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www.reaofhope.org

Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Jeri D., Jennifer S., and Ellen M.

By Elaine Secrist

Miracles happen and happen they do at Rea of Hope. **Jeri, Jennifer, and Ellen** are our most recent graduates from Rea of Hope- adding to our list of miracles. "Miracles" seem to be the theme here as we recently celebrated our fundraiser honoring 50 miracles in 5 years!



Jeri D. came to us desperate to change her life. She had a desire to stay sober and wanted everything we had to offer. This was Jeri's first true attempt at sobriety and she gladly followed all of our suggestions. I asked Jeri 'what do you really want out of sobriety?' and without hesitation she responded 'I want to be the mother to my daughter that I have always dreamed of'. Slowly but surely, Jeri reestablished a relationship with her daughter, her mother and other family members. On Jeri's graduation from Rea of Hope the three most important people in her life- her mother, daughter, and sister- showed up and through many tears expressed how grateful they were to have the real "Jeri" back with them. Today, Jeri is not only beautiful but radiant! Working the 12 steps in recovery gives us an inner glow that others instantly notice. Jeri lives in our New Life Apartments and is helping her daughter with homework, walking her to school, and most important of all... just showing up and being there!

Jennifer S. came to us very motivated to finally "get recovery"! Many past attempts at recovery had not worked for Jennifer but somewhere inside of her Jennifer knew that the 12 steps of recovery worked. She finally had hit her bottom and had HOPE...many



times this is all that we have left and apparently it was enough for Jennifer. She has been motivated since day one. Not one to ever sit around and complain or feel sorry for herself she jumped into recovery with both feet and has never looked back. Jennifer has and continues to deal with the wreckage of her past by holding her head up and doing the next right thing. Jennifer has 4 wonderful sons, a devoted Dad and step mother, and a whole new support system through the recovery process. Jennifer is a beautiful lady who lights up any room with her smile. Always willing and ready to help, Jennifer is a blessing to know. She also lives in New Life Apartments and looks forward to reunification with her sons.

Ellen M. came to us with such sadness and pain that I honestly wondered if she could ever get past her pain and enjoy a life of sobriety. However, this was not Ellen's first attempt at recovery and again HOPE prevailed. Ellen suffered a tragic loss and instead of spiraling further downward she took the initiative to go to treatment and focus on recovery. Ellen is an inspiration to all who know her, especially the other residents. Although Ellen is very quiet and a lady of few words, the words she does speak are full of empathy and knowledge. The other residents seek Ellen when they need someone to talk to; Ellen is wise beyond her years. Ellen gives credit to God, the 12 steps, AA/NA, her sponsor and Rea of Hope for her strength in sobriety. There is not just one solution to regaining self respect and living a life of recovery, but all of these things combined and of course "It works if you work it". Ellen is working diligently on reunification with her beautiful children. We are very proud of all she has accomplished and are excited to see all the great things that will happen as Ellen continues to grow in recovery.

We are very proud of these 3 ladies and all of their accomplishments. They are regaining the trust and respect of their families, co-workers, and friends. They have chosen to be willing to work the program at all costs and are great inspirations to all. As always, God continues to bless me with witnessing miracles first hand. We are very proud of you all and wish you the best on your individual journeys.



Thoughts and Prayers go out to:

Michelle Smith (volunteer) recovering from surgery
Reese M. (graduated 12/2006) on the loss of her son, **Michael**.
Jeri D. (graduated 3/2010) on the illness of her sister.
Mary Selinger recovering from a broken ankle.
Sarah Holroyd recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Congrats to:

- **Carrie B.** our first graduate on celebrating 5 years of continuous sobriety.
- **Janet R.** on 2 years, **Lisa D., Haley H., Debbie R.** on 1 year and **Pam T.** on 18 months of continuous sobriety
- **Jennifer** (graduated 3/2010) on being accepted to UC to earn a degree in Radiology.
- **Tonya M.** (graduated 12/2008) for making the Dean's list

Dear Rea of Hope Supporters

We have had lots of exciting happenings this spring and over the last five years. The celebration of our five year anniversary, 50 'n' 5 Miracles on Lee Street Dinner and Silent Auction was a huge success. We had between 165 and 170 attendees and proceeds of over \$26,000. We are very proud of our graduates and their family members who spoke at the event; they all did a fantastic job and showed a lot of courage. The family member's point of view is very important to us because they suffer along with the addict and have to find their own recovery in the process.

