



ACADEMY
AT GLENGARY

SUMMER 2020

941-921-9930

www.AcademySRQ.org

1910 Glengary St., Sarasota, FL 34231

REIMAGINING OUR PATH

At the heart of everything we do is the goal of reducing isolation for our members. So there could scarcely be a greater challenge than one in which the prescription is, quite literally, physical isolation. When the pandemic forced us to close our doors back in March, there was no clear path to move forward.

With exceptional guidance from Clubhouse International and Clubhouse's flagship program, Fountain House, we built a virtual platform that includes video conferencing, group messaging, and intensive phone outreach. Thanks to a generous grant from the William G. And Marie Selby Foundation, we implemented a Mobile Device Management program which provides our members Internet service and a tablet loaded with the software required to actively participate in our work-ordered day.



Carolyn Robinson using a tablet provided by the Academy so she can stay connected from home and continue learning and contributing.

After two months of providing services solely on a virtual platform, we are now in Phase One of our reopening. Many members have returned to the Academy with strict safety protocols in place. Masks, temperature checks and a risk-assessment survey are mandatory prior to entering our building. Workstations have been reduced to allow for distancing and dining room capacity is limited to 50%. Yet even as members returned to collaborating side-by-side, we've kept our virtual presence intact for those who are not ready to return. Videoconferencing remains open for the entirety of the workday and cameras are trained on our smart boards during team meetings so that members can sign up for tasks from home (fortunately, this technology was well in place before



Garrett Laue uses the smart board, which is also viewed in real-time by Zoom participants from other Academy work areas or their homes.

the pandemic thanks to a gift from the Steinwachs Family Foundation). Despite the pandemic, the Academy community has continued to thrive; retooled and reimagined into a hybrid of virtual and physical. Our work, our learning, our socializing, all of it is available to our members however they choose to access it.

We are happy to say that, measured by the members who participate, we are still thriving. We were honored and humbled when Robby Vorspan of Clubhouse International asked us to share our reopening initiatives at a global webinar. With so many uncertainties still in the balance, there are some truths that feel certain. We know that our success is contingent on our ability to adapt and reimagine our path, to ask for help when we need it, to take in feedback, and to share what we have. Amid a worldwide pandemic, we have never been more aware that we are all in this together.



(left to right) Jeffrey Jean screens Ian Churchill prior to entry to the building.



The Academy at Glengary

AcademySRQ.org

VALUES-BASED

Values inspire our journey and guide the pathway to recovery.

SERVICE LEADS THE WAY

I have a clear recollection of the afternoon when Jeffrey Jean came in to interview. Recently graduated from college, his youth belied his maturity. But what truly made Jeffrey stand out was his response to a question about values. He believed in *servant-leadership*, a concept that caught my attention given the horizontal nature of relationships in the Clubhouse Model.

That was nine years ago, in a different place and at a different organization. Since then, I have had the privilege of working with Jeffrey, as co-worker, mentor and friend. Over the past three years, the Academy has come to fruition with Jeffrey at the helm of our day-to-day operations.

On any given day, Jeffrey can be found working alongside members and staff throughout the Academy – helping with dirty dishes, managing our database or welcoming visitors for a tour. There is no job too important, or too mundane. Jeffrey seems to float effortlessly to where he is needed, with a passion for service that puts the needs of others first.

As the Academy continues to grow and evolve, the vibrancy of our Clubhouse community will depend on developing leadership from within. Jeffrey provides a living witness to

kindness and compassion that members and staff alike can follow. In our shared journey to wellness, in our side by side work, all of us are called to be *servant-leaders*. Thank you, Jeffrey, for your leadership.

William McKeever
Director



Jeffrey Jean (right) discusses the COVID -19 screening process with William McKeever. In Jeffrey's role as Program Coordinator/Community Liaison, he manages daily operations.

OUR AMBASSADORS

The Academy Ambassadors fill a vital role by sharing our mission and helping us build strong roots in the community.

Pete Abbott, Edward Jones Investments
Steve and Barbara Armstrong, local business owners
Ed Bertha, Owner, Executive Publisher, REAL Exclusive Magazine
Stewie Bitterman, Director, Synovus Bank
Kim Bleach, US Trust
Veronica Brady, Director of Advancement, The Bay Park Conservancy
Kim Burns, Occupational Therapist, REAL Exclusive Magazine contributor
Linda Cournoyer, retired Practice Manager, SMH
Phil Delaney, former Vice Chairman, Northern Trust
Larry Eger, Public Defender, 12th Judicial Circuit
Scott Eller, CEO, CASL
Ric Gregoria, Williams Parker
Hal Hedley, Ed.D., retired CEO, Child Protection Center, Inc.
Michael Klauber, Restaurateur

