



Volume 3, Issue 11

November 2016

Veterans Day deservedly inspires a grateful nation to recognize the value and sacrifices of military service.

At Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc., we think about Veterans every day. Many who have served in the military have been welcomed into our programs over the past 35 years.



LaKeisha Walker, program manager

Cazenovia Recovery is involved with two programs that are designed specifically for Veterans – Liberty Hall on the VA campus in Batavia and Cadence Square on the VA campus in Canandaigua.

Cazenovia Recovery helped to develop Cadence Square in partnership with the Veterans Administration and Finger Lakes Addictions Counseling & Referral Agency (FLACRA). Operated by FLACRA, the program has served over 270 Veterans and their families since its 2014 opening.

Cadence Square offers a continuum of care that spans three levels. Safe Haven is a community residence for homeless Veterans who have a diagnosis of substance use or a mental health issue. There are 15 beds and participants may stay up to six months. The next step is a transition to supportive living apartments within the same building.

Independent apartments are located next door – one three-bedroom, three two-bedroom and 13 one-bedroom units. Each level has caring staff members who are dedicated to meeting residents' critical needs. Medical care is coordinated and VA counselors join in providing assistance.



Bruce, a resident at Cadence Square

LaKeisha Walker is a residential program manager with Cadence Square. "We work very closely with the VA," she said. Residents might have daily groups at the VA, might work on campus or have outside employment. Each has a weekly one-to-one session with Cadence Square staff. "We

continued on page 2

Staffing Info

Let's Congratulate:

Venus Wiggins for becoming senior counselor at Cazenovia Manor

Jessica Radice for becoming accounting manager at Admin

Kelly Rydzynski for becoming a counselor associate at Casa Di Vita

Let's Welcome:

Michelle Comstock, residence monitor at Madonna House

Shaun White, property manager at Admin

Lisa Smith, counselor at Madonna House

Marylin Smith, case manager at Supportive Living

Joseph Saj, custodial assistant at Admin

Tonja Newkirk, counselor associate at Turning Point House

Felicia Patterson, residence monitor at Madonna House

Randi Watts, childcare support staff at Madonna House

Cazenovia
Creators & Catchers:

Harry (Gene) Lonnen

Ed Cichon

Andrea Ocasio

Angela Angora

Our next quarterly gift card drawing will be in December.

continued from page 1

become a home for the residents because a lot of them were living out on the street,” she added. “We’ve had a lot of successful discharges. Clients have found great apartments. One even bought his own home.”

In the past year, Bruce, an Army Veteran, has progressed to Supportive Living and has a job at a VA call center. He is grateful for the assistance and noted that LaKeisha “helped guide me and keep me focused.”

He said: “I lived to use and used to live, then I decided to make a change. I can hope now, I can dream. I’ve got choices. Recovery is a guarantee of freedom and hope.”



Cadence Square's courtyard

Southside Elementary Donation

Seventh and eighth graders in the Leaders in Training program at Southside Elementary School in South Buffalo recently collected donations for Cazenovia Manor. Brittany Pollack, prevention specialist for WNY United Against Drugs and Alcohol Abuse, explained that the students wanted to give back to a local organization within their community. Through their efforts, they were able to raise \$153.75. Debra Cannon, site supervisor of Cazenovia Manor, said that the program was “extremely grateful” for the work of the young leaders.



Debra Cannon and Brittany Pollack

A Helping Hand

Throughout 2015, Cazenovia Recovery Systems lent a helping hand to individuals and organizations all across Western New York. Last year also set the foundation for some momentous transformations for our agency. Cazenovia Recovery's 2015 Annual Report gives a snapshot of 2015 and shows the resilience of the people in recovery we have supported and the important impact our services have. The report can be downloaded from our website. Hard copies are also available at each of our programs.



Our 2015 Annual Report is now available

Madonna House Staff Instill Trust

The staff at Madonna House are dedicated to upholding an environment of trust, collaboration, and empowerment. Residents trust staff due to the emphasis the program places on building therapeutic relationships. Because of this, residents know that they can open up to staff about anything. Madonna House staff promote open communication, collaborate with residents to create goals that fit their life, and empower residents by helping them to find their voice. Staff provide choice wherever possible to ensure personalized treatment. Staff are able to sustain this positive environment since they have respect for one another and always work as a team.