In our five years of serving women we have had 135 admissions, 50 graduates, 100% occupancy since July 1, 2007, served 29 WV counties and had a 54% success rate the last two years (almost twice the national average). We have been recognized nationally by Director John Walters, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy in 2006 as a premiere program, used as an example by the state for other non profits on our fiscal plan and by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh for our business plan. Rea of Hope has no debt and has successfully raised over \$2,000,000 in the last seven years through grants, private foundations, fundraisers, donations from individuals and churches and collecting program fees from the residents. The collection of a program fee is what sets us apart from many; we have collected over \$170,000 in the last five years. It is an issue of responsibility and our residents are proud of the fact that they can pay their own way and are invested in their recovery and home. We have won the East End Garden contest and participated for the five years we have been here; there will be an article in WV Living magazine's next issue regarding our gardens. Rea of Hope has grown from 1 employee to six, from 1 location to two and from 10 adult beds to 17 adult beds and 5 youth beds. Even with our growth in our current fiscal year, we have only been able to accept 23% of the women who needed a bed and that is down from last years 30%. The need is immense and we plan to continue to explore ways to meet the needs of women in early recovery from drug and/or alcohol addiction. We are proud to report the following statistics for graduates at one year post graduation 63% are clean and sober, 85% are employed, 82% are living in a safe place, 97% have no new legal problems and 57% are still attending self help meetings.

Thank you for your support in serving women and their families suffering from the disease of addiction and/or alcoholism and for sharing in the joy of their recovery.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver
Executive Director

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND AUCTION DONORS FOR MAKING OUR FUNDRAISER SUCH A HUGE SUCCESS



50 "N" 5 MIRACLES ON LEE STREET EDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB Celebrating 50 successful graduates and our 5 year anniversary of serving women

- PLATINUM SPONSOR:** BRICKSTREET MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
GOLD SPONSOR: ANONYMOUS, PUTNAM COUNTY BANK
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BRONZE SPONSOR: RICK & ALISON WOLFORD, ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL, UNICARE HEALTH PLAN OF WV, INC., GREENWOOD CONSTRUCTION

Silent Auction Donors

1. Personal Trainer Session Michael Lipscombe
2. Oglebay Resort Spa Getaway
3. Watercolor by Toni Garrett
4. Skyline Photo by Bill Patton
5. Lakeview Resort Golf Weekend
6. Snowshoe Condo courtesy of Margaret & Darrell Buttrick
7. Civic Center Tickets Allan Jackson Concert
8. WV Symphony Orchestra Pop Series Season Tickets
9. Appalachian Power Game Pack
10. Massages by Shirley Smith
11. Hair Cut by Robin Demarchi
12. Amethyst Earrings by Petit Jewelry Design
13. \$100 Gift Certificate to Calvin Broyles Jewelers
14. 12 Monthly Carwashes by OneStop
15. Seasonal Cakes by Baskin Robbins courtesy of One Stop
16. Dinner for Two at Soho's Restaurant
17. Car Detail by WV Auto Sales
18. Tara Sisk Jewelry
19. Fabulosity Makeup Consult and application/ Rosemarie Hunter
20. Marshall Memorial Helmet and Collectors Helmet/Coach John "Doc" Holiday
21. Power Recliner Courtesy of Pugh Furniture & Southern Motion
22. Mobile Pet Grooming by At Your Bark and Call
23. Blenko Vase by Purple Moon
24. Dessert for a Year by Billie Bennington
25. \$50 Gift Certificate from Neu Aesthetics
26. ACE Rafting Trip for 2
27. Songer Whitewater Weekend Rafting Trip for 2
28. Pottery by Keith Lahti
29. Hair Products by Patricia King
30. Door Décor Wreath by Doti Shurow
31. Rebecca Bronze & Sterling Silver Bracelet/ Calvin Broyles Jewelers
32. Gourmet Dinner for 4 prepared by Delegate Bonnie Brown
33. All State Titlelist Golf Package
34. Glass Art by Amanda Short
35. Earrings and Necklace by Deborah Davis designs



