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www.reaofhope.org

Rea of Hopeline

Spotlight on Cara C., Jessica H., Brianna T., Sommer S., and Julia W.

By Elaine Secrist

Five more dreams have come true for these ladies as well as their families! Addiction and alcoholism affects the entire family and most families are very relieved when their loved one gets into Rea of Hope. I think back to the first day these ladies came to Rea of Hope and I just have to smile. Most were fearful, ashamed, desperate, and even angry when they first arrived; I am blessed to witness these ladies grow in their recovery and blossom into productive members of society. They all have diverse backgrounds and different stories but one common goal: to get sober and become self-sufficient.

Cara C. arrived here very scared and full of insecurities. Cara served almost 2 years in prison, got paroled, violated parole, went to treatment and came here straight from her first time in treatment. Cara expressed that she could not continue on the path of destruction she had been on; she wanted to live and for the past few years she had not been living, just existing. Cara slowly but surely became more confident as she became employed, attended meetings and worked the steps with her sponsor. Cara overcame many fears and began to embrace her future. She moved into our New Life Apartments to continue her road to recovery.

Jessie H. bounced into Rea of Hope with determination in her eyes. She had been in at least 5 treatment facilities and had relapsed every time. Jessie said I am willing to do anything you say to stay sober this time and her willingness to follow our suggestions led to her success here. Jessie came to us with recovery on her mind and has never looked back! Jessie is a lovely young lady who stated "I have just had enough of the addicted life" and now she can't get enough of this wonderful life she now has in recovery. Jessie also has opted to stay and moved into our New Life Apartments.

Sommer S. came to us with a list and a date for everything she intended to accomplish in her 6 months at Rea of Hope. Staff simply smiled and said "One day at a time" and reminded her that her recovery had to come first and foremost and then we would help her set up some time-frames for her goals. Sommer smiled back and said "OK but I am going to get the program this time and I AM getting my daughter back"!! Well.... Sommer is truly the first resident that we have had that absolutely followed every suggestion and rule to the letter and she never complained about anything. Daily, Sommer would express her gratitude to staff and her gratitude has kept her working a heartfelt program. Sommer regained custody of her amazing, beautiful daughter and now resides at New Life Apartments where she is truly living her 'new life'!

Brianna T. is a very young lady who came to us through Drug Court. Bri shared with us that she obviously got into some legal trouble with drugs hence, the drug court mandate, and she had no desire or intention of not using drugs/alcohol. Once in drug court, she realized she did want recovery and needed a structured place to help her. Bri became employed immediately, worked the steps with her sponsor, attended meetings and began to look forward to her future. Bri never complained and had a great attitude regarding recovery.

Julia W. arrived at Rea of Hope with a plan for her future; one that no longer included prison, drugs and alcohol. Julia had been abusing both drugs and alcohol for almost 40 years and spent her last 3 years in prison. Her letters from prison validated her desire to change her life; Julia shared her past in a very sincere way and stated in one letter that she had been "dead" for a long time and finally had a desire to "LIVE". Even with a convicted felony hanging over her head, Julia diligently put in applications for employment and quickly found a job. To date, Julia has been employed at the same job, shows up on time and works very hard. Julia's determination and gratitude for a second chance plus attending at least 5 meetings per week, working the 12 steps with her sponsor and focusing on her recovery equal her success at Rea of Hope.

God is forgiving and never holds our past over our heads. These women have chosen to willingly work the program at all costs and overcome their past. They 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,

2012 has been a very busy year for Rea of Hope. We have doubled our staff, number of buildings and women served on a daily basis. WOW!!! I would like to say that increasing the number of women and children we can serve has alleviated our waiting list but we continue to operate at capacity and maintain a waiting list. We are able to get women in faster because of the number of beds but the need remains high. Going into this Holiday Season, we want to focus on the miracles we see daily and the lives that are forever changed. It is difficult to put into words the progress we see. When a resident "gets the spiritual aspect of the program" we often comment about being able to see a marked physical change in how they look; smiles are softer, eyes are brighter, brows unfurrow, heads are held higher and shoulders automatically straightened. It is amazing to watch the transformation of women beginning to "feel and believe" they can be the mothers, daughters, sisters, friends, employees, employers and citizens that we know they can be. Please remember Rea of Hope this Holiday Season when you are making your list and checking it twice; we have been a little naughty but a whole lot of nice. We are looking forward to a very busy year and appreciate all of your support.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver
Executive Director

A "SHOUT OUT" to St. Mark's Methodist Church for their continued support of our ladies. Thanks for the delicious meals and for the Bazaar hosted by the Sister Chicks! This is more than a Bazaar as the Sister Chicks fed and dined with the residents. We then encouraged them to choose whatever they liked from a vast array of donated items. And we also thank the Sister Chicks for treating one New Life Apartment lady to a shopping spree for her much needed "office" attire. This was thrilling for this young lady as she felt much more confident for her new office job! Thanks St. Mark's for all that you do...you do make a difference!!



