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The Threshold Times

Threshold Clubhouse- Durham, NC

"All the News We See Fit To Print"



Dirk G.

A Member's Spectator's View of the Employer's Dinner

At the beginning everyone was given a nametag at the table in the hall from the list from RSVP's. Then people started trickling to their assigned tables. Near the wall there was a giant screen showing pictures of many of the working member's pictures snapping from one to another. The auditorium was fairly dark. There were about 50 round dining tables equipped with a plate and three forks, one salad, one regular, one dessert, and one spoon. Also, there was sugar and butter provided. There were three glasses, one with water, one with tea, and one with coffee. There was also milk for the coffee. We had a salad plate, dinner plate, and a dessert plate, and a plate for butter and bread. We had two choices of salad dressing, italian and ranch. I chose ranch and the salad was very tasty. Then came the turkey meat, mashed potatoes, and two asparagus which were fresh and just delicious. Everyone was dressed with out of sight outfits, the men with flashy suits and the women with ball noticeable dresses. Dirk Gunn was the Master of Ceremonies. We had a few good speakers. Dirk read the program, then the gospel singers came on board. They were very good, professional, and famous. Cont. on page 3

15th Annual Employer's Dinner Celebration

The Emcee of the Hour

By Dirk G.

Threshold had their Annual Employer's Dinner at the Marriott. It was grand. Everyone was patient. It was gratefully admired. We danced, we ate dinner, and we danced and danced until we couldn't anymore. The gospel singing was lovely and beautifully prepared for our ears to here. I was Master of Ceremonies for the event. I had a lovely voice and a lovely time. I called people up on stage to talk and express their happenings. I was nervous that people might laugh at me but nobody did. People had on dashikis, men had on ties and suits. I was excellent, scrumptious and good. Everything I said was up to date. Everything was inspiring. The ones who couldn't come at all, feel free to come next time. I will be waiting to let you hear my disk jockey voice. And that's how the west was won.

The Employer's Dinner

Jasmine T.

The Employer's Dinner was very good and we had lots of fun. Having a joyful and good time dancing and talking, and getting to know new people. Dinner was the best and a well prepared meal hot and good. We had an enjoyable and glad time, and we listened to exciting music and laughed and were happy. We know most of the people who came and enjoyed the Employer's

Helping Adults in Durham with Severe Mental Illness Re-Integrate Into the Community

www.thresholdclubhouse.org

Dominique's Interview

Annie K.

What is your favorite unit, and why?

A. "I like Kitchen or Snack Bar, because I would like to learn how to cook."

How do you like the Threshold family?

"I think it is alright. I like the people."

Do you enjoy being around others with mental illness?

"Yes, it is a good feeling from being around others with a mental illness."

What impresses you the most about Threshold?

Probably, the services we get here and I like the Social Recreation Program."

Shannon's Interview

What are your goals for working at Threshold?

To be active and to promote new ideas for members. Building positive relationships and to provide motivation and inspiration.

How do you like working with people in a side by side working environment?

I prefer working one on one with people to build more personal relationships and to establish and execute our goals.

What are the pros and cons for working in a side by side working environment?

I think the pros are bonding with members, teamwork, and constructive criticism. I don't have any cons with working side by side.

Have you developed any strong relationships with any members yet?

Yes, and they are easy going, compatible, and genuine relationships.

Do you plan to stay here a while?

I want to stay here for a very long time.

Interview of new staff member Shannon Clay

Interviewed by Annie Knapp

What is Love?

By Bernard Liles

What is love? Love is free. Love is affective. Love is kind. There are no conditions. What is love? It is important. The love that comes from within, and not from without. So, what does love have to do with it, with anything? Love is essential and very influential for survival and success in this world. The love of materialistic possessions leads to one's downfall. The power in love shows that it is alive. Love gives life and keeps it. What is love. It is the main thing that holds the universe. Love is good being done to good and bad. Love corrects and disciplines, but does not punish. Love cares for others and never despises. Love suffers long. Why we need it. Love is what draws others closer together. So where is the love. The world needs love. Hope is the force that holds things together.



Mary D. Williams

Threshold presents award winning
Gospel Singer

Mary D. Williams

Williams "has a deep humanity and a timeless voice... She changes lives." Williams will appear in the upcoming movie BLOOD DONE SIGN MY NAME and has lent her voice to numerous local causes. We are honored to have her join us for our annual Employers dinner.

Threshold's efforts to get Members to Vote!

By Karen C

Over the 14yrs. I have been a member of Threshold, the clubhouse has been active in helping members navigate the voting and Government election process.

I first became aware of the need of Clubhouse members to vote and have a say in government at the International Seminar of the in Salt Lake City in 1995 by a presentation originating at Green Door Clubhouse in Washington, DC.

Threshold has for many year encouraged members to register and actually vote. Registration forms have not only been available at the clubhouse, but also help in completing these forms and sending them in to the Board of Elections.

Threshold also helps members with ride to the polls. Part of Threshold's activities included helping members to navigate the voting forms. Threshold has also encouraged members to write to their elected officials especially when proposed a new law or a subject like "Mental Health Party" becomes an issues. Currently the Mental Health System in NC is in bad need of repair and to insure that Threshold is still an option for members we need to explore who on the ballots will help us keep what is important for our welfare.

Threshold Wins Durham Center Provider of Excellence Award

Marya M.

