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Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Krista W., Tina B., and Julie H.

By Elaine Secrist

I am proud to say that we have had one graduation per month since the last newsletter: **Krista W.** in March, **Tina B.** in April, and **Julie H.** in May. Of these three graduates, two moved into our “New Life Apartments” and one moved into an apartment with her husband and child. These three ladies have been extremely motivated since day one and have been willing to go to any lengths to stay sober!



Krista W. is a soft spoken lady who has worked diligently on her recovery. Krista has been an inspiration to watch since her first day. Her teenage daughter had been removed from her custody and Krista realized that she no longer wanted to just exist; she wanted to live and have her lovely daughter in her life. Krista knew what she wanted and has followed every suggestion made to her. She works the steps with her sponsor, attends all her meetings, has worked the same job and set a wonderful example to the other residents. I had the pleasure of witnessing the judge congratulating Krista on the amazing changes she had made and restoring custody to her! Krista attributes her success to endless support from her family, God, her sponsor, Rea of Hope, and the program.

Tina B. is another mother who came to us desperate to change her life and be a mother again to her two sons. Her addiction had robbed her of the ability to function as the caring and loving mother she wanted to be. Tina was very head strong but soon realized that following our suggestions was beneficial and necessary for her recovery. Tina has worked the same job since she got here and never complains. Tina would get a little frustrated when dealing with the wreckage of her past, but worked through these obstacles by applying the 12 steps of recovery and “staying in today”. Tina



kept working the program and finally a definite change occurred. Tina is a very strong and motivated woman and is working very hard on renewing her relationship with her sons and being the mother she so desires to be.

Julie H. is another young mother who has blossomed in her recovery. Julie came to us with one thing in mind: to live sober and return to her husband and daughter. Julie was very shy; addiction had robbed her of all self esteem. Although we have had to push Julie at times, she has listened and followed all of our suggestions. Today, Julie has self esteem, works a great job, and is reunited with her family. Julie is able to hold her head up and face life with a whole new attitude. Julie has the tools to grow and gladly accepts the challenge.

Thank you ladies for letting Rea of Hope be a part of your journey in recovery.



Dear Rea of Hope Supporters

When I started thinking of what I wanted to share with you this quarter about what we do, who we serve and the importance of your support, I remembered the story one of our speakers from the Miracle on Lee Street Dinner and Silent Auction so eloquently read and realized I could not say it any better, so with her permission we are printing her story. After reading her story you will understand why I feel so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful organization. Thank you all for your continued support in helping to change the lives of women and children in WV and restoring families

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver, Executive Director

Hello my name is Kaliegh and I am 11 years old. I go to Piedmont Elementary and I'm here to tell you how Rea of Hope has changed my life. Since I have started my new school, I have been inducted to the Young Writers Association for an award winning essay, I was also chosen for the leading role in "Annie" for the spring



play and I have my own bedroom and two turtles their names are Jonny and June. Before my mom came to the ROH I didn't attend school much because my mom didn't wake me up in time. Today she wakes me up every morning, She helps me with my homework and even has supper ready when

I get home from school. She encourages me to try new things at school. None of these things would have ever happened for me while I lived in a foster home. Today I am happy and so is my mom.

Sincerely,
Kaliegh

Thank you to COLORCRAFT PRINTING for their continued support and the printing of the programs, to EDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB for the donation of the room and auction items and SARAH HOLROYD and JOE WALKER for the beautiful flower arrangements on the tables.

REA OF HOPE'S ANNUAL MIRACLES ON LEE STREET DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Celebrating 70 successful graduates and our 7 year anniversary of serving women MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE AND A HUGE SUCCESS. THE AUCTION ITEMS DONATED COMBINED WITH TICKET SALES AND SPONSOR DONATIONS SUCCESSFULLY RAISED OVER \$40,000 FOR REA OF HOPE AND NEW LIFE APARTMENTS. WE HAD OVER 180 ATTENDEES.

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 • **GOLD SPONSORS:** Anonymous Sponsor, Putnam County Bank
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AUCTION DONORS

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Board News

The Board would like to congratulate Mary Skeens on being inducted into the WV Housing Hall of Fame for her many years of service in leading the way for affordable housing for WV residents. WAY TO GO MARY!!! Sadly we had to say good-bye to pastor Dana Holter who has served on the Rea Board since 2004. Dana was the pastor at our neighbor church St Paul Lutheran. We had a wonderful luncheon with Dana before he left for the cold of Minnesota.

Good luck Dana, we will miss you.

Due to time constraints Beth Pugh and Joan Baldwin have submitted their resignations. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank Beth and

Joan for their service and contribution to the Rea of Hope Board and to welcome Mitch Collins and Roger Baird as our newest members. Brad Sorrells will move to Vice President and Laura Ellis has been named Treasurer. This organization could not be such a success without the help of all of you and your energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to the mission of Rea of Hope, thanks for all the hard work you have done!
- Richard Wolford, Board President



Residents' Sobriety Achievements

over 1 year	2
9 months - 1 year	1
6 - 9 months	4
3 - 6 months	7

Other Goals Met

Employment	92%
AA/NA Sponsors	100%
Graduates	3

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 Admissions Assistant, Haley Herron
 Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey
 House Tech, Sandy Fisher
 House Tech, Rachel Williams

House Tech, Tammy Atkins
 House Tech, Krista White

Board Members & Officers

Girls Night Out

By Elaine Secrist



The good times continue to roll with our infamous "Girls Night Out". This night would not be possible without all of our great supporters!

