NEWS OF THE ACADEMY AT GLENGARY

Glengary TIMES

October 20, 2023

CHOBEE CLUBHOUSE VISIT

What fun we had hosting four colleagues from Chobee Clubhouse in Okeechobee, Florida, for a 1-day orientation session on the Clubhouse model! As one of Florida's newest Clubhouses, they are on a mission to build their membership and implement best practices.

They arrived in time for a hot breakfast and our morning meeting before splitting up and joining our teams. They jumped right into the day, working side-by-side with members and staff. We then took them to visit several of our employment partners. First, we were off to Sarasota Memorial Hospital where they met Academy member Laura Boyke while she fullfilled duties as a procurement specialist as part of our Transitional Employment (TE) program. Next up was a visit to Sunset Cadillac to see another member, Mimi Dougherty, on her TE as a scanning specialist. We rounded out the "employment tour" with a visit to a Supported Employment site, Publix, where we caught up with member Ian Churchill working as front end clerk.

Our colleagues had great questions, and they also impressed us with how they are meeting the inevitable challenges of a start-up. From TE development to growing their membership, it's clear that they have a smart game plan and are on the road to success. We are excited to assist them in the process.

(Left to Right) Dalya Aponte-Sotomayor, Natalie Stratton, Marie Westerberg, William McKeever, Brittani Joinee, Britani Satris, Mari Montoya, Stephanie Busbin, Billy Elkins and Samuel Parris

FAREWELL

by Angelique Curtis

Angelique Curtis

I'm so thankful for all the lessons I've learned, the experiences I've had, and the friends I've made during my time at the Academy. I've loved coming in every day and learning to work in all the different teams, especially in the culinary team. I will miss all the wellness activities offered here, like going to the gym, writer's workshop, and dance instruction. Everyone is born into a family, but we also create family through the people that we meet, the memories that we make and the experiences we create together along the path. (I learned that from fellow Academy member Loriann Smith.) I'm moving away to be closer to my mom and siblings, so I won't be able to attend the Academy anymore, but I will always remember my time here fondly.

HAPPY 5TH CENTERPLACE

by Naomi Treece

Naomi Treece

I was honored to attend the CenterPlace Health 5th Birthday Celebration at Michael's on East this past Wednesday, along with Enrollment Coordinator Patty Haltinner, Board Member, Rosemary Stack, and our Volunteer Coordinator, Elena Vizvary.

The Keynote speaker, Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist, Washington Hill, M.D., spoke about "Health Care with Heart," and told a story about a woman who he ran into at the grocery store. He had delivered her baby, and she expressed gratitude for the services provided to her. She was a recent immigrant to this country with little money and no health insurance. Despite this, she received much needed care.

We are lucky to have healthcare provided "with heart," by CenterPlace Health in several clinics throughout the county!

SPREADING AWARENESS: A TWO-WAY STREET

by Dan Kajdasz

Since its inception, the Academy has been of service to the local community by periodically sharing its wonderful space with community organizations.This gesture provides an opportunity to bolster public awareness about our important mission.

On October 12, the Academy hosted the initial workshop of the Sarasota Chapter of the Conversations Across the Aisle (CATA) Project. Co-chair Bill Woodson explained, "The mission of the (CATA) Project is to create a safe space for meaningful dialog between people of different ideologies." Approximately fifty members of the Project attended, while the Culinary Team served a fantastic buffet dinner.

William McKeever and I had an opportunity to talk briefly to the Group guests about the purpose and mission of the Academy. By hosting the event, we had the chance to be of service while raising public awareness and spreading the word about the great work we do here, to an entirely new audience.

(Left to Right) Dr. Andy Blanch, Becky van der Bogert and Bill Woodson

BACK TO SCHOOL

by Torre-Anna Blakney

I have just started classes at State College of Florida. I plan to major in Early Childhood Education. Currently, I'm taking my prerequisite classes, those being First aid/CPR and Algebra. It's going fantastically! I am making new friends and getting good grades by studying for multiple hours a day and practicing with notecards and repetition to commit vocabulary and equations to memory.

I have been a member of the Academy since November of 2020. It has been a long-term goal of mine to go back to school, and the Academy has helped me with this goal by giving me the confidence to reach out to people for help, and by helping me to improve my computer skills to complete and submit homework assignments for class. Before coming to the Academy, I was very depressed and anti-social. After a few years of attending, and doing some real wellness work, I am proud to say that I can look someone in the eyes while holding a conversation and even initiate one myself. I also get out of bed in the morning with pride knowing I am going to spend the day doing something productive. Four years from now I hope to be teaching pre-school. I'd like to thank the Academy for all the help in getting me this far.

Torre-Anna Blakney

PHYSICAL · SPIRITUAL · EMOTIONAL · OCCUPATIONAL · INTELLECTUAL · ENVIRONMENTAL · FINANCIAL · SOCIAL

FIT BITS

Our FIT Initiative caught the attention of Clubhouse International, and they asked us to present on the subject at the National Seminar in Salt Lake City, UT, in collaboration with High Hopes Clubhouse and Fountain House. Member Benjamin Foreman, presenting with staff members Patty Haltinner and Ben Burnside, will share how our FIT curriculum, based on the 8 Dimensions of Wellness, has improved his well-being.

USA CLUBHOUSE CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 26-28, 2023
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
PRESENTED BY Clubhouse International

Join us for the 2nd Annual

ART OF RECOVERY SHOW AND SALE

Featuring the paintings, drawings, sculptures and jewelry created by the members of the Academy at Glengary

December 16, 2023
1 to 4 PM

Art purchases can be made by cash or check only, please.
Light refreshments will be served.
Additional parking located in the public lot in front of Best Buy.

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BRADENTON CAMPUS

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The Academy at Glengary is accredited by Clubhouse International and is made possible by a Public-Private Partnership. This newsletter is designed and printed on-site by the Graphic Design & Multimedia team.