

Volume 6, Number 1
Spring 2013



www.reaofhope.org

Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Amanda S., Kimberly P., Tiffany G., Cassie A., and Eden W.”

By Elaine Secrist

Once again, we have five new success stories. For the past year, we have celebrated an average of five graduations per quarter! These successes validate that recovery is possible and we can change our future no matter what happened in our past. Three of these five graduates moved into our New Life Apartments and the other two returned to their families.

Amanda S. arrived at Rea of Hope with her own agenda for recovery in mind. “Mandy” soon realized that maybe her way of thinking was not the best and she began to work very hard with her sponsor on true recovery, not just abstinence from drugs and/or alcohol. Mandy opened her ears and began to listen to suggestions regarding a better way of life and began applying these suggestions. Mandy always has a beautiful smile for everyone and today her smile actually reaches her eyes.



Kimberly P. entered our program as a very quiet and emotionally damaged woman. Kim had experienced years of domestic violence and had learned to suppress all of her anger. As Kim learned more about recovery and began to work the steps with her sponsor, she began to understand her anger. Kim’s passion to change and control her life has been the key to her success in recovery. She continues to take everything she learns in sobriety and applies it to her daily life. One day at a time, sometimes one minute at a time is how Kim has maintained and embraced her journey in sobriety.



Tiffany G., a young mother of two, came to us to try to remain sober and be the mother she sought to be. Tiffany had attempted sobriety several times and like many others she would stop going to meetings and working a program of sobriety. Not one to give up, Tiffany began listening to suggestions, working the steps and doing the next right thing. We never had any problems with Tiffany; she would always listen to suggestions and try to change her old thought process. After graduation, Tiffany returned home to her children to work on being the Mom she wants to be.

Cassie A. is a lovely young lady on the inside as well as the outside. Although Cassie’s voice is soft-spoken, her determination for recovery is loud and clear! Never a problem and always smiling and willing to do the “next right thing”, Cassie was a wonderful role model for the other ladies. She, too, graduated and returned to her home town.



Eden W. was delivered to us in an orange jumpsuit.

Eden’s addiction had landed her in jail where most of us eventually visit for short terms if not remain for many years. Eden’s admission to Rea of Hope is simply “A God Thing”. Rea of Hope was purchasing a new van and the exact van we wanted was in another county. Two staff members went to Nicholas County to pick the van up and the car salesman asked “what exactly is Rea of Hope?” Of course, Haley and Tammy proudly described our program. He stated that this is exactly where his sister, who was currently incarcerated, needed to come. Eden contacted us with a letter, got on our wait list, and then was admitted. Eden has been an inspiration to all. Eden attributes her success to God, Rea of Hope, and a wonderful family that has been supportive through it all. Eden moved into our New Life Apartments to continue working on “truly living”!

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

Dear Rea of Hope Supporters,

2013 has started off with a bang and busier than ever. We are excited and gearing up for our Annual Miracle on Lee Street Dinner and Silent Auction (see information below). It is hard to believe we are very close to having 100 graduates from our program since opening in May 2005. The dinner is always a hit and the speakers are what makes the night so special. Not only do we ask some of our graduates to speak but their family members too. It is very important to hear about the devastation we cause to the ones that love us the most. We have had some very courageous family members of all ages speak and the message is clear; the miracle of recovery is for the whole family. So many times families think if the addict/alcoholic in their lives stops using everything will be better and life will get back to normal. That is seldom the case; there is a lot of healing and change that needs to take place in order to grow together in recovery. Hurt feelings, trust issues and anger are the top offenders! It is unhealthy and naïve to think that all those feelings just go away because the addict stops using. Families are occasionally jealous of the time a recovering person invests in their recovery and the questions start:

- Do you HAVE to go to another meeting?
- Are you STILL going to those meetings?
- You need to find another way to get to your meetings, I don't have the time or gas to take you.
- You were never home before and you still aren't.

Yes, these are the same family members who begged, cried, pleaded and prayed for their addict/alcoholic to stop using; the answer is simple. Addiction is a lifelong disease that if left untreated can lead to death. Family members can get involved in their own recovery and see that they have been affected by this disease and that there is a support system available. The argument is often "it is not my problem; why should I have to go to those meetings" or "I don't have time, I am still cleaning up the messes made by the addict/alcoholic". When we are able to compare the disease of addiction/alcoholism to cancer, heart disease or diabetes, we would never expect to hear a loved one say:

- Do you HAVE to do to the doctor again?
- Are you STILL taking those treatments/medications?
- I don't have the time or the gas to take you for your dialysis or chemo treatment.