In March, we stormed the bowling alley and had a ball! The competitiveness comes out in all of us along with our basic desire to laugh... and there was plenty of that! We left the bowling alley and wiped out the buffet at the Chinese Restaurant. Believe me, when 25 hungry ladies come to your buffet, the restaurant knows we have been there!

In April, we went out for dinner and a movie. We ate at the Mexican restaurant and then went to see "The Lucky One". It is not always easy to pick a movie that 25 women agree on, but this one seemed to please everyone.



In May, Rick and Alison Wolford graciously supplied tickets to the "West Virginia Power" baseball game. They also donated funds for us to enjoy the traditional baseball goodies- hotdogs, peanuts, and pop. The weather was perfect and so were the seats. We had a great time! Thanks Rick and Alison.



Thanks to Lakeview Christian Church of Hurricane for providing the awesome Easter baskets for the children of Rea and New Life.



St. Marks United Methodist Women

never cease to surprise us with their generosity. In March they had a very special Mardi Gras theme evening for our women with beautiful table settings, great food and fellowship and a shopping bazaar just for our women. They had a wonderful time and loved shopping (big surprise)

Evan Kuhn coordinated, supervised and led a group of scouts and youth from his church, Cross Lanes United Methodist, in mulching all 4 properties and believe me that was a lot of mulch. Evan is working towards becoming an Eagle Scout and we really appreciate him choosing Rea of Hope as one of his projects. Thanks Evan and good luck.



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

- Debbie R. (June '09) for making the Dean's List for 2 consecutive semesters at Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College. Debbie is working on a degree in Addictions Counseling, working full time and raising 3 beautiful children as a single mom.
- Also at Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College, graduate Lisa D. (December '09) received a 4.0 while working on her degree in Criminal Justice.
- Holly T. (September '08) for making the Dean's list again this semester at WV State. Holly is working on her Social Work degree.
- Samantha K. and Kristy K. (NLA resident) on 1 year continuous sobriety.
- Tammy A. (May '11) and Rachel W. (July '11) on 18 months of continuous sobriety.
- Krista W. (March '12) on getting her Driver's License back and getting hired as a full time House Tech.
- Haley H. (November '09) for celebrating 3 years of continuous sobriety and graduating Magna Cum Laude from Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College with an Associate's Degree in Addictions Counseling. Happy 2nd B'day to Noah James!!!!
- Rachel D. (August '10) for successfully completing 18 months at NLA and getting her own apartment.
- Beth M. (August '10) for successfully completing 20 months at NLA and getting her own apartment with her daughter Kyerra age 5.
- Amanda D. (August '08) was just nominated and elected to the position of Chair for the Children's Justice Task Force Committee, associated with Drug Endangered Children. Congratulations Chad on graduating Kindergarten.
- NLA kids go to the Circus, for some this was a first as a family.



We will miss **Holly Tonkin** who turned in her resignation after 4 years at Rea of Hope, first as a graduate from Rea of Hope and New Life Apartments and then as a full time House Tech and then promoted to House Tech II. Holly is working on her Social work degree full time. Holly has been a wonderful employee and a miracle in her own right; we are blessed to have had her for as long as we did. Holly will stay connected with us by filling in when employees are on vacations or out sick. Thank you Holly for your years of dedication and faithfulness to Rea, we are very proud of you and your accomplishments. I would like to share part of Holly's heartwarming resignation letter with you;

I learned valuable lessons about responsibility, integrity and reliability that will definitely help me in the future. When I came to ROH, I was broken and had lost all of myself respect and hope. I didn't know I deserved better or that I could stay sober. I am proud to say that after four years of sobriety I now have self respect, hope and confidence. I never knew life could be so good. I have a family, and am working on my college degree, my time at ROH has made me an asset to society and for that I will be forever grateful.
Thank you,
Holly



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- *The Jacobson Foundation for their continued support and generous donation of \$10,000.*
- *The McDonough Foundation for their continued support and donation of \$10,000.*
- *The Rite Aid Foundation for their gift of \$10,000.*
- *Capitol Resource Agency for their support and partnership in providing Homeownership Counseling.*
- *Hilliard Lyons for their continued financial support and gift of \$2,500.*
- *The Mayor's Office of Economic & Community Development for the grant of \$8,090.*
- *The Bureau of Behavioral Health and Health Facilities, Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for the grant in the amount of \$194,500 for operating expenses.*
- *The Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity for a grant in the amount of \$14,000 to assist with utilities*
- *First Presbyterian Church for their continued support and the donation of \$3,500 to assist with our mission of providing safe housing.*
- *Vandalia Rotary for their annual donation of \$1,000 and the support of their members, two of whom serve on our board.*
- *Dr. Richardson, local dentist for his kindness and generosity in donating his services.*
- *The West Virginia Housing Development Fund for the grant of \$57,500 for our newest projects which will provide housing to at least 6 women and their families.*
- *John O'Connor for his generous donations of new towels for our residents.*
- *Elizabeth Memorial Methodist Church for their continued support of providing much needed supplies, including towels.*
- *The estate of Jane Burgy for the beautiful gently used clothes. Our prayers go out to the Burgy family.*



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.

Donor's Name _____	LEVEL OF GIVING
Address _____	FRIEND of Rea of Hope \$50 plus
_____	SUSTAINING \$500 plus
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E-Mail _____	ANGEL \$5000 plus
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