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[www.reaofhope.org](http://www.reaofhope.org)

# Rea of Hopeline

## Spotlight on Crystal P.

By Elaine Secrist

Crystal P. is our only graduate for this quarter. Crystal is the mother of a beautiful baby girl and has come a long way from her first day here! She came to us broken but with a determination to do whatever was necessary to have her daughter back in her life and maybe, just maybe in her custody one day. Crystal was very somber and had almost no emotion. She had lost all self respect and felt as though she had truly hit "her bottom".

Crystal slowly worked the program; she was not yet convinced that Rea of Hope staff knew the best way for her to remain sober. Crystal was not the first resident not ready to jump into recovery with both feet!! Crystal did follow our suggestions, attend AA/NA meetings, participate in the AA/NA community functions, work the 12 steps with her sponsor, and gain full-time employment. As she grew in recovery, so did her spirits and we finally began to see Crystal smile and even laugh.

One thing that certainly brought a smile to her face was her visitations with her daughter. She saved her money and put her child before her wants and always had a new outfit or diapers for her visitations. Crystal complied with all of the guidelines set by Child Protective Services; after four months, she was awarded



unsupervised visitation and eventually regained custody. Her graduation ceremony was very tearful as her mother and step father proudly listened to each resident express how much Crystal meant to them. Both parents added that there was a wonderful change in Crystal and they were glad to have the Crystal they knew and loved back.

Another wonderful moment for Crystal was the day that several of the St. Marks ladies treated Crystal to a shopping day. Crystal returned from her special day simply beaming! They bought her clothes and makeup and Crystal was so proud. What a wonderful way to make someone feel special.

Crystal is a true inspiration for all "Mommies" in recovery. "We are all proud of you Crystal and wish you the best as you continue your journey of recovery!"



## Congratulations to our Residents and Alumni:

- Jennifer D., Jessie M. and Jamie B. for receiving promotions at work to supervisors.
- Jamie B., Melinda T. and Jessie M. for diligently working on their GED's, working full-time and attending meetings.
- Haley H. on receiving the WV Higher Education and the Walmart Scholarships for academics and holding office in student government.
- Glory F. on celebrating 4 years of continuous sobriety.
- Carrie C., Stacey B. and Rachel D. on 18 months continuous sobriety.
- Emma D, daughter of Amanda D. on receiving end of school year awards for academics, honor roll and citizenship. WAY TO GO EMMA! WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!
- Holly T. on continuing to seek her degree in Social Work from WV State and celebrating 4 years of continuous sobriety.
- Jeri D. on her preparations to start nursing school in January 2012 and 2 years of continuous sobriety.
- Sheila M. on graduating from Junior College.
- Threece T. on being named one of the YWCA's Women of Achievement. Threece graduated Rea in 2007 and since then, she has been very involved on the East End with helping troubled and at risk youth at the Roosevelt Center; she then wrote and received a grant for South Park Village for the youth and is helping with a new summer and after school program for them. She is a master instructor for cosmetology and barbers and is currently working on her associate degree in theology to become a minister. She is also very involved in her church. She has written a memoir due out this fall entitled Through it All, God had my Back.



## Dear Rea of Hope Supporters

It is hard to believe this busy summer is over. I feel like it just started and I was getting into the groove of long days. As we move forward to the fall, I will be wishing for those long days to get everything done. We are very excited to announce that Rea of Hope closed on our third property in August at 204 Beauregard Street. This will allow us to serve 14 women instead of 10 in Phase I. This decreases the amount of time women have to wait to get into our services and provides more employment opportunities for our graduates. We pride ourselves on hiring well-suited Rea graduates. The home will be fully staffed and supervised. The fall will consist of putting on a new roof, electrical upgrades, stone repair, cosmetic changes and furnishing the home for it's new occupants. Our goal is to have our Grand Opening the first of November. The building committee consists of past and present board members, including 4 engineers and a housing specialist. We are very fortunate to have so many wonderful and dedicated volunteers. The home comes with a beautiful garden and outdoor area that we are all looking forward to enjoying.



Sincerely,  
Marie Beaver, Executive Director



### St. Marks United Methodist Church

ladies brought dinner over and ate with our residents. They had such a good time. We were invited for a movie and dinner at the church. The evening was a big success and the ladies really had a wonderful time. We were made to feel very welcome. We are so thankful for the kindness and generosity of St. Marks. I would also like to thank the cooks at St. Marks for all the delicious food they drop off regularly for our residents.