Believe me when I say that we are fighting a deadly disease and miracles happen daily, don't be the loved one holding on to the past, jump on the recovery train and get involved, you will be a happier person for it. There is hope and a solution. Addiction/Alcoholism is a FAMILY disease, make recovery a FAMILY affair. Hope to see you all at the dinner.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver
Executive Director

REA OF HOPE'S ANNUAL MIRACLES ON LEE STREET DINNER & SILENT AUCTION THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013 at 6:00 PM EDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

*Celebrating 93 successful graduates and our 8 year anniversary of serving women
Tickets are \$75 per person, tables are \$750
(ALL PROCEEDS GO TO REA OF HOPE, INC)*

SPONSORS to DATE

Platinum Sponsor: Federal Home Loan Bank, Pittsburgh, UniCare Health Plan of WV, Inc.

Gold Sponsor: Brickstreet Insurance

Silver Sponsor:

Bronze Sponsor: CR Damron Electric, Richard & Alison Wolford, Gaddy Engineering Company, Huntington Bank, St Francis Hospital

Silent Auction Donors to Date

*Lakeview Golf Resort
Pugh Furniture
Marriott
Yoak Properties
Galperins Jewelers*

*Edgewood Country Club
CrossFit
Curves of Kanawha City
Robin DeMarchi
Valley Gardens*

*Sleepy Hollow Golf Club
The Homestead Resort
Teresa Pauline
Sarah Parson*

Opportunities for sponsorships and auction items are available, please contact Marie Beaver. The last two years have been a huge success and we look forward to seeing many of you there this year. Thank you so much for your support.

The Rea of Hope Board of Directors

hosted the Christmas party for staff and residents. There was lots of great food and laughter, as the residents were in charge of entertainment. It was an opportunity for all to get to know each other and the residents each wrote a letter of thanks to a particular board member and presented it at the party. We thank our very dedicated board and their families for all their support.



BOARD NEWS

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to personally thank Nancy Atkins and Jamie Tridico for their tireless service and contribution of time to the Board of Rea of Hope. 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. You will be missed - thanks for all the hard work you have done!

Welcome back returning board members Mary Selinger and Joan Baldwin.

Richard Wolford, Board president

Congratulations to new our Board Members as noted below in **bold**.

Resident's Sobriety Achievements:

Over 1 year	1
9 months -1 year	0
6-9 months	2
3-6 months	7
30-90 days	4

Other goals met:

Employment	100%
AA/NA Sponsors	100%
Graduates	5

(Percentages based on residents of at least 30 days)

Monthly Needs List

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



President, Richard Wolford
Wayne Hypes, Secretary

Mary Skeens Roger Baird
Ann Urling Mary Elisabeth Eckerson
Sally Holliday **Kelly Cienlensky**
Vickie Cunningham Mary Sellinger

Staff: Executive Director, Marie Beaver
Associate Director, Elaine Secrist
Program Case Manager, Amanda Dietz
Program Admissions Assistant, Haley Herron
Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey

Board Members and Officers 2013

Vice President, Brad Sorrells
Laura Ellis, Treasurer

Jennifer Harper Jamie Tridico
Mitch Collins Sarah Holroyd
Joan Baldwin **Ruth Joseck**
Tammy Harper Nick Casey, Ex Officio

House Tech, Sandy Fisher
House Tech, Tammy Atkins
House Tech, Angie White
House Tech, Holly Tonkin
House Tech, Jessie Hixon

Girl's Night Out

By Elaine Secrist

Our **fun** night when we all get to let our hair down has yet to lose its popularity! We always have a few that balk at our monthly outings, but these few always confess they had a wonderful time by the end of the evening. These ladies have had little to laugh about and enjoy for so long it is hard for them to imagine that they ever have fun again. So Rea of Hope staff takes pride in showing them how to have fun!!



In December, we celebrated Christmas with the Lakeview Christian and St. Mark's Methodist Ladies who again adopted all of our ladies and children for Christmas. The residents and children were of course thrilled with their presents but our ladies were even more thrilled by the love and caring these churches continue to bestow upon them. I have to share that I was blessed to be a part of the most perfect moment that I have ever experienced while working at Rea of Hope. Everyone in the circle shared

what they were thankful for this Christmas and mere words cannot express the heartfelt gratitude and love that was shared. Everyone there shared; no one passed when it was their turn, which is rare. Our hearts were blessed and full as were our eyes! This "perfect moment" validated that what we do at Rea of Hope matters and changes lives forever. We also attended a play "A Christmas Story" performed by the Kanawha Players which included two of our New Life children: Kaleigh and Lexi. We had a great time and are very proud of Kaleigh and Lexi!



