



March 2018

### Mission Statement

The mission of Search for Change, Inc. is to improve the quality of life and increase the self-sufficiency of individuals with emotional, social and economic barriers. This is accomplished by providing the direct support and assistance needed to enable individuals to reach their full potential.

## *HAPPENINGS at Search for Change*

*Celebrating 40 Years as a premier psychiatric rehabilitation agency!*

### *A Putnam County Holiday*

*Contributed by Ron Zimmerman*

Bring the noise, bring the food, and please don't forget to bring the fun. This year, Putnam County came together as one to create a beautiful holiday season for all. It was a time of dance, a time of song, a time of remembrance, a time of reflection and a time of celebration. The music went on and everyone was together as one putting all of their energies and focus towards one mission, to create the best holiday season for one and for all.



For this one space in time, you had a bunch of folks cooking, decorating, shopping and doing everything possible to give of themselves for the good of creating a beautiful holiday celebration for the men and women of SFC. The food was a delicious beautiful blend

of Caribbean, Southern, Latin and Italian food.

The music represented the same blend as reflected on the dance floor. We all danced, we all sang songs and we all came together as one unit, one team working together to make our holiday season a beautiful celebration of everything that is right and good. It was a real tough time for so many folks for so many reasons, including the loss of one of our beloved members from the Mahopac unit, as well as one of our recent retired staff members from the Townhouse. As we reflected we danced, as we remembered we sang and as we celebrated the joy and blessings of the holiday, we reaffirmed our commitment to the mission of SFC, which is to help, support and stand by folks who need a hand as they make it back from total devastation.

To all of you busy folks, who were understaffed, over worked and totally overwhelmed and still were able to cook and just do your thing, thank you very much. As we dance into the New Year, let's hold on to that positive energy, that commitment to team and making things better. Thank you all for such a beautiful fun inspiring holiday season, Best to all of you for the New Year.



### *Bowling with B ATP*

*Contributed by Jackie Taormina*



On Saturday, February 10, 2018 the Brewster Apartment Treatment Program (B ATP) went to Spin Bowl for a bowling party. A guest from the Townhouse joined B ATP for a fun 2 hours of bowling and a pizza buffet.

Program Director, Jackie started out on a high note, bowling a strike! Unfortunately, that did not last long and Jackie is glad she was not hired based on her bowling abilities.

After a decades long hiatus from bowling, one of our teammates came back with a passion and bowled several great games!

Although the bowling was fun, we all agreed the evening could be titled "the curse of the one pin," as there always seemed to be that one pin that would not fall! Although, it did make for a lot of cheering for spares! After bowling for 2 hours and having pizza, mozzarella sticks, salad and crudite with pitchers of water and soda, the group went over to the arcade.

A lot of fun was had by all playing basketball, skee ball and riding virtual rollercoasters. In the end, the group decided the children would better spend the prizes for our tickets so we gave our ticket cards away to a few children at the prize counter before heading home.

Overall, everyone expressed that had a great time! Who knows, maybe with a little practice we will start our own Search for Change bowling team!

### Scarsdale Picks Pumpkins

Contributed by Krystal Cox

The ladies of Scarsdale enjoyed themselves as they apple picked in North Salem at Outhouse Orchards. They picked the season apples and other healthy items on the farm. The ladies brought home a great deal of apples that they were able to make fun desserts with.

The ladies of Scarsdale also attended the Great Jack-O Lantern Blaze, where they enjoyed the magnificent light show.



### Mamaroneck's New Look

Contributed by Courtney Braun

The Mamaroneck CR is undergoing renovations! With recent bathroom overhauls and brand new windows throughout, the Mamaroneck house is beginning to look like a brand new home.

We are expecting the installation of hardwood floors throughout that will occur at some point this month, along with a new staircase leading to the office. Even with all the renovations the Mamaroneck residents were still able to come together for a weekend brunch held by one of their peers.

All who attended enjoyed pancakes, eggs, bacon, fruit and coffee. This brunch has become a regular monthly event hosted by an apartment resident. On occasion board games have been added to the affair or a movie has been played. We are looking forward to opening weekend brunch to other units.

### Family Day at Wyndover

Contributed by Francesca Bastone



On November 18, 2017, the Wyndover Unit held their annual Family Day.

Families and friends gathered in the community residence for an afternoon of food, desserts, laughter, games and karaoke!

After lunch was served residents and staff gathered around the karaoke machine and sung their favorite hit

songs from Frank Sinatra to Michael Jackson and all genres in between.

Pictionary was also played and brought much laughter to all. On weekends, Wyndover has enjoyed trips to the movie theater and lunch buffets.

The Wyndover residents are looking forward to trips to the planetarium this month as well as game nights with the Scarsdale residents.

### Corporate Compliance Corner

Contributed by Brittany Griffin



What is the Corporate Compliance Corner and what can you expect to find here?

The goal of the Corporate Compliance corner is to increase everyone's awareness of the Compliance and Ethics efforts at Search for Change, Inc. Here, we will be providing everyone with pertinent information from the Corporate Compliance Officer and the Corporate Compliance Committee.

**2017 Community Recognition Breakfast**

**Community Awards**

Karen Mayo

Health and Wellness Coach

Author of *Mindful Eating 30 Days to A Whole New You*

Rebecka Palmer

Westchester Independent Living Center



**Honoree**

Michael Orth

Acting Commissioner,

Westchester County Department of

Community Mental Health

**Art Lewis Award**

Jeff Zitofsky, BA, CPS

Peer Training Specialist

Human Development Services of Westchester



**2017 Employee Recognition Award**

Search for Change Program Directors

**Client Contribution**

B.W. Juachon

Elevators are a lot like life. You begin at one level and then end up at another which, somehow, through the magic of devices, conveys you closer to your ultimate destination. Mostly, you go up and down. Whichever, you never really can tell how you get where you're going, just that you'll be arriving shortly. Furthermore, the rides you take, you rarely take alone. People come and go getting on and off, heading in their own directions. Sometimes you ride with someone for a while, maybe strike up a conversation, get to know them a little, sometimes not.

Sometimes, well actually, most times, you simply enjoy the company of humanity for a little while, words being gratuitous for the expression of what all are already thinking — namely that the thing doesn't shut down, trapping you indefinitely.

Yes, indeed, elevators are a lot like life. You come you go and so often does this happen you start taking the ride for granted. You forget yourself much less others, the regulars, who take the ride with you. You hop on, push your button, and go up or down, whatever works best to convey you onward. You never think how transient it all is, how temporary. You are finite and you have finite number of rides which the quantity is always running lower.

I've been with Search for Change for several years now and I have hopped on and off myself watching the ebb, the flow. With the passing recently of a friend, my thoughts turn to the people with me still, to all of us. I think, it's miraculous how we come together for this ride, this little trip, even though, we're on separate journeys as it so happens. And to think too, of such pleasant company.

**Caught in the Act of Caring**

Thank you to the following employees who were "Caught in the Act of Caring!" Your efforts are truly appreciated! Thank you!

**Nyisha Hutton**

Westchester Supported Housing

**Jaime Crews**

Westchester Supported Housing

**Kirsten Watson**

Westchester Supported Housing

**Alexa Rosetti**

Carmel Townhouse

*Thank you*