



DEPAUL

DETAILS

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DePaul Combines Mental Health Rehabilitation and Treatment Programs

Operation Friendship, a psychosocial clubhouse for people in recovery from mental illness in Rochester, NY, has recently relocated in preparation for a new, renovated site that will more effectively serve consumer needs.

The project represents DePaul's commitment to centralizing services and augmenting its continuum of care by combining the continuing day treatment program, social club, vocational services and recreation programming.

The project involves significant remodeling to the two buildings that currently house DePaul's T-Shirt Factory and Operation Friendship located at 160 Mt. Hope Avenue.

The new campus will provide social supports and clinical, vocational and recreational services, which are

now offered by Operation Friendship, DePaul's T-Shirt Factory, WorkGuide, the Continuing Day Treatment Program and DePaul Recreation.

"The reason this plan works so well is because it offers a broad spectrum of personalized options for consumers to choose from," said Gillian Conde, Vice President of DePaul Community Services. "Clients can work on getting a job, see their therapist, and enjoy social interactions if they choose and they don't have to be enrolled in five different programs all on different sides of the city. Also, the options they choose can change with the needs of the individual."

The project is expected to be complete in 2007.

DePaul Case Manager is Compeer's Volunteer of the Year

Melissa Farrell, Case Management Coordinator for McKinley Square, a DePaul Single Room Occupancy program in Buffalo, NY, was recognized by Compeer of Greater Buffalo as its Volunteer of the Year in May. Compeer is an international, non-profit volunteer-based organization that helps adults and children overcome the devastating effects of mental illness, such as loneliness, low self-esteem and isolation – through friendship.

A ceremony was held at the Temple Beth Zion Auditorium, where Melissa was recognized for her extraordinary work with Compeer. Melissa has been an active volunteer for Compeer since June of 2003. She has been an employee of Living Opportunities of DePaul since 1999, holding various supervisory positions. In addition to being a dedicated employee of DePaul, Melissa finds the time to volunteer at Compeer to benefit those who are less fortunate. Congratulations Melissa on this great achievement!



Melissa Farrell and Mary W.



Frances Harding recognizes NCADD-RA and Jennifer Faringer.

DePaul's
National Council on Alcoholism
& Drug Dependence – Rochester Area
Celebrates 60 years

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (NCADD-RA), a program of DePaul Addiction Services in Rochester, NY, held its annual luncheon in May, marking the program's 60th anniversary.

Frances Harding, Associate Commissioner, Division of Prevention and Treatment Services, New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, was the keynote speaker for the event. Ms. Harding spoke about the importance of prevention in the community. Mayor Robert Duffy provided additional remarks, offering a local perspective about alcohol and substance abuse prevention and education.

Awards were also given to Dr. Jack Resnik, Toni Gauthier, and Monroe County District Attorney Mike Green for their contributions and continued support of the NCADD-RA. More than 100 people attended the anniversary luncheon.

DePaul Addiction Treatment Center Selected to Take Part in National Study

DePaul's Addiction Treatment Center has been selected to take part in a national research study being conducted by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the University of Georgia.

Since 1994, the University of Georgia's Institute for Behavioral Research has been involved in a number of federally-funded studies of substance abuse treatment programs, including the current National Treatment Center Study. Each of these studies examines some aspect of the nation's addiction treatment system, with a particular interest in the factors associated with the delivery of evidence-based practices.

Through these studies, the University of Georgia has been able to document a number of structural issues and resource barriers that impact programs' decision-making about the services they deliver.

In October 2005, the University of Georgia was awarded a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study a select sample of opioid treatment programs. DePaul's Addiction Treatment Center was one of 50 programs selected to participate in the study.

The study is designed to describe the extent to which recently-developed and scientifically-validated practices for the treatment of opioid dependence have been adopted by treatment programs nationwide. The goal of the study is to identify factors that either facilitate or impede the use of new technologies in addiction treatment.

By participating in this study, Christopher Wilkins, Vice President of DePaul Addiction Services, will complete a face-to-face interview about the addiction treatment programs' structure, services and staffing.

"We're delighted to have been chosen to participate in this study," Wilkins said. "Anything we can do as an agency or an addiction treatment provider to aid or improve the practices for chemical dependency treatment is a win-win for everyone involved. We're looking forward to taking part in this important initiative."



Heidi's Horses a Hit at Westwood Commons!

Residents of Westwood Commons, a DePaul Senior Living Community located in North Chili, NY, enjoyed an afternoon visit with Heidi Colf, an employee of DePaul, and her miniature horses – including the newest addition to her family – Rocky – who was born in April. This activity is one of several therapeutic activities that residents participate in throughout the year that involves animals.