In January, once again stormed the Galaxy Lanes with 26 ladies! We laughed and again, we were the life of the bowling alley! Several people approached me and inquired what our group was celebrating and I smiled and said "life"! After bowling, we hit the Chinese Buffet and had a wonderful meal!

In February, the residents and some staff attended the Annual Cedar Lakes Roundup. This is a wonderful weekend of spirituality and fellowship; everyone seems to leave there with a renewed hope and strength in life. What a great weekend!



Thanks to all who continue to support this great night!! Every one of the ladies is very grateful and looks forward to these nights.

REA OF HOPE GIVES SPECIAL THANKS TO:

St. John United Methodist Church Confirmation Class of 2013 for coming over and baking Valentine cookies for all our residents. Rea and New Life residents and kids helped and had a wonderful time. The Class made over 14 dozen cookies, special bags with gifts for 25 residents and brought lots of cleaning supplies and hygiene products as a donation.



Trinity Lutheran Church for the wonderful meal, dessert and especially the fellowship. We truly appreciate these special treats!

HALEY Herron, Rea

Admissions Coordinator and graduate, invited to participate in Senator's Rockefeller's Roundtable discussion addressing substance abuse. One of the biggest concerns in WV currently is the need for better and timely access to a variety of substance abuse and mental health treatment programs. Senator Rockefeller joined by Congressman Nick Rahall and White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Director Gil Kerlikowske hosted a roundtable discussion at the University of Charleston. Haley did an excellent job representing Rea of Hope and making the point that drugs are everywhere but so is recovery. GREAT JOB Haley!!!!



Residents and Alumni:

- Debbie '09 and Kristen '09 for making the KVCTC President's List (4.0 with more than 12 credit hours) and Ashleigh '11 for making the Dean's List (3.85 GPA for 12 hours) last semester at KVCTC.
- Holly T. '08 for making the Dean's list at WV State for the fourth consecutive semester.
- Kim P. '12 and Mandy S. '12 for 1 year of continuous sobriety.
- Jenny R. '12 on 1 year continuous sobriety and starting a new professional job and Happy 4th Birthday to her son Elyzha.
- Jessie. H. '12 on 1 year continuous sobriety and being hired by Rea of Hope as a full time House Tech.
- Sommer S. '12 on 1 year continuous sobriety and being promoted to Manager.
- Stacy B. '10 on 3 years and Elly A. '12 on 2 years of continuous sobriety.
- Amanda D. '08 on 5 years of continuous sobriety and Happy 6th Birthday to her son Chad.
- Cody K. son of Kristy K. and new Life resident for getting his GED and starting classes to continue his education.
- Kaleigh K. daughter of Kristy K. and New Life resident for being selected for the All County Ensemble Chorus which will be performing at the Clay Center. Kaleigh was the only 6th grader chosen from her school.



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



1429 Lee Street East
Charleston, WV 25301

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 2784
Charleston, WV

Special Thanks to the following for their generous financial support:

- *Vandalia Rotary* for their gift of \$1200 to purchase a new heating and air unit for an apartment in our New Life building.
- *The Wehrle Foundation* for their gift of \$5000 to assist Rea of Hope with our mission.
- *The Daywood Foundation* for their continued support and donation of \$6000 in support of our mission.
- *The CRC Foundation* for their donation of \$1000 for our resident's needs.
- *The Home Builders Association of Greater Charleston* for selecting Rea of Hope to be their Christmas charity and the check for \$1500.
- *WSAZ* for choosing Rea of Hope as one of their Children's Charities and the check for \$500.
- *The United Methodist Temple of Beckley* for their continued and generous support and the check for \$750.
- *WVSAE* for selecting Rea of hope for their Christmas donations of stocking stuffers and gift cards for our residents.
- *St. John's Episcopal* for their donation of \$1000.
- *The Lions Club of Kanawha City* for donating \$250.
- *St. Paul Lutheran* for their donation of \$200.
- *UniCare Health Plan of WV, Inc. and the Knights of Pythias* for their continuous supply of household supplies.



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
Phone _____	SUSTAINING \$500 plus
E-Mail _____	SPONSOR \$1,000 plus
One Time Gift _____ Annual _____ Other _____	MEDALLION \$2,500 plus
	ANGEL \$5,000 plus
	ELITE SPONSOR \$1,000 for 5 years
	ELITE PARTNER \$500 for 5 years

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