STEPPING STONE & NEXT STEP

PEER SUPPORT & CRISIS RESPITE CENTERS DECEMBER 2016

Stepping Stone 108 Pleasant Street Claremont, NH 03743 603-543-1388 Next Step 109 Bank Street Lebanon, NH 03766 603-448-6941

Members Spotlight -a place for your thoughts on peer support to take center stage

"My Wellness Journey"

By: Joan Stacy

Let me begin by saying, when I was first told I had Depression, the feelings of doom hung over me like a big black cloud.

After eleven years since and many up and downs I can honestly say that big black cloud has lifted.

Through working with my mental health team and finally finding the medicine that works for me, I have grown to enjoy life and help others.

My main source of power came from my peer support center.

Working and learning acceptance cleared a path for my journey to living a life of more ups than downs and being comfortable with others.

Learning has been my key to growing!

If you are interested in contributing a story, poem, or other idea, please call Shanon at 543-1388.

<u>WISH LIST</u>

all holiday DVDs good knife set patio table griddle new kitchen towels bathroom mats



- Sylvia deM. for adult stained glass coloring books.
- Kim M. for a night stand.
- Ed F. for an electric keyboard, sheet music & binoculars.
- Amber H. for Christmas decorations.
- Members who help with community meals.

If you know of a donation we haven't recognized, please see Shanon.



Community Meal Menus

Stepping Stone Next Step

12/7 Pasta w/meat sauce 12/6 Cheese Burger w/fries Salad Salad

12/14 Chicken drumsticks 12/13 Goulash Salad

Salad

12/21 Pork Stir Fry 12/20 Chicken legs w/mashed potatoes/veggies

> Salad Salad

12/28 Cheese Ravioli 12/27 Hotdogs w/chips/beans

Salad

Recipe of the Month - Gluten free Peanut Butter Cookie

1 cup peanut butter 1 egg

1 tsp. vanilla 1 cup sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine all ingredients. Drop by spoonful on greased cookie sheet. Bake for 5-7 minutes. Cool completely & enjoy!



On the 3rd Friday of every month at Stepping Stone, we have a cake to celebrate all the birthdays in the month.

Please join us for cake and celebration.

Giving Back

We believe it is important to give back to our communities. If you have an idea for community volunteering or donations, or if you volunteer and want to be recognized, please see Shanon or Mark. Here's what we're doing now:

Arbor View visit: In November, we had a great conversation about things we are grateful for, and we shared some stories about past memories around the holidays. It was nice to hear other perspectives. In December, we plan to celebrate the holidays together. If you want to join us, please sign up at either site.

Claremont Fire Department: A Member volunteers to help outside.

Claremont Soup Kitchen: A member volunteers putting together food boxes.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center: A Member in Lebanon volunteers in the housekeeping department and helps with BINGO preparation.

Grafton County Senior Center: A Member in Lebanon volunteers at the front desk and waitresses when needed. She also puts together meals for Meals on Wheels.

Meals on Wheels: A Member in Lebanon volunteers to deliver meals.



Celebrate the Holidays!!! Tuesday, 12/13, 12:30-3:30 PM, Next Step Friday, 12/16, 2-4 PM, Stepping Stone

Board of Directors News

We're looking for talented and thoughtful volunteer Board members. If you can contribute your time and ideas and are interested in exploring this opportunity, contact Shanon Pyatt at 603 543-1388, and she will put you in contact with the Board member in charge of Board Recruitment.



Claremont

169 Main Street Claremont NH 08743 Tel. (603) 287-7919

65 Park Street Unit 2 Newport NH 03773 (603) 865-5374

Our Recovery Centers are safe places where recovery development occurs and where individuals will be matched with people offering recovery support services. Our centers are a place where you will be heard; a venue for healthy, drug and alcohol socialization; and family supports for all stages of recovery. We respect all pathways to addiction recovery and will help individuals and their families with access to supports that work for them. http://www.hopefornhrecovery.org/our-centers

Do You Or Someone You Know Struggle With Addiction or Substance Use? Have questions about what to do next? Your Recovery Is Our Priority! 1-844-711-HELP hope@keystonehall.org

Confidential

Judgment-free

24 Hours a day

7 Days a week

Upcoming Events & Meeting

Community Meetings Stepping Stone, Tuesday, 1-2PM Next Step, Wednesday, 1-2PM

Newsletter Workgroup Monday, 12/12, 9:30-11:30 AM Stepping Stone Sign up for transportation from Next Step

2016 NH PSA CONFERENCE HOLIDAY INN, CONCORD, NH Wednesday, 12/14, 8:30 AM-4:00 PM This annual conference will feature a keynote speaker and workshops targeted for Members, staff members, and Board members of peer support agencies. Agenda details will follow.

Educational Event

Office of Consumer & Family Affairs with Tom Grinley Tuesday, 12/20, 1 PM Stepping Stone

AVA Gallery Holiday Exhibition & Lights at La Salette Tuesday, 12/20, 4-6 PM Sign up for transportation from either site

Educational Event

Office of Consumer & Family Affairs with Tom Grinley Wednesday, 12/21, 1 PM Next Step

> Arbor View Connection To be announced

Consumer Council Meeting No meeting in December

Board of Directors Meeting No meeting in December

NH Mental Health Planning & Advisory Council Meets quarterly in January, April, July, and October. Please see information posted at both sites

Stepping Stone and Next Step Peer Support and Crisis Respite Centers is a private, not-for-profit agency dedicated to promoting emotional wellness and recovery. We provide consumer-run services designed and driven by consumers to best meet their own needs. We are committed to the creation of a safe, supportive, and educational environment for people with mental health challenges. Members apply real life experiences to help themselves and their peers attain wellness while casting off the victim identity and replacing it with personhood. We are funded primarily by the NH Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Mental Health Services (BMHS). Our supports are free to NH residents.

"I'm not a saint. I'm not an angel. I'm a human being."

-Annie Lennox -born December 25, 1954 Check out our website:

www.steppingstonenextstep.org

A work in progress—we continue to improve its content. Stay tuned for updates.



Suggestion Boxes are at both sites for your ideas and suggestions regarding the centers. If you have an idea for Member fundraising, please put it in the box. Please place your constructive suggestions in the box. Your name is optional.

How to Reach Us

Stepping Stone

Phone: 543-1388
Fax: 543-0131
Center hours:
Sunday 11AM—3PM
Monday—Thursday 9AM—4PM
Friday Noon—7PM
Saturday 11AM—4PM

Next Step

Phone: 448-6941 Fax: 448-0702 Center hours: Monday—Thursday 9AM—5PM Friday 11AM—6PM Saturday 11AM—4PM

Peer Respite

Our program is free to NH residents who meet the guidelines of being at risk for using mental health services, are already using mental health services, or are referred by other services. Call 543-1388 for more information.

Peer Support Warmline

Our Warmline is available 5–10PM, seven days a week. To access our Warmline, call 543-1388 or 543-0920. If calling long distance within NH, call toll free at 1-888-582-0920.



WE'RE GOING DIGITAL!!

In an effort to reduce costs, we need to reduce the number of Newsletters we send in the US mail. Please consider accessing your Newsletter via email or our website.

The October issue included a postage-paid postcard where you can indicate your choice. Please fill out the postcard and mail it back to us and we will make the necessary changes.

Editor: Shanon L. Pyatt