

THE CAZENOVIA
Compass

building futures



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AUGUST 2014



Help us celebrate recovery from addiction! Recovery Day will take place on **Saturday, September 13, 2014** at McCarthy Park in Buffalo. It will feature a 3K walk/run, cookout, speaker jam, an art show, family-friendly activities, and much more. We hope to see you there!

Our Residents Pursue Educational Goals

As Cazenovia Recovery clients look toward brighter futures, many choose to pursue new educational goals. Whether in formal classrooms or in training sessions, they are discovering opportunities that lead to more secure life paths.

Many clients did not consider exploring educational offerings until Cazenovia Recovery staff encouraged them.

When the 2014 fall semester started at Erie Community College (ECC), Dexter began studies toward a mental health assistant/ substance abuse counseling degree. Now that his affiliation with Cazenovia Recovery has meant a stable place to live, he is able to focus on the next step. With “the constant encouragement” of Housing Program staff, and at the advice of friends, Dexter is resuming his education. “I want to work as a counselor in this field or with people with development disabilities,” he said, noting that he plans to go on to earn a bachelor’s degree.



Michael is working toward his BSW at Buff State and plans to continue on to his MSW.

Visions Place resident Eyvonne is taking reading and writing prep classes with the intention of starting at ECC in the spring semester. She said that her inspiration was “seeing that other people in recovery have gone back to school to become productive members of society.” She hopes to become a counselor, her goal for several years, and she sees many opportunities within that discipline. Among them are working in the addictions field or with those who have experienced trauma such as rape or domestic violence.

After graduating from ECC with a 4.0 average, Michael is a junior at Buffalo State College, studying for a bachelor’s in social work, ultimately aiming for a master’s degree. “This place and only this place helped me to continue my education,” he said, crediting Cazenovia Recovery’s Housing Program staff.

Alvin is enrolled in a math class at the Adult Learning Center, in preparation to take the GED examination. If successful, he will achieve his high school equivalency and qualify for jobs that require it. “I want to get back into the workforce,” Alvin

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Eyvonne is currently taking prep courses to prepare for the spring semester at ECC.

Staff Spotlight

Let’s Welcome:

Liberty Hall: Bonnie Marrocco
(Program Secretary)

New Beginnings: Falonia LaMar
(Counselor Associate)

Turning Point House (TPH):
Molly Kane CASAC-T (Counselor Associate)

Visions Place:
Kristin Harnischfeger MSW
(Counselor)

Promotions & Transfers:

Andrea Irizarry, CASAC, is now the Director of Clinical Services.

Angela Angora, CASAC, Site Supervisor of Liberty Hall, is now also Community Residence Manager of Casa DiVita and New Beginnings.

Mary Beth McCormick, Program Director of TPH, is now also Community Residence Manager of Cazenovia Manor and Ivy House.

Maranda Villa MS, Ed., Counselor at TPH, is also the agency-wide Intake Coordinator.

Cazenovia Creators:

Angela Angora, for increasing community involvement at Liberty Hall and for providing great staff encouragement.

Matthew Rzepka, Van Driver at TPH, for creating a giving and team-focused environment at TPH by generously donating stone to the program to be used along pathways and trails.

Our first drawing to win a gift card for being nominated as a Cazenovia Creator or Catcher will be held next month. Be sure to nominate your fellow employees to help get them rewarded for a job well done by contacting Ed Cichon at ecichon@cazenoviarecovery.org.

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said, "I would like a job in manufacturing." Alvin credits Quinlon Davis, Counselor Associate at Cazenovia Manor, who suggested pursuing the GED.

Phillip, a Visions Place resident, is thinking about law school or earning a master's in social work after he graduates from Villa Maria College. "Being at Visions Place granted me the ability to become sober, to appreciate every moment and to be the best I can be," he said. "It is helping me realize dreams I never thought possible."



Alvin is pursuing his GED and has helped out with the garden at Cazenovia Manor.

A Most Enjoyable Agency Picnic

Our Events Committee threw a great Hawaiian Luau-themed picnic at the beginning of the month at Como Park in Cheektowaga. Attendees gave glowing reviews and thanks to the lovely weather, everyone was able to enjoy the outdoor games, food, basket raffles, and other summer activities. Matthew Rzepka, Turning Point House's Van Driver, provided wonderful entertainment at the picnic by playing with his band, "Backtracks Audio." Cazenovia Recovery would like to thank the Events Committee and all attendees.



Our Events Committee

The Work of Our Maintenance Team

Cazenovia Recovery's Maintenance Team recently rebuilt the porch of one of our Supportive Living apartment buildings in South Buffalo at 162 Wildwood Place. It took the team about four days to completely re-do, and all that is left to complete is the final coat of paint. The six residents in the house are already making great use of it with some outdoor furniture and exercise equipment. Great work, Maintenance Team! The porch looks fantastic.



Porch handiwork at 162 Wildwood Place

Cazenovia Recovery is Now Naloxone-Certified

This month, our agency became certified in Opiate Overdose Prevention through the use of Naloxone. The drug, which is injected into the body of someone who has recently overdosed, has already saved the lives of countless individuals around the country by reversing overdose effects. Governor Cuomo recently announced free statewide trainings for Naloxone administration. President Obama, in his 2013 National Drug Control Strategy, called for increased use of Naloxone due to its life-saving abilities. Staff and residents can expect to be trained in proper use of Naloxone so that we can begin using this tool immediately in suitable situations.

Recovery Day Art Show

Cazenovia Recovery is looking for visual art (paintings, drawings, and photography) submissions for its Recovery Day Art Show. Submissions must be recovery-oriented. The contest is open to current and past residents and staff of Cazenovia Recovery, and prizes will be awarded to those pieces that best depict Recovery Day's slogan: "Celebrate - Educate - Appreciate." To submit, please obtain registration and consent forms from the Cazenovia Recovery Administrative Office or by calling 852-4331. Submissions must be received by Friday, September 5.

Residents of the Month

Cazenovia Recovery congratulates the following residents for their improvement in all life areas:

- William L. – HOPE
- Melissa M. – SHP
- Sabra W. – SHP
- Jaime S. – PSH

Keep up the great work everyone! You can help recognize more hard-working residents by emailing Ed at ecichon@cazenoviarecovery.org.