



Northampton County Drop-In Center

Recap

The dog days of summer have arrived but we have kept it cool down at the Drop-In Center! In July, we chilled out with an Ice Cream Social and Movie Night. We enjoyed Pet Therapy with Virginia and Sarge as well as two blazing hot guest speakers! We started off the month with a Crime Victims Advocate, who increased our awareness about the increase in identity theft and how to protect ourselves from falling victim to these scams. We also had an introduction to American Sign Language with Michelle Marks. One of the most exciting events was the 20th Anniversary Putt-U “Craziest” Mini-Golf tournament, where the Friends participating could use anything to play BUT A PUTTER! So throughout the month, staff and Friends worked hard to create some extremely unique devices.

In August, Maggie from NAMI came to speak to us about the stigma around mental illness and how we can increase awareness of the issue by telling our individual stories. We are also looking forward to speakers from Northampton County Mental Health as well as Amerihealth later in the month. Unfortunately, we had very little cooperation from the weather this month for our community outings. Although we were unable to attend Musikfest, the Friends still enjoyed a trip to the Chinese Buffet, Carls’ Corner, the grocery store and a trip to Airport Center Road. Our staff member Christine facilitated a group building self esteem through asking the group to identify strengths/positive qualities they see in their peers. There was very positive feedback from the Friends about how beneficial this activity was. When it came to fun, Ladderball and Guesstures the game were enjoyed by all.

Staff Corner

This Newsletter’s Staff Corner features Amanda Tsihlis, our new Drop-In Center staff member. Amanda came on board shortly after receiving her certification as a Certified Peer Specialist. She was born and raised in Bethlehem and is an excellent resource for things to do in the Bethlehem area. Her leisure interests include cooking, gardening, being outdoors, and most anything nature related. We would like to officially welcome her as a new Drop-In Center staff member and are looking forward to all the different activities she will be running in the future!

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RECOVERY VALUES

- Hope
- Individuality
- Self-Awareness
- Self-Determination
- Meaningful Life
- Respect
- Peer Support
- Community Focus

Putt-U “Craziest” Mini-Golf Tournament



On Saturday, July 14th, the Drop-In Center Friends as well as Recovery Partnership staff and family members celebrated Putt-U Miniature Golf's 20th Anniversary by participating in their "Craziest" Mini-Golf Charity Tournament. Each registered participant played for their non-profit charity of choice from the Lehigh Valley Area with one twist- you could use anything BUT A PUTTER as your club! Friends worked diligently to create their own putting gadget at the Drop-In Center for weeks prior to the event. Initially, the Friends were financially responsible for the \$20 registration fee. As the word spread throughout Recovery Partnership, staff members, our Board of Directors and family members supported participation in the activity by sponsoring our Drop-In Center Friends' registration fees. The amount of support we received was truly amazing. All 11 Drop-In Center Friends signed up to participate each had their registration fee sponsored. Recovery Partnership brought home a \$250 donation to our organization and four tickets to the Iron Pigs game. Aside from the event prizes, one of our Friends was offered a job, one went mini-golfing for the first time, and all involved had a lot of fun! With free mini-golf passes given to each registered participant, the Friends are looking forward to returning to Putt-U in September! A huge thank you to our CEO, Scott Kiefer, for helping make this opportunity possible. Another special thank you to all who sponsored our Friends- Sandy Conover, Angela Lender, Dr. and Dr. Bertucci, Marjorie Martin, Martha Rezeli, Judith Yanachek, and Kathleen Kelly. Finally, a thank you to Randy, the owner of Putt-U, for putting together such an awesome event.

Fall Word Search

Find all the words below.

V V W H A W K S W Y Z Q H S V W Q T N U
 V G N I V I G S K N A H T S J H W V K D
 L X O E W J W I L A X F C F S N O G D E
 A C U N R O C B E U Y J O F I Y R Z G P
 T R M U M C I A A T K B O O M H C U B I
 L E F S E J G U F U S A L B T Y E O B T
 X N W U V P Q O Q M A Z M G L B R M N C
 Q J F R H C V E W N A E K A R W A Z M V
 N K K J R E D I C E L P P A N R C L C M
 O G S C T D J Z J D A F E R N C S V L Q
 F B V R L S G J N E E W O L L A H T B S
 K G Y X E R M D I P C Z N C Y Y F L H O
 Z F Y P H T A N Y M O P I D R A C E A V
 H A N T C Y Y O C N L J H V L P J E R B
 N O G N H L E Z M I O M E L L U J V V O
 B D K M P I K N J K R Q G Y B Q K Y E R
 A Z Y L J L R T W P F P A D K E A L S U
 E X D K H M U U L M U X T U L Z T U T Z
 Y Z A V Q R T T G U L C E G L I D I F J
 A I Q U A L N D M P U K K P L Q U N G V

APPLECIDER
 COOL
 FOOTBALL
 LEAF
 SCARECROW

AUTUMN
 CORN
 HALLOWEEN
 PUMPKIN
 THANKSGIVING

COLORFUL
 FALL
 HARVEST
 RAKE
 TURKEY

Friends' Corner

How the Drop-In Center Has Helped Me

“I like to come to the Northampton County Drop-In Center. I like the people and the activities. I meet a lot of nice people and I got to be with my friend, Dave, and make new friends too. For the first time, I got sponsored to go to the golf tournament. I never thought anyone cared enough or that I was important enough to get sponsored. The last place I went with Dave, we asked to do a dance and it didn't work out. I like that here we get to do different things and are planning a dance. Dave is so happy to put it together and I can help. I like all the things we get to do and it's so nice to be in a safe place with things to do that keep me busy.”