Avenues to Independence . . . *Expanding Services, Increasing Independence*

Avenues to Independence, a program of DePaul Developmental Services, recently expanded its programming for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Avenues to Independence assists individuals with developmental disabilities obtain the services they need to realize and reach their own unique potential and maintain an independent lifestyle. The program specializes in serving children within the autism spectrum and also serves people with other developmental disabilities, including mental retardation, spina bifida, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and neurological impairments.

Avenues to Independence expanded its offerings to include day- and residential-habilitation programs that will provide ongoing opportunities for its consumers who have “aged out” of their school districts. At age 21, people with developmental disabilities can no longer be served by a school district.

“That’s where we come in,” explained Avenues to Independence Program Director Keith McGriff. “We pick up where the district left off and help these consumers learn skills they can use to maintain an independent lifestyle and maybe,



ATI staff provide a host of services for people in need.

if they choose to, enter the workforce.”

The day habilitation program runs from morning until the afternoon at various sites throughout the Rochester area, and helps consumers build skills that can eventually gain them entry into the workforce. The residential habilitation program helps consumers integrate into their community, teaching them social skills, such as

stranger/danger awareness, sensory motor skills, and other life skills to help them live more independently within their community. Both programs can be tailored to meet the specific needs of the individuals involved.

In addition to its new offerings, Avenues to Independence has assisted consumers and their families with information and referrals, advocacy, in-home respite services, and family reimbursement services for more than 10 years. “We’re really focusing our efforts on tailoring our future services and programs to meet the growing needs of our consumers,” McGriff said. “We believe it is very important to be strong advocates for our consumers and families to ensure they reach their potential and maintain independent lifestyles.”

A Clean Sweep for Operation Friendship and Avenues to Independence

Reaching out to help the community is something DePaul takes great pride in doing.

Most recently, staff members and consumers of DePaul’s Operation Friendship and Avenues to Independence programs in Rochester, NY, teamed up with the City of Rochester to take part in Rochester’s Clean Sweep...Showing Pride in our City program. The six-week spring clean up initiative began in April.

“Everyone was really excited about taking part in this initiative,” said D’Andrea Clark, Community Outreach Coordinator for Operation Friendship. “We had a great time and it just goes to show what a little hard work and a lot of dedication can do.”

More than 20 staff members and DePaul consumers picked up trash, mowed lawns, raked yards, swept sidewalks and removed graffiti from the South Wedge Rochester neighborhood.

The City of Rochester provided t-shirts, cleaning tools, garbage bags, refreshments and a picnic cookout following the four-hour cleanup.



Operation Friendship members taking pride in their community.

“This effort also gave DePaul employees and consumers a chance to meet neighboring residents and business owners, who were all working toward the same goal – improving the community,” said Keith McGriff, Director of DePaul’s Avenues to Independence program.



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Boo-Boos Fixed at Horizons' Teddy Bear Clinic

Horizons, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Canandaigua, NY, hosted its annual Teddy Bear Clinic throughout the month of May. Now in its fourth year, the Teddy Bear Clinic has grown to involve more than 300 local kindergarteners in 17 classes at the Canandaigua Primary School who bring their "precious friends" to Horizons for a routine check up performed by residents of Horizons and professionals in the community.

DePaul Thanks Golf Classic Sponsors

Many thanks to the following businesses for their support of the 13th Annual DePaul Golf Classic held on June 5 at Ridgmont Country Club: KeyBank, Bonadio & Co. LLP, Christa Construction, HCR Home Healthcare Agency, LECESE Construction Company, Parkview Health Services, SWBR Architects, Harris Beach PLLC, Hayes Fischer Capital Management, QCI Asset Management, DePaul's T-Shirt Factory, Conolly Printing and Ridgmont Country Club. You help us provide diverse services to the community's neediest people!

Hats Off to KeyBank

KeyBank recently awarded a generous \$10,000 grant to DePaul's T-Shirt Factory, a not-for-profit textile silk-screening and embroidery business that employs persons with mental illness while teaching them job skills. The grant will be used to increase vocational opportunities for DePaul consumers. Thank you KeyBank for your continued support!



DePaul Remembers a Friend

Dr. Richard Kraus, formerly a staff psychiatrist and chief psychiatrist at DePaul's Continuing Day Treatment program, passed away in April. We will remember him as long-time friend and supporter of DePaul consumers and programs, as well as a respected member of the medical community. He will be missed.

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DePaul is a not-for-profit organization that provides assisted living services for seniors, mental health residential and treatment programs, addiction prevention and treatment services, and programs for those with developmental disabilities. To receive DePaul Details electronically, please contact Lynette Wilson-Cox in DePaul's Communications Department and provide her with your name, e-mail and home address. Please address comments to the Communications Department at (585) 426-8000.