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Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Jennifer D., Kristy K., Tammara B., Jamie B., and Ashleigh S.

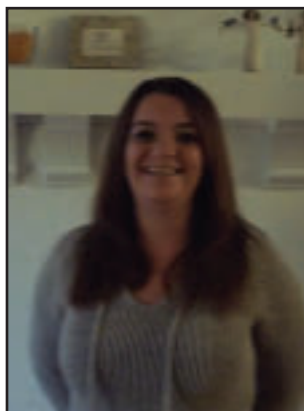
By Elaine Secrist

We are thrilled to have five more graduates from Rea of Hope sharing the spotlight this quarter. Jennifer D., Kristy K., Tammara B., Jamie B. and Ashleigh S. all came to us with different stories but one common desire. That desire was to learn to live a sober and productive life. Drug addiction and alcoholism rob us of everything that is important: family, self esteem, self-worth, jobs, education, health and homes (just to name a few), but living and working the 12 steps of recovery can restore all of these things little by little. These ladies agree that recovery is not easy; simply having the “willingness to change” is essential to start on the road to recovery.

Jennifer D., age 32, came to us realizing she needed structure in her early recovery. Jennifer had a desire to be the mother to her 2 precious children that she knew she could be. Not one to be idle, Jennifer immediately got a job and has continuously moved up the ladder. Once she decided she wanted recovery, Jennifer began to make many changes in her thinking. These changes led to her success at Rea of Hope and her move to New Life Apartments with her children back in her life!



Kristy K., age 37, came to us with a motivation and desire to be a sober and productive mother. This was not Kristy’s first experience with recovery; she came here ready to jump into her recovery with both feet. Kristy followed every suggestion made to her and is an excellent role model for the others. Kristy has been granted custody of her daughter and is moving into our New Life



Apartments with her beautiful daughter and hopefully her son will join them next year.

Tammara B., age 21, came to Rea of Hope with the attitude that she was sick and tired of how she had been living. Tammara had attempted recovery before and not been successful. She never blamed her circumstances on anyone, accepted she had a disease, and was ready to follow all of our suggestions. Tammara’s soft spoken tone and sweet demeanor were just a few of her attributes. Her family came to her graduation and her parents were thrilled

to have their “little girl” back.

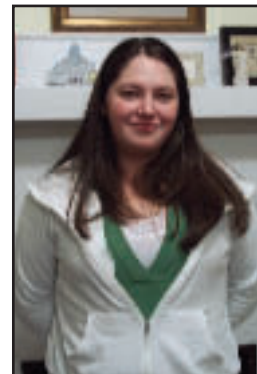
Jamie B., age 23, came to us ready for the challenge of recovery. She had one of the best attitudes I have ever witnessed. She had hope in her eyes and a determination to change



her life in order to live a sober life. Her heart’s desire was to be a wonderful mommy to her precious baby. Jamie has a family history of addiction and wanted desperately to break the cycle with her son. Jamie set goals for herself and obtained them by listening to the “winners” in the program of recovery. She handled the death of her son’s father without drugs or alcohol by utilizing the support system she had established while at Rea. Jamie received her GED during her stay and moved back home with her son and plans to start college next semester.

Ashleigh S., age 20, came to us declaring she had finally “hit bottom” and was determined to change her life. She was a little reluctant to join in the group at first. As she worked the 12 steps with her sponsor all of her reluctance changed into motivation. Ashleigh’s willingness to change showed in her daily life as she began to make some close friends. Ashleigh continued to grow in recovery and was a great resident.

Today, two of these women moved into our “New Life Apartments” and the other three are living in their own apartments/houses. Congratulations to Kristy, Jamie, and Jennifer for regaining custody or being reunified with their children. God is great and He continues to bless us all. 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

The Rea of Hope Board of Directors and I met for a strategic planning day with Becky King who acted as our facilitator. It was a very productive Saturday as we were able to map out our goals for the future. Two big changes were revising our mission statement to more accurately reflect what we do and dropping "Fellowship Home" from our name. We have come to realize we are in Housing and provide so much more structure than is implied by the term Fellowship Home. There are other Fellowship Homes in the state and the level of services differs drastically from home to home and we want to continue to stand out. It is not enough to provide structure and guidance for sober living. We must provide safe affordable housing for our residents, graduates and their minor children to practice their new skills in. Personal responsibility is key in residents being successful. This is why Rea of Hope is proud to say that we have never had a woman who could not find a job in Charleston, it may not be "the job" but it is "a job"; 100% of our residents pay their own program fees and are proud to do it. Rea of Hope and New Life Apartments are and have been 100% occupied and we maintain a waiting list. As we move into 2012 Rea of Hope, Inc. will continue to look for opportunities to provide the best services we can. Thank you for your continued support and faith in our mission.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver, Executive Director

Another Successful United Way Day of Caring

Another successful **United Way Day of Caring** this year in which we were partnered with **Dow Chemical**. They were gracious and hard working and were able to get a lot of painting done for us. Thanks to the United Way for coordinating this opportunity for non profits and local businesses to come together.



New Mission Statement

The mission of Rea of Hope is to provide safe, affordable housing for West Virginia women in a positive home-like environment that fosters recovery from alcohol and or drug addiction and promotes self-sufficiency.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh

Due to the generosity of the FHLB of Pittsburgh, I am excited to announce that we will be purchasing our fourth property in January 2012. This will allow us to add two additional apartments for graduates and their children. We received a grant for \$250,000 for this project and to help complete Rea II. We were honored to have our friend Congresswoman Shelly Moore Capito present the check. WV recipients received over 1.4 million from the FHLB for affordable housing and community development.



