

FALL 2015

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Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Amanda Q., Ashlee H., Stephanie V., Tammy F., Rose C., Andrea S.

By Elaine Secrist

Six more ladies are on the road to recovery! Their successful completion of our Phase I is never an ending but a new beginning. Upon graduation, whether they move to our Phase II at New Life Apartments or venture out on their own, it is another step to a lifelong journey of recovery.

Ashlee H. came to us with her head down and her voice barely audible. Her first several months were a struggle as she wanted to follow others that were not in recovery. Ashlee soon learned that recovery is not a game; her precious little girl was depending on her to remain sober so she could join her Mommy at New Life Apartments. Today, Ashlee is holding her head high and speaking clearly as she looks you in the eye. She holds a management position at her job and will soon be reunited with her daughter.



Ashlee



Amanda

Amanda Q. arrived here saying she needed structure in her early recovery, but not really wanting it! Her strong personality ended up being an asset as she stopped trying to make recovery work for her and began working for her recovery. A beautiful smile, a great laugh, and willingness to listen and help others are a few of Amanda's attributes today. Her transformation has been wonderful to witness. She continues to thrive in our New Life Apartments.

Tammy F. came to us ready for the challenge of recovery. It was clear Tammy was sick and tired of being sick and tired. Tammy set goals for herself and surpassed these goals/dreams by working the 12 steps, communicating daily with her sponsor and following all suggestions made to her. Today, Tammy sticks with the "winners" in the program of recovery. Reunification with her daughters has been her greatest reward thus far! Tammy's smile is amazing as it shows what is truly inside her today!



Tammy



Rose

Rose C. bounced in here with pink hair and a notion that this program would be a breeze. She soon realized this was NOT the case. Sobriety and recovery are very difficult and she needed to make some serious changes in her way of thinking. Reality set in and Rose never looked back. She excelled at her job and handled every challenge in her personal life with grace. Her beautiful family is back in her life; she is the Mom again that addiction had robbed her children of.

Stephanie V. came to us with a little hope and a lot of doubt! She stated she had "hit bottom" and was determined to change her life. She was a little reluctant to join in the group at first but she began to work the 12 steps with her sponsor and her reluctance changed to willingness. Today, Stephanie's beautiful smile exudes happiness! She has made huge changes in her life and is ready to move into our New Life Apartments.



Stephanie



Andrea

Andrea S. came to us with a determination to finally get in this program and live it. She had lost so much in addiction but had found enough fortitude to get sober and stay sober. At first, Andrea struggled with following our suggestions but was always willing to listen and make changes. She is a very smart and beautiful lady and continues to work a very honest program. Andrea moved into her own apartment but plans to visit us often.

God is still in the miracle business and these ladies validate His promises. These women have chosen to be willing to work the program at all costs and are great inspirations to us all. Ladies, we are very proud of you and wish you the best on your individual journeys.

Dear Rea of Hope Supporters,

School has started, football season is gearing up and fall will be here before we know it. There are so many things to be grateful for it is hard to know where to start. I am most grateful that through God's grace I have enjoyed over 30 years of recovery. Drug overdoses and related deaths are commonplace in the news today but what we don't see or hear about are the successes. Addicts and alcoholics can and do recover. It is true many lose their lives to this disease but help is available. Help is not only needed for the addict/alcoholic but the family as well. I can't tell you how many family members I speak to who are in crisis over their loved one and desperate to do anything to help EXCEPT to get help for themselves. I use the example of when you are flying, the instructions for safety are for the adult to put on their oxygen mask first so they can help their child; otherwise both may perish. Please remember it is not selfish to help yourself first, it is a matter of survival and may save both your lives.

Rea of Hope has enjoyed much success over the last 10 plus years; directly serving 42 counties, over 300 women and 60 children. We have grown and adapted as we defined the needs of our residents. Expanding our program and opening New Life Apartments in 2008 and 2011 has been and is a lifesaving option for our graduates. Through our follow up program we have been able to document the following outcomes. As you can see, the longer we can engage our graduates in a safe supportive environment the better the odds. The success levels are amazing and well over the national averages. Our last fiscal year showed a 69% successful completion rate for our Rea of Hope Phase I program; what does all this mean? It means women are getting better, staying clean and sober, working, paying taxes, staying out of the judicial system, being mothers and productive members of their communities. Thank you for your investment in their future and the future of their children, mothers, fathers, employers, friends and neighbors.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver
Executive Director

Residents Sobriety Achievements

1 year or more	2
9 months - year	1
6-9 months	5
3-6 months	4
30-90 days-	2

Other Goals Met

Employment	100%
AA/NA sponsors	100%
Graduates	6

Monthly Needs List:

Dishwasher Detergent
Bleach
Lysol Kitchen-Aide
Paper Towels
White kitchen trash bags
Small umbrellas
Single bed sheets (white)
Toilet Paper

Rea of Hope Outcomes based on 137 successful completions April 2005- June 30, 2015

One year post- graduation (118 out of 137 meet this time frame)

76%	Clean and Sober
82%	Working
87%	Living in a safe place
97%	No new pending legal problems

New Life Apartments Outcomes based on 35 successful completions June 30, 2015

One year post- graduation (out 31 of 35 meet this time frame)(unable to contact 1)

94%	Clean and Sober
97%	Working
93%	Living in a safe place
100%	No new pending legal problems

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BB&T Wealth Management division

for selecting Rea of Hope as the Recipient of their Lighthouse Project. The Wealth Management Team of volunteers headed by Jennifer Willits and Stephanie Long donated two days of labor in which they painted some much needed areas and donated 16 comforters, 14 sheet sets, 14 mattress covers, 28 bed pillows, 1 desktop scanner, 2 large crock pots, 2 electric blankets, a fireplace screen and all the paint supplies needed for our project. It was a great two days and we have already put most of the items to good use. The residents were thrilled to receive new comforters, pillows and sheets....thank you to an amazing group of volunteers.