The presents came early this year with “**Christmas in July**” hosted by **St. Paul Lutheran Church**. Rea of Hope staff and residents were invited to the Sunday morning service and brunch where we were made to feel very welcome. The food was fabulous and as you can



see by the picture there was no room left under the tree. Thank you St. Paul Members!... for your continued support of our mission. The gifts included bath and hand towels, wash cloths and lots of much needed cleaning supplies.



### Residents' Sobriety Achievements

9 mo - 1 year	1
6 - 9 months	3
3 - 6 months	4
1 - 3 months	2

### Other Goals Met

Employment	100%
AA/NA Sponsors	100%
Graduates	1

### Monthly Needs List

Furniture Polish	Bath towels (white)
Dishwasher	Hand towels (white)
Detergent	Wash cloths (white)
Air Freshener	Toilet Paper
Lysol Kitchen-Aide	Bleach
Paper Towels	Toilet bowl cleaner
Washing Powder	White kitchen trash bags
Dryer Sheets	
Small umbrellas	



### Board Members & Officers

<b>Barbara Koster, President</b>	<b>Nancy Daugherty, Vice President</b>
<b>Mary Selinger, Secretary</b>	<b>Rick Wolford, Treasurer</b>
Mary Skeens	Brad Sorrells
Nancy Atkins	Rev Dana Holter
Beth Pugh	Jeff Joseck
Joan Baldwin	
Nick Casey, Ex Officio	

**Staff:** Executive Director, Marie Beaver  
Program Coordinator, Elaine Secrist  
Program Assistant, Amanda Deitz  
Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey  
House Techs, Holly Tonkin and Sandy Fisher

# Girls Night Out



By Elaine Secrist

“Girls Night Out” should be mandatory for all women! I truly believe that simple pleasures are the best. What could be better than friendships being strengthened, memories being made with other strong women and laughing out loud??

June’s GNO was a trip to our favorite Mexican restaurant “Rio Grande” and then walking over to the movies to see “Pirates of the Caribbean” in 3D! All 21 of us donned our 3D glasses, got our popcorn



and enjoyed a whole new experience with Johnny Depp! We had a great time and I was so glad to have such a great turnout from our graduates and New Life ladies!

July’s GNO was an awesome treat sponsored by Rick and Alison Wolford. Rick and Alison treated the ladies to a Power game, Power t-shirts, drinks and food. Everyone had a great time and the weather was perfect. Thanks Alison and Rick for the Power night.

The GNO for August was actually a Girl’s Day Out as Holly took all of the Rea of Hope girls to “Water Ways” in Boone County for a sun/fun filled day. The girls had a great time and another day with perfect weather and camaraderie.

Some of our ladies have never had the opportunity to experience these simple pleasures. They are very excited and look forward to our monthly outings especially since they are now a part of the group and not on the outside looking in!

As always, thanks to all of you who continue to help make these monthly events possible.



## Rea of Hope Staff Giving Back to the Community

Elaine Secrist, Program Coordinator, Amanda Dietz, Graduate & Program Assistant and Haley Heron, Graduate and part time House Tech shared their heartfelt stories and experiences to a meeting of law enforcement professionals, sponsored by the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) at Snowshoe for the WV Prosecuting Attorneys and their assistants. Elaine, Amanda and Stacey B. spoke at the annual DEC Conference in Charleston in August. It is important to provide hope that people can and do recover from this disease and change their lives. WAY TO GO LADIES! for being such excellent examples personally and professionally, you make Rea of Hope proud.

**We receive lots of invitations and requests for speaking engagements and we all love sharing about Rea of Hope. We appreciate the opportunity to demonstrate that recovery works.**



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## Special Thanks to the following for their generous support:

- *The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation for their donation of \$20,000.*
- *Jacobson Foundation for their generous donation of \$8000.*
- *BB&T Carson Insurance Agency on their donation of two new washers and dryers for our expansion project.*
- *The Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity for a grant of \$14,000 for utilities.*
- *BHHF, Division on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse for continuing to be our biggest single funder and the grant of \$194,500 for operating costs & our expansion project.*
- *The Department of Justice grant for \$27,900.*
- *Unicare Healthplan of West Virginia for collecting cleaning supplies and paper products for a month and donating them to Rea of Hope & New Life Apartments.*
- *BB&T West Virginia Foundation for their donations of \$3,000.*
- *WV Affordable Housing Trust Fund grant of \$150,000 for our expansion project.*
- *Randy Housch and Pat Hedrick for volunteering their time by facilitating classes on Healthy Relationships, Stress Management and the Family Dynamics of the Disease of Addiction for our residents.*
- *Sister's of St. Joseph for their continued support and a donation of \$2,000.*

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.



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### 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	