

**Volume 4, Number 2  
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[www.reaofhope.org](http://www.reaofhope.org)

# Rea of Hopeline

## **Spotlight on Tammy A., and Rachel W.**

*By Elaine Secrist*

Miracles on Lee Street continue to happen!! **Tammy A. and Rachel W.** graduated from Rea of Hope – one chose to stay at Rea of Hope and the other moved into our New Life Apartments. These two ladies came from completely opposite backgrounds, yet neither lady felt as though they were ready to leave this recovery community. The disease of addiction/ alcoholism has no boundaries on taking prisoners! Young to old, rich to poor, educated to uneducated, male or female.... None of these traits matter to this disease.



**Tammy A.** has been in and out of the AA/NA program for many years and has spent over half of her life abusing drugs and/or alcohol. When I met Tammy for the first time, I could feel and see the desperation in her emotionally and physically. She had lost everything important to her and believed she had truly hit rock bottom.

Tammy had very little hope, but the little bit she had was enough to compel her to “try one more time”. She was very quiet and withdrawn for her first weeks here; however, Tammy followed all suggestions and slowly began to heal. Tammy did volunteer work everyday and did so proudly. I got a phone call one day from the place Tammy was volunteering and was thrilled to hear this lady singing Tammy’s praises! She even asked me if we had anymore ladies like Tammy, because Tammy was the best volunteer she ever had.

Tammy continued to smile more and more, diligently worked the 12 steps with her sponsor, followed all of our

suggestions, became very active in the NA/AA community and now is employed with a job she loves! Tammy moved into our New Life Apartments and shares her hope and strength with others today.

**Rachel W.** is our other graduate and has a completely different background than Tammy. This is Rachel’s first attempt at sobriety and had not lost everything



(yet), but she had experienced enough to know she wanted a better way to live. Rachel had built a very hard shell around her and made it clear she was not here to make friends!! Even though Rachel had a different idea of how things should be run around here, she had a burning desire to stay here and work this program. Rachel worked very hard on her steps, followed suggestions even when she did not want to, has been employed at the same job since coming to Rea of Hope and complied with all of our rules. Rachel is as head strong about her recovery as she was about addiction and what an amazing change we have seen in her! At Rachel’s graduation her mother said it best when she said “This is the best day I have had with Rachel in 34 years”. Rachel is a wonderful young lady who has begun to let her inner beauty shine through. We are pleased that Rachel has decided to remain at Rea of Hope until an apartment becomes available at New Life.

We are very proud of these ladies and very glad they both chose to stay with us!!

## **Thought and Prayers go out to:**

- Graduate Haley H. and Board Member, Wayne Hypes on the death of “Nana”.
- Board Member Jamie Tridico on the death of her step-mother.



## Dear Rea of Hope Supporters

I would like to thank all of you who helped make our Annual Miracle on Lee Street Dinner & Silent Auction such a big success. We had a great crowd and cleared over \$24,000. Thanks to our sponsors who helped make this evening possible and for all the auction items donated by local business men and women. The speakers did a fantastic job, the food was great and we had a big crowd at Edgewood for a fun filled evening. Three asked the blessing, a 2007 graduate studying to be a minister; Haley H. and her dad Wayne Hypes shared the two sides of addiction, one from the addict and one from the family member. They both did a great job and Wayne's heartfelt sharing of what it is like for the family left most of us with wet eyes. Carrie C. and Jeri D. both graduates and living at New Life Apartments, shared about how they got to Rea of Hope and how their lives had changed.

Since opening our doors in May of 2005, we have had 60 women successfully complete our 6 month program and have maintained 100% occupancy since July 2007.

We are nearing the end of our fiscal year and are looking ahead and planning for the future.

Sincerely,  
Marie Beaver, Executive Director

## Rea of Hope Staff Giving Back to the Community

Elaine Secrist, Program Coordinator, Amanda Dietz, Graduate & Program Assistant and Haley Heron, Graduate and part time House Tech shared their heartfelt stories and experiences to a meeting of law enforcement professionals, sponsored by the **Drug Endangered Children (DEC)** and due to the success and excellent reviews, they have been invited to Snowshoe to put on their panel discussion for the WV Prosecuting Attorneys and their assistants. These ladies do a great job and have been asked to speak at the DEC Conference in Charleston later this year. It is important to provide hope that people can and do recover from this disease and change their lives. **WAY TO GO LADIES** for being such excellent examples personally and professionally. You make Rea of Hope proud.

Amanda Dietz and Holly Tonkin, Graduate & House Tech, were invited to speak in Logan at **The Family Resource Network, FRN**, monthly meeting.