The Durham Center is responsible for developing a comprehensive array of services and ensuring appropriate customer choice. Currently, The Durham Center contracts with over 190 private providers. Threshold was one of three organizations recognized as a Provider of Excellence at their quarterly providers meeting on September 17. Threshold Member Parent Mary Eldridge nominated Threshold for this award. Her words address Threshold's success at reducing stigma: "I can speak about one aspect of Threshold's reduction of stigma from personal experience, having a daughter who has been a fully participating member for more than 15 years. As a result of her relationships there and the respect with which she is treated, my daughter's internalized stigma has been eradicated. She no long sees herself as "a schizophrenic," but views herself as a capable, responsible, fun person with a great sense of humor who happens to have an illness that requires her thoughtful attention."

Many thanks to Mary and to the Durham Center for their recognition of our work!

Employment Dinners

By Bill Usry

Threshold holds employment dinners twice a month here at the clubhouse. They are held generally on the first and third Mondays of every month at 4:30 pm. Each employment dinner is preceded by a meeting in which employment issues are discussed. As of late, Phil Wintermute has been in charge of these meetings. I try to attend these meetings as often as possible as I enjoy contributing my own input into these discussions. Also, Fran and I get a free meal afterward. That is what Fran likes the best about these events.

Treasure Treasure

What is a treasure

Could it be in a package

or a box or something simply delivered?

Is it precious to the one that is the taker not the giver?

We appreciate something more if it has a bow or a ribbon

A job is special too, and presents are few,
like the raindrops falling with a drop of dew.

Shirley M.

Cont. from page 1. A Member's Spectator's View of the Employer's Dinner

They sang some meaningful and beautiful songs. I forgot to mention at first the staff was called on the platform one by one by one. Of course they looked impressive and distinguished. Meanwhile the dinner plates and tea and coffee were passed around. After everyone had finished eating the dinner, the desserts were passed around and people ate, which was delicious cheesecake pie. The employer's were given a color picture of the wall mural (some were not present or somewhere else in the building). After the presentations we had a dance. People had a long dance, all kinds of the latest songs played. Then the vans took all the members home.

Lifetime Connections, a program of First in Families of NC, is hosting its fourth Wills, Estate Planning, and Guardianship workshop for families who have a member with a disability.

You may register online at www.fifnc.org

Putt Putting Was Fun!

Laura E.

Hello, Laura here, a couple of weeks ago a group of us went and played putt-putt. We split into small groups and each played our course. Most of us in my group got low scores. The lower the better. We laughed a lot. The camaraderie was wonderful. We cheered each other on. Fun was had by all.

Capture Emotions

Heavenly are your eyes, as joyful as the ties

A visit from you what a pleasant surprise.

Never wonder when, because you will always be back again.

As sweet as your mouth can be, is as sour as it can feel

But when I think of the joy you bring always makes it real.

You breeze by like a storm, and stun me like a calm force that is warm

What is this rollercoaster ride of commotion or is it only my emotions.

Laura E, Vivian P and Ronald Wilson



Andria Linn and Jeff Dunlap.

Threshold Awards First Annual Threshold Heroes Award

Threshold awarded our 1st Annual Threshold Heroes Award to Andria Linn and Jeff Dunlap. Respect, support, and hundreds of hours of creative commitment are what our first winners of this award brought to Threshold this past year. Eighteen months ago when I first brought the idea of a Threshold mural to Andria her response was straight to the point. "I'll do it." With that, and the incredible support of her talented and equally committed husband Jeff, they were off to the races. The project took them far and wide, including a train trip to Philadelphia, a community with dozens of murals, and even to a new medium, as Andria doesn't typically paint people. With this mural project Threshold set out to broaden our presence in the community, to bring attention to the positive contributions of adults with mental illness, and to raise financial support for our program. In Andria's words:

"I want this mural to create a stronger awareness of mental illness, so people understand that it's not something that needs running from, but that needs to be addressed and embraced and understood."

With their tireless energy, enthusiasm, and passion for excellence, Andria Linn and Jeff Dunlap have given an incredible gift to Threshold and to the Durham community. Thank you, from all of us. By Marya M.

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Math & Reading Class 1:00	2 Clubhouse Culture 1:30 Trip to Club Nova	3 Happy B'Day Mary H. & Tommy R.!	4 Hours 11:30-4:30 Movies at Blue Ridge
5 Happy B'Day Peggy H.! Hours 10-3 Arts & Crafts	6 Employment Dinner	7 Computer Class 2:00	8 Math & Reading Class 1:00	9 Happy B'Day James C.! Clubhouse Culture 1:30 CiCi's Pizza	10	11 Happy B'Day Ricky J.! Hours 10-3 Flea Market
12 Hours To Be Announced Walk For Hope	13	14 Computer Class 2:00	15 Math & Reading Class 1:00	16 Happy B'Day Ricky L.! Clubhouse Culture 1:30 Karaoke	17	18 Happy B'Day Gary B. & Hoyal S.! Camping
19 Happy B'Day Earl O! Camping	20 Employment Dinner	21 Computer Class 2:00	22 Happy B'Day Johnnie W.! Math & Reading Class 1:00	23 Clubhouse Culture 1:30 North Carolina State Fair	24	25 Hours 10-3 Corn Maze
26 Hours 10-3 Arts & Crafts	27	28 Happy B'Day Pete T.! Computer Class 2:00	29 Math & Reading Class 1:00	30 Happy B'Day Pascal R. & Ralph B.! Clubhouse Culture 1:30 Halloween Party	31 Happy B'Day Joanne H.!	

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REMEMBER: YOU ARE
ALWAYS NEEDED,
WANTED, AND
EXPECTED AT THE
CLUBHOUSE!!

