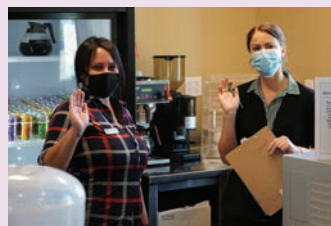
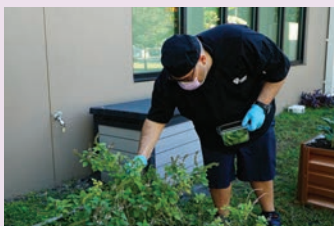


COVID-19 UPDATE: The Academy is open regular hours of Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. using screening and safety protocols. For more information about our Phase I Safety Guidelines on the Academy's website: AcademySRQ.org.



CLUBHOUSE FERN CAME TO LEARN

The Academy had the privilege of hosting two colleagues from Clubhouse Fern in West Palm Beach. Clubhouse Fern opened eight months ago and is the newest Florida clubhouse. Our guests, Employment Specialist Darly Adams and Culinary Coordinator Melinda Durant, came in pursuit of ideas and inspiration as they start their employment program and develop their culinary team.

Jason Sulimay gave them a tour of the Academy, lingering at our "employment wall" which highlights all of our working members. He also spent ample time showing them our



culinary team, allowing time for questions and answers. Candy El-Azzaoui was our member Ambassador, ensuring that they were engaged and comfortable throughout their stay with us.

Darly and Melinda visited Transitional and Supported job sites, observing some of our members on the job. Back at the Academy, they met with several members who have held Transitional positions in the past, gathering information about the impact of their work experiences. They worked in our teams, and even let us interview them about their experience with us. Of course, our Multimedia team got it all on video!

At the end of their visit, members and staff gathered for a send-off to wish them well. Candy presented them with tokens of our esteem; a few handpicked items from our logo line, and she offered them some sage motherly advice. "Don't pick up strangers, and don't text and drive" she cautioned them. We all laughed, but Candy's concern was real. As a community, we look out for each other. And we are excited to see our community grow. We welcome Clubhouse Fern to our Florida Clubhouse family. We're with you on this journey!

GETTING INVOLVED

Jeffrey Jean, Vanessa Alcantara and Ruth Anderson had an opportunity to participate in the Red Ribbon Event hosted by Drug Free Manatee. People may know that sometimes mental health and substance abuse have a correlation, and it is imperative to advocate for our mental health communities in various ways. They brought Academy brochures and shared the mission of the Academy with community leaders in Manatee County. Also, they spoke with the Superintendent of Manatee County Schools, police officers, professionals from First Step and other organizations. The Manatee community was warm and welcoming and many of the individuals they

encountered knew about the Academy. Ruth joined Jeff and Vanessa to provide a parent's perspective on mental health and connected with other community members. It was a great opportunity to spread the great news about the Academy and our talented and hardworking members. We look forward to attending other community events to share our mission.

(left to right) Jeffrey Jean, Ruth Anderson and Vanessa Alcantara



IN THE NEWS

Recently, Elizabeth Djinis, a reporter from the Herald-Tribune, stopped by the Academy to interview Academy members Naomi Treece, Paul Hennekes and Chantel Gingerich about how the pandemic has affected their mental health. Read the full article, with photos, online at: <https://www.heraldtribune.com/story/news/local/sarasota/2021/10/31/sarasota-manatee-residents-seek-mental-health-support-during-pandemic/8580763002/>



Paul Hennekes

CLUBHOUSE TRAINING IN WORCESTER, MA

by Rick Pardo

I was honored to be chosen to represent the Academy at Glengary for a two-week intensive training at Genesis Club in Worcester Mass. Intensive is the right word to describe this training as we stayed very busy. The days were filled with discussion groups, working in the different clubhouse units, and reading at night. We used the two-week program to write an action plan to help improve the Academy. When going through the standards, we found some areas for improvement. As with our clubhouse, meeting the Genesis members inspired me. Their desire to get a job and be involved in the workforce was awesome. The staff was caring and focused just like our staff here. Genesis Club currently has more members than we do here, and the energy of such a large group was exciting. I can't wait until the Academy fills up and gets that electric atmosphere. We even found time on the weekend for a day trip to Boston where we went on the Freedom Trail exploring revolutionary war New England. We stayed in a grand old guest 5house built in 1897. The other clubhouses represented at this training were Frontier House from Greeley, Colorado, and Lexington House from Elkhart, Indiana. We made great friends with all of them.



(above, left to right) Shelly Crofut, Rick Pardo and Patty Haltimer develop their action plan.

(right) Rick Pardo uses his culinary skills to cook salmon on the grill.

All events take place on-site at the Academy and through the Zoom app. Watch Slack for Meeting ID and Password.

NOTE: Morning meetings begin at 8:45 a.m. on Mondays - Thursdays.

Monday, November 8

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 9:45 a.m.
Ambassador Luncheon Planning - 11 a.m.
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.
Graphic Design/Multimedia Workshop - 3 p.m.

Tuesday, November 9

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 9:45 a.m.
Academy Meeting - 1:30 p.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 2 p.m.

Wednesday, November 10

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 9:45 a.m.
Newsroom Meeting - 11 a.m.
Menu Planning Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.
Wellness Wednesday Workshop - 3 p.m.

Thursday, November 11

Morning Meeting - 8:45 a.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 9:45 a.m.
Multimedia Projects Planning - 11 a.m.
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.

Friday, November 12

Breakfast Buffet and Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.
Individual Team Meetings - 10 a.m.
Super Chill Free-write Writer's Workshop - 11 a.m.
Graphic Des/Multimedia Team Meeting - 1:15 p.m.
Bus & Tech/Culinary Team Meetings - 1:30 p.m.
Spanish Workshop - 3 p.m.

TO MAKE A DONATION

visit our website

AcademySRQ.org

and click on the  **Donate Now** button

Thank you for transforming lives!

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