Residents' Sobriety Achievements

9 mo - 1 year	1
6 - 9 months	3
3 - 6 months	4
1 - 3 months	2

Other Goals Met
Employment 100%

Monthly Needs List

Bath towels (white)
Dishwasher Detergent
Hand towels (white)
Toilet bowl cleaner
Wash cloths (white)
Lysol Kitchen-Aide
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Bleach
White kitchen trash bags
Small umbrellas



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Program Case Manager, Amanda Dietz
Program Admissions Assistant, Haley Herron
Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey
House Techs, Tammy Atkins, Carrie Christian
House Tech II, Holly Tonkin

Girls Night Out



By Elaine Secrist

One of the best ideas we ever had was implementing the "Girls Night Out". Laughter is good for the soul and it certainly helps build friendships. It always seems that the ladies get a little closer after every monthly event

September's GNO was bowling at Galaxy Lanes and Pizza Hut. We are well known at the bowling alley now and almost welcome!! We are a loud bunch and tend to get very excited when someone knocks down most of the pins and watch out if someone gets a strike/spare!! The best way I can explain our enthusiasm is "we are attempting to put as much enthusiasm into our sobriety as we did our addiction"...so needless to say we are quite enthusiastic! We then charged into Pizza Hut...but we did alert them that 25 of us were coming with healthy appetites!! We had a great time and I was so glad to have such a great turnout from graduates and our New Life ladies!



October's GNO was a haunted house and then back to Rea of Hope for scary movies and popcorn! Scary movies are a great way to bond! Going out is great, but having fun at home is just as rewarding! No phones and no texting are more relaxing than you realize!! Setting aside a few hours to get away without answering a phone or texting is good practice to stay healthy!

November's GNO was forfeited so we could have a special GNO for December. We have tickets for "Momma Mia" on December 2nd. We are all looking forward to this night!

Most of our ladies have not experienced this type of healthy outing in a long time. We truly appreciate those who continue to help make these monthly events possible.

Thanks to all of you who support our Girls Night Out and I pray this support continues as this is such a vital part of their recovery.

Rea of Hope II

I have shared over the years how great the need is for safe housing and we are thrilled to announce the opening of our newest facility Rea of Hope II at 204 Beauregard Street, Charleston. This home will be staffed 24/7 and was made possible by the WV Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Hilliard Lyons, BB&T Carson Insurance Agency, Benedum Foundation and in part by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh and the Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Many thanks to our dedicated volunteers Jim Weimer, John Maier, Jeff Joseck and Wayne Hypes (all engineers and present and past board members) who over saw the project and solicited bids for the work. We will have 4 beds at this home and plan to be open by the time you are reading this newsletter.



CAMC Civic Affairs Council

We would like to thank the CAMC Civic Affairs Council for having their November meeting at Rea of Hope. It gave the members an opportunity to see Rea first hand and meet some of the staff and residents. Thank you for all you do in our community.

St. Marks United Methodist Church

continues to support the residents in new and inventive ways. Last month it was a Pajama Party in which all residents received a new pair of PJ's. The ladies at St Marks have also taken residents individually shopping for clothing and continue to make prayer quilts for all graduates.



Residents and Alumni: WAY TO GO WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!!

- Rachel D. for her leadership in directing her team to be named #1 in Quality Assistance worldwide for her company; the first time this facility has ever received this status. Rachel also paid off over \$6,000 in fines on her own over the last year.
- Jamie B., for passing the GED in the top 94% and enrolling for classes at New River Community College beginning in January 2012.
- Kristen S. on the birth of her daughter Cammie Dee Smith, born 10/20/11; 10lbs 3oz and 20.5 inches.
- Debbie R. on celebrating 3 years of continuous sobriety.
- Beth M. on 2 years of continuous sobriety.
- Rachel W. and Tammy A. on 1 year continuous sobriety.





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Special Thanks to the following for their generous support:

- *Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh for the grant of \$250,000 for our expansion.*
- *The Governor's Community Partnership grant from the Senate for \$3,500.*
- *Covenant House for their generosity in donating cleaning supplies and clothing from their "Al Roker Big Give" donations they received last summer.*
- *Mr. Handyman, owner Greg Paxton, for donating a day of labor in honor of 9-11 first responders. We were able to put in a new porch floor at our newest house at 204 Beauregard.*
- *Knights of Pythius for cleaning supplies and paper products.*
- *John O'Connor for his continued support and the new towels for Rea of Hope II.*
- *Unicare for their donations of cleaning supplies.*
- *Lake View Christian Church for the cleaning and personal supplies.*
- *Chesapeake Energy for donating backpacks for the kids at New Life Apartments.*
- *Nitro Church of Christ for donating jeans and khakis for residents.*
- *Cache clothing store at Town center Mall for their donation of over \$3,000 worth of clothing.*

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 344-5363 for more information.



Donor's Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 E-Mail _____
 One Time Gift _____ Annual _____ Other _____

LEVEL OF GIVING

FRIEND of Rea of Hope	\$50	plus
SUSTAINING	\$500	plus
SPONSOR	\$1000	plus
MEDALLION	\$2500	plus
ANGEL	\$5000	plus
ELITE SPONSOR	\$1000 for 5 years	
ELITE PARTNER	\$500 for 5 years	