Board Members and Officers 2015

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Secretary, Mary Elisabeth Eckerson Treasurer, Laura Ellis

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Program Case Manager, Haley Herron Walker ('09)
Administrative Assistant, Heather Darr
Bookkeeper, Beth Robey
House Tech, Sandy Fisher
House Tech, Melissa Thompson ('14)
House Tech, Kim Polling ('13)

Welcome to two new House Techs working part time, Stephanie S. (15) and Alisha P. ('15)

Lifebridge AmeriCorps Members

Amanda Datson ('14)
Breanna Matchett ('13)

Girls Night Out

By Elaine Secrist

What a great summer we had; it is always sad to see the summer ending but change can be a good thing! The Girls Night Out events were great as everyone looks forward to our outings and we certainly try to have as much fun as we can!

In **June**, the ladies enjoyed Water Ways and came back laughing and revived. Sun and the pool tend to bring out the best in us! So many had not enjoyed themselves like this in years.

In **July**, we went bowling and stormed the Chinese Buffet! We always have a great time bowling; it is great to watch these women relax and enjoy the moment.

In **August**, we enjoyed a WV Power baseball game! Another fun night as many had never been to a game before. You can't beat new experiences with new friends.

We all look forward to our Girls Night Out and a special thanks to Rick and Alison Wolford for funding the June and August outings. How blessed we are to have the Wolford's continue to support this night. We will continue to encourage our ladies to have some honest fun in sobriety! Thanks to all who continue to support us.



GIRLS NIGHT OUT



GIRLS NIGHT OUT



ATTENTION KROGER CUSTOMERS, YOU MUST SIGN UP AND SELECT REA OF HOPE EVERY SEPTEMBER IN ORDER FOR US TO RECEIVE A PERCENTAGE. PLEASE DON'T PUT IT OFF. BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT, WE HAVE RECEIVED OVER \$3000 TO DATE!!!!

Keep up the good work!!!

It is never too late to sign up, please share this information with your friends.

INNOVATIVE WAY TO DONATE:

Rea of Hope, Inc. enrolled in a new program through **Kroger** called **Community Rewards**. This program gives back to the Rea of Hope based on a percentage of what you spend. All you have to do is enroll your Kroger Plus Card at the website listed below and select Rea of Hope, Inc. as your charitable organization. Then every time you go to Kroger, just slide your Kroger Plus Card at the time of your purchase and a portion of your total amount spent will be donated quarterly. It costs you nothing extra; just go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards to enroll. Once enrolled, you must update every year and reselect your organization of choice! Just another way to help us, help our residents!

Congratulations to our Rea of Hope grads and residents on their sobriety anniversaries and other accomplishments:

- Holly T. ('08) & Glory F. ('08) are both celebrating 8 years of continuous sobriety
- Shervin G. ('14) celebrating 5 years of continuous sobriety and starting her third semester of college and making the Dean's list
- Melissa T. ('14) 3 years clean time and working full time at Rea as a House Tech
- Chasity W. (14) on 2 years of sobriety
- Kristen S. ('09) on receiving her certification in Nuclear Medicine Technology
- Debbie R. ('09) is in her senior year at WV State with plans to graduate in May 2016 with a Bachelor in Health Science Leadership & Rehabilitation. Debbie has made the Dean's List every semester!!!
- Rea of Hope residents received training in the following this quarter; Healthy Relationships, Job etiquette, The Imperfection of Spirituality book study and Awareness, Treatment and Prevention of Hepatitis C/HIV/TB/STD

WAY TO GO, WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!!



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Special Thanks to the following for their generous support:

- *DHHR, Behavioral Health and Health Facilities, Bureau on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse* for their continued support as our single biggest funder and the grant in the amount of \$125,000 for Phase I program.
- *The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation* for their continued support and the donation of \$25,000 to assist with utilities
- *Mayors Office of Economic Development* for their grant of \$6,000 to help with utilities.
- *The John L. Dickinson Family* for their generous donation of \$12,000
- *The Sisters of St. Joseph* for their continued support and the gift of \$2,500
- *Vandalia Rotary* for their ongoing support and the donation of \$1,000
- *The Senate Community Discretionary Grant* award of \$2,500



Vandalia 1

Rea of Hope was fortunate enough to receive WV Tax Credits through the Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP), WV Development Office, again this year. This is a fantastic program to encourage charitable giving and a way to get back up to 50% of your donation on your state; personal or business taxes. A minimum donation to receive CREDIT is \$500.

Please contact Marie Beaver 304- 344-5363 for more information.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit our website and follow the directions to subscribe.

Donor's Name _____	LEVEL OF GIVING _____
Address _____	FRIEND of Rea of Hope \$50 plus
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