**DOOR PRIZES DONATED BY
VALLEY GARDENS BASKET, BRICKSTREET BASKET, WALMART, MARRIOTT WHITEWATER GRILL & GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**

Residents' Sobriety Achievements

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

Other Goals Met

Employment	100%
AA/NA Sponsors	100%
Graduates	3

Monthly Needs List

Bath towels (white)	Dishwasher Detergent
Hand towels (white)	Air Freshener
Wash cloths (white)	Lysol Kitchen-Aide
Toilet Paper	Swifter pads
Paper Towels	Swifter Hardwood Floor Cleaner
Bleach	Floor Cleaner
Pine Sol	Mops
Furniture Polish	Washing Powder
	Dryer Sheets



Board Members & Officers

Barbara Koster, President	Nancy Daugherty, Vice President	
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Nancy Atkins	Rev Dana Holter	Mary Selinger
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Staff: Executive Director, Marie Beaver	Program Coordinator, Elaine Secrist	Program Assistant, Amanda Deitz
Part-time Bookkeeper, Billie Bennington	House Techs, Holly Tonkin and Sandy Fisher	

Girls Night Out

By Elaine Secrist



My favorite night of the month is, of course, Girls Night Out. Rarely, do those of us in the addictions field get to “have fun” with our residents and I get to do this on a monthly basis. “Having fun” is imperative in order to be a healthy and productive member of society. As one of our goals at Rea of Hope is teaching these ladies how to live a sober and rewarding life - we simply must show them how to have “FUN” in sobriety.

In March, we went bowling and then out to eat Chinese food. Usually I get the “you have got to be kidding me” looks from the residents when I announced we are going bowling, but this time, this group of ladies was ready to go! I soon found out why... we had some very competitive and awesome bowlers. Once again, we had a great time and ended the night at the Chinese Restaurant.

The April GNO was a concert at “The Ritz Theatre” in Hinton, WV to see B.B. Secrist and His Rockin’ 88’s perform. B.B.’s show was fantastic and many of our ladies danced in the aisles while the rest danced in our seats. It is very hard to contain yourself while watching this high energy show. We all had a wonderful time; B.B.’s tribute to Jerry Lee Lewis and his rock n roll revue entertains all ages!

In May, we went to see the chic flick “Sex and the City 2” and eat at Ryan’s Steak House. The movie was definitely a perfect Girls Night Out movie. Laughter, camaraderie and good food! How can one go wrong with that combination??

As always, we love our night out and continue to look forward to them. Thanks to all who support our Girls Night Out!!



WELCOME

Noah James Herron
May 5, 2010
6 lbs. 13 oz. 19 3/4 in.
Mom Haley H.
(graduate & new Life
Apartment resident)

CAMC Presents

“Identifying and Intervening Effectively with Patients who are Using Drugs and Alcohol”

March 30, 2010

Three Rea of Hope graduates/mothers participated in a conference for healthcare providers regarding pregnant women and drug and/or alcohol abuse. **Amanda D., Debbie R. and Hayley H.** were invited to serve on a panel to share their experiences and answer questions by **Denise Burgess**, Director of Obstetrics, CAMC. The ladies received standing ovations from the doctors, nurses and social workers present and spoke candidly about their personal stories of hope and recovery.

East End Garden Show Case June 12-28

Rea of Hope will participate in the Garden Show Case for the fifth consecutive year; we won the non profit division in 2006 for our Knock Out Roses. Look for our rose garden in the upcoming issue of WV Living. The gardens are in memory of Jean Crozier Ashbrook, who passed a way in 2005; a constant reminder that all do not survive this disease.



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Special Thanks to the following for their generous support:

- *United Methodist Temple Beckley, Blessed Sacrament and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Churches for their generous cash donations.*
- *Lakeview Christian Ladies Circle for their continued support and the beautiful Easter Baskets for all the children at New Life Apartments (see pic)*
- *Jacobson Foundation for its generous grant to help with direct program costs.*
- *CAMC Family Resource Center for the individual and group counseling services provided for Rea residents.*
- *Heidi Talmedge and Betty Deneault for their donation of towels and cleaning supplies.*
- *Dr. Melvin Mann for donating his services in Optometry and discounted eyewear.*
- *Eloop Security for supplying in kind monitoring fees for our alarm system.*



Lakeview Ladies

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