2019 Year in Review

A working community where adults can improve mental health through friendship, healthy lifestyles, skill development and careers.

January

SERVICE IS KING

We felt it fitting to observe Martin Luther King Day with a day of service to our local community. Members and staff assisted at Remnant Café, whose mission is to "serve the underserved." We assisted with meals and helped in their thrift store.



THINKING WELL

In partnership with Centerstone, we began "Thinking Well" for interested members. The 15-week class is based on the research of Dr. Alice Medalia of Columbia University, and uses computer-based brain-training exercises along with group discussions to sharpen cognitive skills.



February

BREAKING NEWS

In February, we formalized protocols for our redesigned weekly newsletter. Our "Newsroom Meetings" provide a forum for members



to gather ideas and plan for the next edition. Members write articles, take photos, edit and format each and every newsletter.

YES WE SCAN

We began an exciting new Transitional Employment partnership with the Public Defender's Office of the 12th Judicial Circuit. Thanks to Public Defender Larry Eger, Academy members have the opportunity to gain clerical skills and experience in a legal setting.



March

COLLABORATION

Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, in partnership with the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, funded a USF study on the mental health system of care for children and youth. We were honored to host the unveiling of their findings to nearly 100 guests.



SPRING FORWARD

Thanks to our collective efforts, we offered a Spring Ambassador Luncheon. Our esteemed guest speakers included David Verinder, CEO of Sarasota Memorial Health Care; Michael Sanacore, Academy member; Paul Steinwachs of the Steinwachs Family Foundation and Ric Gregoria of Williams Parker.



April

(NOT SO) QUIET ON THE SET!

April saw a makeover in our Multimedia Studio, thanks to the support of the Lerner Family Foundation. Plans include a weekly podcast, YouTube



videos on mental health, and livestreams.



MORE TRANSITIONS IN EMPLOYMENT

A productive meeting sowed the seeds for another Transitional Employment site. General Manager of Sunset Cadillac, Steve Montanaro, signed on to partner with us to provide a clerical position for our members.

May

NORTHERN TRUST LUNCH & LEARN

We opened our doors to host a Lunch & Learn for our friends at Northern Trust. This provided opportunities for members to host, using a range of skills from multimedia to culinary arts. We love entertaining!



THE POWER OF YOUTH

Two Academy young adults (member and staff) traveled to Genesis Club, an International Training Base in Massachusetts, to learn how to develop a Young Adult Initiative. Thanks to the Charles & Margery Barancik



Foundation for their vision in funding this initiative.

June

ANNIVERSARY FOOD DRIVE

To honor our second anniversary, we chose to focus our energy on service to others. To this end, we held a food drive that yielded more than 450 pounds of food which we donated to All Faith's Food Bank's "End Summer Hunger" campaign.



ROLL OUT THE APPAREL

It's no surprise that we're all pretty proud of our Academy. Now we wear it on our sleeve, or hat, or Tervis tumbler or



umbrella! Thanks to the design work of our Arts team, we launched our new line of logo wear. Get yours today!





THE FLORIDA STATE OF OUR UNION

July saw us develop a new partnership with the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) that promises to strengthen our Supported Employment program. Our first member to enroll with DVR, Chantel Gingerich, is now happily working as an Event Specialist.

ORDER UP!

To better prepare our members for the workplace, we strive to offer relevant industry-standard training. As such, we upgraded culinary protocol to include server training on an iPad. This provides a real-world server experience to our members. For those who want to pursue a server position, this is a great addition to the resume.



August

NOT YOUR JERRY LEWIS TELETHON

We had no idea what to expect from our first livestream Telethon. Studio guests included members and staff, employment partners, Ambassadors, board members, and even Clubhouse Chief Operating Officer, Jack Yatsko! More than 200 viewers from all around the country tuned in to support us and learn about our mission. After such a successful inaugural event, you can be sure that there will be more live stream events in our future.



THE MIND BODY CONNECTION

We rolled out Wellness Wednesdays with a weekly yoga class led by Claudia Beza of Pineapple Yoga Studio. Each month we focus on a different wellness modality. From nutrition to mindfulness to financial literacy, we strive to touch on all areas that impact well-being. Join us for one hour every Wednesday.



September

"S" IS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The fall season began with the theme of sustainability. Several sustaining partners came forward to support our continued growth: The Second Annual Suncoast Jeep Festival, the Steinwachs Family Foundation and the Melissa Wides Foundation.



WALKING THE WALK

In Sarasota, National Suicide Prevention Month was marked by a 5k/10k run or walk for depression awareness and suicide prevention. The Academy partnered with our neighbors at Centerstone to sponsor and advocate, for a day that was both moving and educational.



October

ACT LOCALLY, PRESENT GLOBALLY

The Academy traveled to Oslo, Norway, where we joined

more than 400 attendees representing 22 countries and 25 U.S. states at the Clubhouse International World Seminar. Six Academy members and staff participated in the Seminar and presented at five different workshops. For our members, the opportunity to share their stories in front of a global audience was exhilarating.



BUILDING AWARENESS, BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

The Academy was invited to present at a Disability Awareness program offered by Sarasota Memorial



Hospital. Jeffrey Jean and Paul Hennekes shared the Academy's mission and experiences of recovery with physicians, nurses, therapists and social workers.

November

THE YOUNG AND INVESTED

Our Fall Ambassador Luncheon highlighted the experiences of our young adults, who shared their personal stories and technology skills with a stop-motion animated film. Steve Montanaro, General Manager of Sunset Cadillac and Kelly Romanoff, Impact and Innovation Officer of the Barancik Foundation, inspired guests to join our journey.





SAFESTAFF, SAFE MEMBER

We have our first SafeStaff certified member! Kevin Geyer completed the course and passed with flying colors! Armed with a plethora of knowledge about food safety, Kevin has paved the way for other members to achieve certification.

December

WHY, I AUDIT...

With transparency at the forefront, the Academy initiated an independent audit to ensure financial integrity and compliance. At the helm was Academy member and CPA Paul Hennekes. We



received a clean audit report and the Board will continue this good governance practice..

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

Our Garden Guru Steve Weinberger once again volunteered his time to help us prepare our garden for a new season. An abundance of new herbs and vegetables were planted as part of our "farm to table" aspirations.



ATRUE LEGACY

We were deeply saddened at the passing of Charles and Margery Barancik in late December. Their generous spirit and charitable foundation are a true inspiration and lasting legacy for the Sarasota community.



DONATE today and become part of the solution in mental health. Please visit:

AcademySRQ.org

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