Mr. Handyman of Kanawha Valley owner Greg Paxton has chosen Rea of Hope once again to be the recipient of a full day of "Free Labor" to commemorate lives lost on 9/11. This is a tradition of Mr. Handyman nationally and we are delighted to have Greg and his workers help us out. The guys are always friendly and knowledgeable, but more importantly on time and clean up after themselves. Thanks again to our good friends at Mr. Handyman of Kanawha Valley.



United Way Day of Caring brought Rea of Hope together with local Ernst & Young employees who painted the foundation of our newest building at 204 Beauregard and donated the money to cover all materials. This was a huge savings for Rea and a much needed project to finish off the property.



Resident's Sobriety Achievements:

Over 1 year	1
9 months -1 year	4
6-9 months	2
3-6 months	2
30-90 days	5

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
Hand towels (white)
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
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Girl's Night Out

By Elaine Secrist

Many of our new residents think there is no fun now that we are in recovery. How can we possibly have fun without drugs and/or alcohol? Then reality kicks in and we realize that at this point our addiction has robbed us of any feeling close to fun... We have not smiled, laughed or even felt good about ourselves in so long how can we begin to enjoy life in recovery? Well... our staff is dedicated to showing you how with our monthly Girls Night Out!

September's outing was to our favorite bowling alley "Galaxy Lanes". The owner and staff there now know us by name and look forward to our visits! (We appreciate Galaxy Lanes as there is no alcohol served there.) Laughter and competition ruled the night and everyone had a great time. We then went to the Chinese Restaurant and pretty much wiped out the buffet with 26 hungry ladies!

October's night out was a haunted house and pizza. All ages enjoyed this night and again the reluctant ones even had fun! Halloween is certainly not for kids only!

November's night out was Mexican food and "Twilight". We asked for a suggestion on a movie and everyone yelled out "Twilight"...so Twilight it was! Great movie and great food and great women! It just doesn't get much better than this!

As always, we love our night out and continue to look forward to them. Thanks to all who support this night.



Staff Accolades

Amanda Dietz, Program Case Manager, was chosen to be the Chair of the West Virginia Children's Justice Task Force Conference 2012. Elaine Secrist, Associate Director was presented with the "Extra Mile" Award one of 6 in the state for going the extra mile on behalf of abused and neglected children.



Elaine and Amanda continue to represent Rea of Hope throughout the state with their dedication and speaking engagements. You both make us very proud.



REA OF HOPE

**RIBBON CUTTING & OPEN HOUSE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 at 4:00 PM
204 & 206 BEAUREGARD STREET, CHARLESTON, WV**

We would like to thank First Lady, Dr. Joanne Tomblin for being our guest speaker and "ribbon cutter" for our new homes. It was a rainy day but we all persevered. Dr. Tomblin gave an inspiring talk and spent time to meet with several graduates, tour the homes and have pictures taken with anyone who asked. THANK YOU Dr. Tomblin!!!



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

* It is always fun for the grads to bring by their children for "Trick or Treat", we always enjoy the cute costumes and smiling faces.



- * **Kaleigh**, daughter of **Kristy K.** (Nov. '11) and **Lexi**, daughter of **Sommer S.** (Sept. '12) for getting the parts in The Christmas Story.
- * **Beth M.** (August '10) on celebrating 3 years of continuous sobriety.
- * **Angie W.** (August '12) 1 year of continuous sobriety and becoming Rea of Hope's newest House Tech.
- * **Debbie R.** (June '09) on 4 years of continuous sobriety and a Happy Birthday wish to her son **Tommy** who turned 11.
- * **Jennifer R.** (August '12) regaining full custody of her son **Elyzha**.
- * **Tammy A.** (April '11) and **Rachel W.** (May '11) both with 2 years of continuous sobriety.



- * **Elizabeth Y.** (July '12) successfully completing drug court and celebrating 1 year of continuous sobriety.



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Special Thanks to the following for their generous financial support:

- *Norfolk Southern* for their support and grant award of \$1,000.
- *The Marriott* sales staff brought by lots of personal hygiene goodies for our residents and we really appreciate them thinking of us.
- *Knights of Pythius* for their continued support and donations of household supplies.
- *Local Lilly* representatives took a day off to do a service project and chose Rea of Hope. The reps were great and painted two big bedrooms for us. Thanks so much for your hard work.
- *Unicare Healthplan of WV* for their continued donation of household supplies.
- *Blessed Sacrament* for their faithful giving to Rea and supporting our mission.
- *WV House Delegates* for their support and check for new mattresses for residents.



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 _____ Address _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____ One Time Gift _____ Annual _____ Other _____		LEVEL OF GIVING	
		FRIEND of Rea of Hope	\$50 plus
		SUSTAINING	\$500 plus
		SPONSOR	\$1,000 plus
		MEDALLION	\$2,500 plus
		ANGEL	\$5,000 plus
		ELITE SPONSOR	\$1,000 for 5 years
		ELITE PARTNER	\$500 for 5 years

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