



WINTER 2018

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Rea of Hopeline

SPOTLIGHT ON TIFFANY L., CASSIDY C., JULIE K., JANIS C., KAYLA M., ALICIA C. BY HEATHER DARR

Six graduates share the spotlight this quarter: **Tiffany L., Cassidy C., Julie K., Janis C., Kayla M., Alicia C.** All six women have decided to stay in our New Life Apartments!! Their new lives are just beginning and the continued support we can offer them will help strengthen their foundations. The willingness these women demonstrate to go to any length to create better lives for themselves and their families is incredible. They have described in their own words their individual experiences at the Rea of Hope.

Tiffany L.

“I am forever grateful for the staff at the Rea of Hope. My life has grown in ways I couldn’t have imagined. I never dreamed that I could live life sober and be happy. My time here has been a blessing.”



Cassidy C.

“My very first day at the Rea of Hope I was filled with humiliation and shame. I was so broken and did not have any hope. Through my time here all of that has changed. With the guidance of the staff I was taught what my worth is. I learned I could overcome any obstacle put in front of me. I was taught to love again because I was shown love. Above everything else, being able to witness the greatness in the women that came before me and everything they were able to accomplish gave me the courage to strive for more. It broke the ceiling off of the expectations I had for myself. I will always be grateful for the women here.”

Julie K.

“For me the Rea of Hope has been an amazing opportunity. Although I was hesitant to come at first, I believe that God put me in this program for a reason. I have never felt so confident in myself and my future as I do at this point in my life and I owe that to this program. I am grateful for the opportunities it has presented for myself and my children.”



Janis C.

“I am a previous graduate of the Rea of Hope. I came to the Rea the first time to get my children back. It was highly suggested when I completed that I go to the apartments. I did not and I stopped working a program the day I left. I relapsed and lost my children to the state. I was so ashamed of my actions. Then I ran in to Marie and Elaine. They told me ‘Janis, you can come back’. They loved and cared for me. They knew I was on deaths door. I went back to treatment and then returned to the Rea of Hope. Marie’s first words to me were “welcome home”. This time, I take suggestions. I know I have a family, a place, and hope because of this program. I have a new mindset and hope for my future. I also moved in to the New Life Apartments! My future is bright again.”



SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

Kayla M.

“Graduating from the Rea of Hope is the first thing I have started and finished since high school. I have tried to get into recovery several times. I was never able to achieve any lasting sobriety. Now I have hope and recently celebrated 2 years of consecutive sobriety!”



Alicia C.

“Thanks to the Rea of Hope my life is much healthier, and is changing for the better. I’m doing things that I never thought I could do, like working a real job and going to school. The staff is great always giving the motivation and guidance to stay on track. Today, I’m able to feel good about myself and my lifestyle.”



200 GRADUATES!!

In October we celebrated 200 graduates from the Rea of Hope! It was a huge success. We were able to visit with some of the original board members as well as past residents and their children. The success of our graduates makes our work meaningful. We are so blessed and grateful to be a part of their journeys in recovery.



We are sad to say goodbye to our coworker and friend, Tara Trout ('17). She has touched us all with her sincerity and genuine care for others. Tara kept us laughing and uplifted our spirits. She is returning home to Greenbrier County. We wish her well in her new adventures.

“A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow.” William



Our Chief Operations Officer, Elaine Secrist, won the Russ Taylor Addiction Awareness Award at the WV Conference for Addiction Professionals! Her dedication and service to WV women suffering from substance use disorders has made a huge impact on many lives. We are proud of her and are blessed to have her with us.

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

By Heather Darr

“Girls Night Out” is always a favorite time during the month. When we arrive at the Rea of Hope, many of us haven’t experienced fun in quite some time. We want to ensure our women get to experience a sense of togetherness and laughter. In **September** we went bowling and then ate Chinese. The inner competitor was brought out in some of us and we had a blast. In **October** we had pizza and a movie night. We saw the movie Halloween. In **November** we went to the annual Bean Dinner held by the Edgewood Group. We enjoyed spending time with others in recovery and heard 3 great speakers.



We look forward to the **United Way Day of Caring** each year. This year we were paired with **BB&T**. They did a beautiful job transforming 2 backyards into a shared garden. They removed fencing, placed stepping stones, and pulled and planted. The space is now open and inviting. Our residents are so grateful and have already used the space for a backyard barbeque.



Congratulations to our Rea of Hope residents and grads on their sobriety anniversaries and other achievements.

- Debbie H. ('09) on 10 years of continuous sobriety.
- Katie D. ('13) and Sarah M. ('13) are both celebrating 6 years of continuous sobriety.
- Melisa R. ('16) celebrates 3 years of continuous sobriety.
- Stephanie V. ('15) celebrates 4 years of sobriety!
- Michaela B. ('17) celebrates 2 years of sobriety.
- Congratulations to Janis C. ('18) on obtaining her GED!!!
- Rea of Hope residents received training in the following this quarter:
Parenting (6-week cycle), sponsorship, and budgeting.

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

RESIDENT'S SOBRIETY ACHIEVEMENTS:

1 year or more	3
9 months-one year	1
6-9 months	2
3-6 months	7
30 days-90 days	1

Other goals met:

Employment	100%
AA/NA Sponsors	100%
Graduates	6

% based on residents of at least 30 days



Our Executive Director and Board Member Paula Vineyard had a great meeting with **Senator/Dr. Tom Tabuko**. Thank you Dr. Tabuko for your time and support of our program.



Rea of Hope is excited to be invited to participate again this year in the **BB&T Christmas Tree contest**. Rea of Hope is paired with **Rosegate Design** this year and we are looking for another win!!!



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Charleston, WV 25301

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT:

- *The Sisters of St. Joseph Health & Wellness Foundation for their donation in the amount of \$2,500.*
- *The Wells Fargo Foundation for their grant of \$2,500.*
- *Woodforest Bank for their continued support and donation of \$1,000.*
- *The Women's Club of Charleston for hosting a fashion show and luncheon to benefit the Rea of Hope! We received a donation of \$885.*
- *The First Bank of Charleston for the donation of paper products and cleaning supplies.*
- *The Vandalia Rotary for their donation of time to power wash the gutters and clean our exterior.*
- *The Hurricane Women's Club for their donated fleece throws to help keep our residents warm.*



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