- Kerrie Ann G.

Interviews With Friends

This Newsletter's featured Friend is:

Dave L.

Why did you come to the Drop-In Center?

“To make new Friends, to laugh, and to keep staying well.”

What do you like most about the Drop-In Center?

“The staff because if I need someone to talk to, they will listen to me and don't push me away.”

If you could describe the Drop-In Center in three words or phrases, what would they be?

“Terrific, Kind, and Giving me a Chance.”

Friends' Corner

Drop-In Center Greeter

Congratulations Mike King! For the last month, Mike has volunteered as the new Drop-In Center Greeter. Along with welcoming new Friends, Mike has supported Friends to utilize the television and computers, taken the lead on all the sales and distribution of soda and water for the Drop-In Center, and is always willing to lend a hand to staff and Friends. As we re-introduce the position of Drop-In Center Greeter, Mike has worked hard as the inaugural greeter to set a standard of responsibility, respect, reliability, and willingness to be of service for all future Drop-In Center Greeters!

Guest Speaker Spotlight: American Sign Language

On July 19th, Michelle Marks joined us at the Drop-In Center to teach an introduction to American Sign Language (ASL) to 20 Friends and staff members. Here is feedback from some of the participating

Friends:

“I learned a lot about sign language.” -Megan W.

“I have problems with signing so it was very good to have the sign language and I would like to have it again.” -Johnnie C.

“I thought the class was beneficial to me for communicating with people who can't hear.” -Mike K.

“I love the manual alphabet. I learned it in school but did not use manual alphabet for a while so now I learned again.” -Bradley P.

**“What I enjoyed about the signing was learning how to sign my name.”
-James H.**

Thank you Michelle! We hope you will come back very soon!

A Tribute to A Friend



In Loving Memory of Bill Coulton

Bill Coulton was the Coordinator of the Drop-In Center when I first met him in 2011. He was the one who interviewed me for the job there. I would often come in early just to talk to Bill because somehow I knew he would already be there. Bill loved the Drop-In Center. He once told me that the Drop-In Center “was his life.” Bill was a kind hearted, caring man who could always manage to put a smile on someone’s face. I recall a time when Bill was in the DIC kitchen and in a serious, stern voice asked me, “Chrissy, go in the cabinet in the office and look for some elbow grease.” I spent 10-15 minutes searching in the office for elbow grease, but to no avail. I went back into the Drop-In Center and told Bill I couldn’t find the elbow grease and he burst out laughing. I finally got the joke and smiled, but that didn’t stop Bill from tricking me again. He once told me to “go in the toolbox and get a left handed hammer.” I asked Bill what it looked like and Bill just looked up at me and smiled. Bill will sadly be missed, but we will always have fond memories of him. Be in peace my dear friend.

- Christine Minekime

A Tribute to A Friend

In Loving Memory of Bill Coulton

I have known Bill since 2007. He was a man respected and looked upon as a true Friend. He was a wealth of information and there for anyone in need. I will miss you and GO PACKERS!

- Midge Klotz

Bill and I started in 2007. I saw his many accomplishments at Recovery Partnership over the years. He gained respect of both peers, co-workers, and friends in the community. There is a hole left in our hearts that will be slow to mend.

- Linda R.

Bill was one of the first staff people that I met when I started working at Recovery Partnership. He always made it a good day to come to work. The camaraderie and laughter makes a tough job easy to do. Laughter truly is the best medicine. Mr. Bill will be dearly missed. He had a heart of gold.

- Sandy Conover

Bill was a very close friend of mine for years. We met at work, we used to car pool when he lived in Coopersburg. We would laugh a lot together, Bill always made work a fun place. One time he taped my drawers shut, taped my phone down, and took the ball out of my mouse. Boy was he laughing when I went into my "boobie trapped" office. I can still hear Bill yelling "Yo Peeps!" That was my nickname he gave me. I loved his nicknames he would give staff and friends. I miss Bill tremendously.

- Angela Lender

I really liked Bill. He was very kind. He was a coordinator who was not just a Friend, but a mentor to me.

- Steven Gruver

He was a great person and I enjoyed when he would be down at the Drop-In Center. He was a gentleman and a good role model.

- James Hartnett

Northampton County Drop-In Center

70 W. North Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Phone: 610.954.5501

Fax: 610.861.2781

Email:

northamptoncountydic@gmail.com

Hours of Operation
Monday, Wednesday, Friday

3-8 PM

Tuesdays and Thursdays

12-8 PM

We're on the Web!

www.recoverypartnership.us

Welcome Friends!

***We offer a Wii gaming system, Arts
& Crafts, games, cards, and snacks.***

See You There!

“This project is funded, in part, under a contract with the Northampton County Department of Human Services through funds provided by the County of Northampton and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Department of Aging, Department of Health and/ or Department of Human Services)”

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****If any of the Friends of the Drop-In Center would like to submit an article for the newsletter please see any of the Drop – In Center Staff ****