled for two long years.

"I never would have made it through without my friends at Gilead, my faith, my mom and my girlfriend!" he says, his gratitude palpable.

Encouraged by Patty Burke, then Program Manager, Ed pursued his Recovery Support Specialist certificate. This program is designed for people with lived experience with mental health services. Eager to give back the love and encouragement he received, Ed earned his certification. **Today, he is a valued member of the Gilead staff, impacting countless lives. Most importantly, he has discovered his purpose.**

Transformative stories like Ed's are made possible by your unwavering generosity and belief in the power of connection. For the past seven years, Ed has been a cherished member of the Gilead staff, making a profound impact across multiple programs.

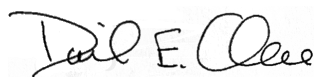
"This is the best job I've ever had," Ed says.

Ed goes above and beyond—transporting clients, advocating for those in nursing homes, and being a compassionate presence in their lives. "You can't teach compassion," says Patty. "Ed is the employee everyone dreams of—kind, dependable, and smart."

Your gift to Gilead today empowers others like Ed to transform their lives through connection, hope, and purpose.

Thanks to the kindness of several donors, your contribution will be matched dollar for dollar. Please consider making your gift online at www.gileadcs.org or using the enclosed envelope.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Daniel E. Osborne

