



# The Cazenovia Compass



## Meet Our Board President

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Cazenovia Recovery Systems' Board of Directors is a diverse and accomplished group of individuals. John Anderson, our current president, has been a Board member for ten years and has been involved with the agency since its inception in 1981. He also served as Mid-Erie Counseling and Treatment Services's Director of Chemical Dependency Services for 16 years.

John describes working with our board as "very satisfying." As president, he provides leadership to the agency, though he credits that "the bulk of that comes from our staff."



Board President John Anderson

He feels our agency has "always been willing to take on new opportunities that fit within our strategic plan." Our agency is in the process of assuming operations of programs in Niagara County currently operated by Fellowship House. After much hard work, "things are starting to fall into place," according to John. "It's going smoothly only because of the work of Sue Bissonette (our Executive Director), Linda DelleDonne (our Financial Director), and the rest of our staff."

As a Veteran, John is particularly proud of the "1-2 punch" of expanding our services into Batavia at Liberty Hall and serving as a development partner at Cadence Square in Canandaigua. These programs were quite different from the type of services we had provided previously. This new direction was a risk, one that worked out incredibly well. "Taking those chances has been very gratifying," said John.

Liberty Hall and Cadence Square kick-started the trend of expansion and stable growth our agency has seen over the last five years, which John described as "extraordinary." He also noted that this growth has been "well-planned and well-executed by the staff."



Liberty Hall in Batavia

The relationship between staff and Board is one of our agency's biggest strengths. New projects, expansions, and willingness to take risks outside of Erie County have all placed Cazenovia Recovery Systems on strong footing for the future. John's wealth of knowledge and expertise have played a decisive role in our progress.

## Staff Spotlight

### Let's Congratulate:

Falonia LaMar is now the Counselor at Casa Di Vita.

Tangela Watson-Bogan is the new Clinical Supervisor of the Fellowship House programs.

### Let's Welcome:

Tracy Conti, Personnel Assistant at Admin; Mariah Yochelson, Case Manager at Casa Di Vita; Sarah Herko, Relapse Prevention Specialist at Housing; Debra Statt, Case Manager at Liberty Hall; and Bonnie Goodrich, Case Manager at Supportive Living.

### Cazenovia Creators & Catchers:

Lisa Johnston nominated Mary Reid from Casa Di Vita for going above and beyond to get the program organized. She has also worked extra hours to cover shifts and is a great mentor.

Dominique Lane nominated her fellow Supportive Living staff for their dedication, leadership, and appreciation for each other and their residents.

Sue Bissonette nominated Carolyn Hutchen and Paul Swanson for creating a Resource Coordinator schedule to better serve residents and to make the process more efficient.

Sue Bissonette nominated Kathy Todd for redesigning the PNA worksheet in order to make it easier to understand.

Mary Beth McCormick nominated Becky Stefanik for creating a system to track residents' legal obligations and for starting an open recreation group.

## Recovery Day Art Show

Last year's Recovery Day Art Show was a wonderful success and the agency is excited to encourage continued creativity. We had almost a dozen submissions in 2014 and we'd love to have more for this upcoming Recovery Day. Submissions to the Recovery Day Art Show should reflect this year's theme, "Connecting Recovery, Nature, and Spirituality." Pieces should be submitted by Wednesday, September 9 to our Housing office at 1430 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209. Staff, residents, and alumni are all encouraged to participate. Entry and consent forms are available on our website.



Recovery Day is Saturday, September 12

## Supportive Living Summer Picnic

To commemorate a summer of great work, Supportive Living held a picnic outside of its office at 605 Fillmore Avenue for residents and alumni on Friday, September 14. Steve, a former Supportive Living resident, provided entertainment. He often performs karaoke and does stand-up comedy in the area and he decided to lend his talents to the picnic. Both staff and residents loved his renditions of songs that he dedicated to people in the audience. There was typical picnic fare and staff also brought homemade dishes like beans and salads.



Supportive Living Staff

## Cazenovia Recovery's 2014 Annual Report

Our 2014 Annual Report is now available on our webpage at [www.cazenoviarecovery.org/about-us/annual-reports](http://www.cazenoviarecovery.org/about-us/annual-reports). Cazenovia Recovery Systems has seen an incredible amount of growth recently and through it all, our residents have served as both our focus and inspiration. By downloading this year's annual report, you will be able to read first-hand how our dedication to providing the most beneficial services to those in recovery has allowed our residents to implement profound and positive changes in their lives.



Our Annual Report is available on our website

## August's Trauma-Informed Care Corner

Trauma-informed care takes both the physical and emotional aspect of safety into consideration. According to SAMHSA (2014), safety should be recognized throughout the organization for both the staff and the people they serve. Everyone should feel physically and psychologically safe, the physical setting should feel safe to all, and interpersonal interactions should promote a sense of safety. Staff and the people they serve should feel safe interacting with one another and feel confident that their personal conversations will remain confidential.