Tom Knight, Sarasota County Sheriff
Don and Sharon Lerner, retired
David Maglich, Fergeson Skipper
Brian Mariash, Merrill Lynch
Robert Meade, CEO, Doctors Hospital
Don Osborne, Sunset Automotive Group
John Overton, retired CEO, Pines of Sarasota, Inc.
Rev. Dr. Bruce Porter, retired Pastor
Pat Robinson, Sarasota Deputy Police Chief
Jeff Steinwachs, Steinwachs Family Foundation
Paul Steinwachs, Steinwachs Family Foundation
Sharon Steinwachs, Steinwachs Family Foundation
Giselle Stolper, retired CEO, Mental Health America NYC
The Honorable Charles E. Williams, Circuit Court Judge

COMMUNITY • WORK • QUALITY • FRIENDSHIP • RESPECT • WELLNE





Naomi Treece

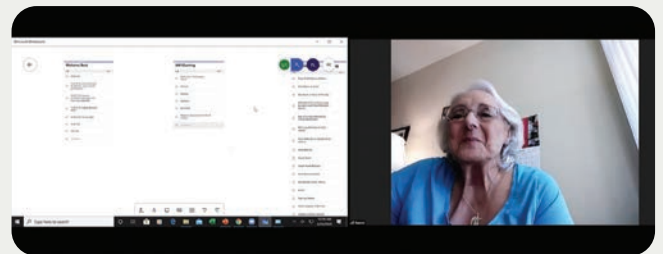
MEET NAOMI

I have been a member of the Academy since last year but have become much more active since the COVID- 19 pandemic occurred. The benefits of being able to attend meetings and workshops virtually has been invaluable. The Academy even provided me with a tablet which has made it possible for me to contribute and collaborate in the day-to-day work just as if I were there. I enjoy running meetings, creating the PowerPoint slides for our morning meetings, and writing articles for the *Glengary Times*. For now, my participation is exclusively virtual through Zoom, and through our group messaging on Slack. The structure of scheduled meetings and workshops really helps me live a productive and active life.

I've had serious health issues that have kept me from attending the Academy during this pandemic. I am thrilled that the Academy has continued to function virtually even once the building reopened. While I do have hobbies and other outlets for my time, what I miss being "sheltered at home" is the very real personal interaction that the Academy has afforded me.

I am so happy to be a member of the Academy because of the guidance and encouragement of the staff as well as the collaboration with other members. It has become an important aspect of my daily life. I hope that in the future I can participate in person. We don't know what will happen with the pandemic, but I do know that the Academy is a lifeline for persons seeking mental health recovery.

"...the Academy is a lifeline..."



Chanaka Weerasinghe

MEET CHANAKA

I have been a member of the Academy since the beginning of this year. I really enjoy the freedom to work in all of the different teams at the Academy, and I have learned many useful skills in each one. In Culinary Arts I've learned how to use the Point of Sale system, and I've picked up some great recipes. The Business and Technology Team has taught me a lot, including how to use the visitor software to sign in guests at the reception desk, and how to create PowerPoint presentations for our morning meetings. In Multimedia, I've learned various new technologies and helped to create videos, the Arts Team has provided me with writing opportunities for the weekly and quarterly newsletters. I have also gotten a lot out of the Wellness program, where, among other things, I have learned how to improve my sleep.

There's so much to learn at the Academy, and I hope to have many opportunities to put what I learn here to use outside of the Academy. I also find being around people who are eager to learn like me is very helpful, and we can all benefit from another person's outlook. I look forward to continuing to attend the Academy and learning more by participating in all of the opportunities here!

When I'm not at the Academy, I am at my part-time job at Jessica's Farm Stand where I help plant and harvest vegetables. I am a big sports fan so in my free time, I can usually be found either watching or playing various sports. I play rugby, soccer, tennis and basketball.

"There's so much to learn at the Academy..."



ESS • SERVICE • KINDNESS • PURPOSE • ACCEPTANCE • STRUCTURE





THE BIG THREE

June 18 marked the Academy's Third Anniversary and, as is our tradition, we mixed celebration with service. In planning how to mark the day, members and staff offered ideas and then narrowed it down to two: a neighborhood clean-up or a food drive. Our members, over-achievers that they are, collectively decided to do both!

We set out in the morning equipped with trash bags and trash-pickers. Splitting into smaller groups, we covered a lot of ground. Robinhood Street, Glengary Street and the adjacent Best Buy parking lot were beautified by our meticulous clean-up. All told, we collected seven pounds of trash!

We kicked the food drive off on the same day. It will benefit the Church of the Palms food pantry and will run a total of three weeks, one week for every year that we've been open. If you would like to drop off non-perishable food, just pull up to our door and drop the items in the outside collection barrel. Donations are accepted through July 9.

When the time came to celebrate, we threw ourselves a backyard party! Culinary prepared a lovely picnic lunch and we enjoyed each other's company in the fresh air while playing bocce ball and cornhole. As a community, we are resilient, and we sure are grateful.



Want to learn more?

The first step is to take a tour!

Families, applicants and community providers are welcome.

To schedule a tour, or for more information,
please contact 941-921-9930 or
Info@AcademySRQ.org.

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

AcademySRQ.org

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