



November 2016

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!

Agency-Wide Meeting



In addition to presenting awards to many members of the Search for Change staff for their years of service, this year there was also a screening of the film, “No Letting Go.”

The film was co-written and based upon the life of Randi Silverman. Randi’s child was diagnosed with anxiety, depression, and bipolar disorder at a very young age. The film depicted not only the struggle of her son, but also the struggle of her family trying to help her child cope with his mental illness. “No Letting Go” was very moving and many of the staff could be seen wiping tears from their eyes during parts of the movie.

Randi gave a presentation following the film showing and was able to answer many of the staff’s questions and also listen to any feedback. Her main points were that mental illness can affect any family no matter what socioeconomic status you fall under and early intervention is very important .

Annual Awards Breakfast

Photo credit: Philomena Rivalsi

This year we recognized Michael Piazza, Ray Dorritie, Sharon Amoruso, and Joseph Houlihan for their dedication to the mental health community. Each award recipient at this year’s Annual Awards Breakfast expressed a common theme: gratitude and pride towards the mental health community support system. There is great appreciation and respect for the resources in Westchester and Putnam County.



Honoree

Michael J. Piazza

Putnam County
Commissioner of Mental
Health, Youth Bureau and
Social Services



Community Award

Ray Dorritie

Deputy Director
Drug Crisis in
Our Backyard



Search for Change

Employee of the Year Award

Sharon Amoruso

Director of Residential
Services - Westchester



Art Lewis Award

Joseph Houlihan

Snapshots from the Client Picnic





News from Larchmont

Contributed by Christina LaValla

Villa Roma Vacation

Staff transported residents to the Villa Roma Resort in Callicoon, NY. Staff and residents arrived and enjoyed their first dinner at the hotel.

They took advantage of the activities available on their second day including visiting the numerous pools, playing basketball, bowling, and enjoying a late night comedy show.

They enjoyed their farewell breakfast on the last day and were sad to leave the resort so soon. Staff transported residents back to the CR; en route discussing their favorite parts of the trip and eagerness to return next summer.



Family Day

Larchmont residents enjoyed a variety of activities such as watching TV, playing badminton, playing heads up, and eating foods with their loved ones, family members, and friends at Larchmont's Family day.

Residents enjoyed foods like pasta salad, sandwiches with a variety of meats, salads, soda, and water.

Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the nice almost fall weather.



Pumpkin Painting

Larchmont staff and residents enjoyed painting pumpkins in the dining room. One resident stated that he enjoyed this activity because it brought back memories of doing this as a child.

Staff and residents painted several small pumpkins each, and two large pumpkins to display on the front porch.



Wellness Updates

Contributed by Charlotte Friedlander

August

- ~Wellness talk was on Sleep and Wellness.
- ~Held individual meetings with clients for weight loss and meal planning at Westchester residences as needed.

September

- ~Wellness talk was on Sodium
- ~Started worksite wellness walks on Fridays at noon.
- ~Fall Tennis Clinics began in Westchester and will run through October.
- ~Putnam Independent Living Services is sponsoring Nutrition and Yoga workshops at the Townhouse Community Residence. Nutrition -September to November, and Yoga to begin in December 1st.
- ~Held individual meetings with clients for weight loss and meal planning at Westchester residences as needed.



October

- ~Wellness talk was on FATS. Partnered with Food Bank of Westchester to provide food demonstrations at the Westchester residences.
- ~Staff and clients participated in the Westchester American Heart Walk on October 2nd.
- ~SfC received a grant from Arts Westchester for a second year. Local artist will be conducting art workshops at the Scarsdale, Mamaroneck and Wyndover community residence.
- ~Held individual meetings with clients for weight loss and meal planning at Westchester residences as needed.

November

- ~Arts Westchester "art" workshops will continue through December.
- ~Artist, staff and clients will participate in individual, and team building art projects in the Westchester community and apartment treatment residences.