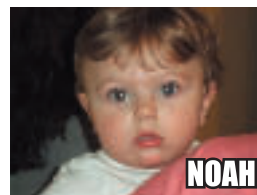
Marie Beaver, Executive Director, Amanda Dietz and Carrie C., graduates, were guests on **580 TALK with Rick Johnson** to share about our mission and May fundraiser.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

**NOAH**, son of Haley H. on his first birthday

**TALIA**, daughter of Stacey B. on her second birthday

**KYERRA**, daughter of Beth M. on her 5th birthday



### Residents' Sobriety Achievements

9 mo - 1 year	1
6 - 9 months	2
3 - 6 months	4
30-90 days	3

### Other Goals Met

Employment	90%
AA/NA Sponsors	90%
Graduates	2

## Monthly Needs List

Furniture Polish	Bath towels (white)
Dishwasher	Hand towels (white)
Detergent	Wash cloths (white)
Air Freshener	Toilet Paper
Lysol Kitchen-Aide	Bleach
Paper Towels	Toilet bowl cleaner
Washing Powder	White kitchen trash bags
Dryer Sheets	
Small umbrellas	



## Board Members & Officers

<b>Barbara Koster, President</b>	<b>Nancy Daugherty, Vice President</b>
<b>Mary Selinger, Secretary</b>	<b>Rick Wolford, Treasurer</b>
<b>Mary Skeens</b>	<b>Brad Sorrells</b>
<b>Nancy Atkins</b>	<b>Rev Dana Holter</b>
<b>Beth Pugh</b>	<b>Jeff Joseck</b>
<b>Joan Baldwin</b>	<b>Janice Tridice</b>
<b>Nick Casey, Ex Officio</b>	<b>Mary Elisabeth Eckerson</b>
	<b>Wayne Hypes</b>

**Staff:** Executive Director, Marie Beaver  
Program Coordinator, Elaine Secrist  
Program Assistant, Amanda Deitz  
Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey  
House Techs, Holly Tonkin and Sandy Fisher



# Girls Night Out



By Elaine Secrist

This is the night we all look forward to- staff, residents, and graduates. Girls Night Out is fun but it teaches us many life lessons: trust, bonding, friendship and mainly how to enjoy life.

In March, we went to our favorite bowling alley “Galaxy Lanes”. We have gotten to know the owner and managers there on a first name basis and they are excited to see all of us coming! Imagine that... I am pretty sure that has not always been the case with this group! We also appreciate Galaxy Lanes as it is alcohol free and the atmosphere is family oriented. Once again, we are bowling much better and our laughter is heard all over the bowling alley. Of course, bowling is hard work and we worked up quite an appetite. We chose Pizza Hut and ended the night with great food and lots of fun.

Our GNO for April was postponed as we were busy preparing for our third annual “Miracle on Lee Street” dinner. Trust me when I tell you it takes the whole village to raise this child!

In May, we went to see “Jump the Broom” and ate at Applebee’s. The movie and dinner was enjoyed by everyone, but most of all everyone loved the camaraderie of the whole evening.

These outings are essential for recovery-we must enjoy ourselves in order to stay healthy.

Once again, thanks for all of your support!



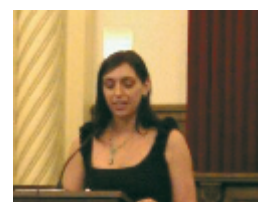
## Lakeview Christian Church of Hurricane Ladies Circle donated Easter Baskets

for all the children. We anticipated a nice small Easter basket with some candy: well we were wrong. They brought huge wrapped baskets for each child with toys and candies. The children were ecstatic and so were the moms. The ladies also collected shampoo and other supplies and donated them for the women. Thank you ladies for your kindness and generosity.

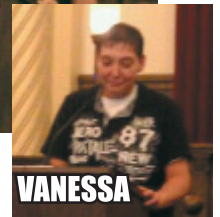
## Alumni News

congrats to:

- Rachel D. for receiving a promotion at work to supervisor.
- Stacy B. on graduating from Drug Court and having her record expunged.
- Tammy A. on starting her new full time job.
- Haley H. on 2 years of continuous sobriety, making the Dean’s List and being named VP of 1<sup>st</sup> Student body Function Government for Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College.
- Tara H. on completing phase II of drug court, she is now in the final stage.
- Vanessa P. on graduating from Drug Court and having her record expunged.
- Holly T. on making the Dean’s List at WV State



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### Special Thanks to the following for their generous support:

- *Rite Aid Foundation* for their donation of \$5,000.
- *Jacobson Foundation* for their generous donation of \$8000.
- *McDonough Foundation* for their generosity in donating \$10,000.
- *Vandalia Rotary* for their donation of \$1000 to help with our resident's needs.
- *Hilliard Lyons* for their donation of \$5000 for our expansion project.
- *First Presby* for their donation of \$2500.
- *The Mayors Office of Economic & Community Development* for a grant of \$9,000 for utilities.
- *BHFF, Division on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse* for continuing to be our biggest single funder and the grant of \$194,500 for operating cost & our expansion project.
- *Elizabeth Memorial United Methodist Church* for collecting cleaning supplies and paper products for a month and donating them to Rea of Hope & New Life Apartments..
- *St Mark's Methodist Church* for their donations of prayer quilts for all graduates.
- *WV Affordable Housing Trust Fund* pre development grant of \$7000 for our expansion project
- *Bill Thaxton, father of graduate Pam Thaxton*, for replacing a much needed washing machine.
- *Cache in Town Center mall* for their continued donation of clothing, the residents and graduates love going through all the goodies.

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 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	