

Est. 2017



ACADEMY
AT GLENGARY

1910 Glengary St., Sarasota, FL 34231

Est. 2024



ACADEMY
AT BRADENTON

601 12th St. W., Bradenton, FL 34205

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

2025 Year in Review

www.AcademySRQ.org

JANUARY

AIMING FOR PERFECTION

The New Year provided the members and staff at each Academy with the opportunity to refine and improve our programs. We believe that perfection may never be reached, but it is always worth trying for.



THE BREAKFAST CLUB

The Academy at Bradenton was honored to offer the Breakfast Club of the Manatee Community Foundation a delicious breakfast buffet. In addition to conducting their own agenda, our guests were eager to learn about our unique approach to mental health wellness and its recovery.



SERVICE FIRST

Members and staff of the Academy at Glengary spent a day of service at Resurrection House, which is a facility where previously unhoused people from the community are helped. This visit stressed

the importance of working together, as we do at the Academy.

MARCH

ACADEMY AWARD SEASON

The Academy at Glengary held our first of two Spring "Mission I'm Possible" events this month. Special congratulations to Academy Award winner, David Verinder, CEO of Sarasota Memorial Healthcare.



FEBRUARY

SAVING CENTS MAKES SENSE

Peter Farley from Cadence Bank gave a very interesting lecture at the Academy at Glengary, concerning management of expenses and budgeting. His advice made financial control seem much easier and we all left feeling more confident about handling our finances.



CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING

At the Academy at Glengary, we were honored to host officers from the Sarasota Police Department for a Lunch & Learn, as part of their Crisis Intervention Training.



APRIL

DANCING THE BLUES AWAY

Members and staff of the Academy at Bradenton had their first Rhythm and Moves workshop. Dancing improves emotional wellness, boosts mood and reduces stress. It is part of our practice of the 8-Dimensions of Wellness. It also encourages social contact and a moment to allow negativity to fade away.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

The Academy at Bradenton turned one year old, following our grand opening in April 2024. A supportive community developed, based on the power of collaboration and optimism. This year offered many opportunities and challenges. We are proud that those challenges have been overcome and milestones have been achieved.



MAY

LUNCH & LEARN

The Academy at Glengary hosted two sessions of Lunch & Learn for our guests, who came from Community Assisted Supported Living and also Church of the Palms.



WORLD SEMINAR

This year the Academy at Glengary and the Academy at Bradenton, plus 18 other Florida Clubhouse programs, shared the hosting of the Clubhouse International World Seminar. It was held nearby at St. Pete Beach. More than 700 colleagues from 15 countries came together to connect, share best practices and brainstorm new initiatives.



JUNE

A BIG STEP FORWARD

“During my membership of the Academy at Bradenton, I was also studying for a Certificate of Completion in Computer Aided Design and Modeling at Manatee Technical College. I have now obtained this certificate and intend to enroll in Electrical Instrumentation Technology. My thanks to the Academy for inspiring me to achieve my goals. – Dylan Buck



LIFE SAVING CONNECTIONS

After meetings with Katie Scott and Jennifer Kaepernik, of the Manatee County Public Safety Department, we were delighted to learn that they can assist our Academy members in various important ways: medical resources, finding housing, food stamp applications and much more. Their important programs are reducing hospitalizations and saving lives.



JULY

WHEELS TO SUCCESS

In May, Academy member Jaquez Fisher presented a request to the Manatee Matches Giving Circle of the Manatee Community Foundation. We were selected for a grant which enabled us to purchase a new 2025 KIA Carnival. This will provide transport for members who attend Academy at Bradenton.





MEANING OF A PAYCHECK

“I was excited when I was offered a Transitional Employment job at the Public Defender’s Office of the 12th Judicial Circuit. This is only my second job and it had been eleven years

since I last worked, so I was a little nervous. However, my Academy job coach supported me and I benefited greatly from the experience. I would like to thank Public Defender, Larry Eger, for this wonderful opportunity.” – Ashley Muscat

AUGUST

BELIEVERS SINCE DAY ONE

The William G. and Marie Selby Foundation leaders share our vision of creating opportunities for mental health recovery and wellness. They provided generous funding for Academy at Bradenton to purchase high-end technology. We were recently honored by a visit of the Selby Foundation board members, and were delighted to show them the practical results of their generosity.



LIVE FROM THE ACADEMY

The Academy’s 2025 Livestream Telethon was hosted by member, Erika Schlunk, and program coordinator, Billy Elkins. They helped to make the event a great success. This Telethon shared the power of mental health recovery in a fun and engaging manner with over 1,000 online viewers.



SEPTEMBER

FEELING HEARD

“As a host of the Telethon, I was asked to use the microphone. One of the most healing acts is to be told that people want to hear you. I was also able to hear stories of hope from others, which made me believe in my own. Sincere thanks to all who contributed and made the event possible.” – Erika Schlunk



MY 2ND FAMILY

“I felt alone and lost in life, until I discovered the Academy at Glengary. In recent years I had attempted suicide twice. Since becoming a member, I feel that my life has turned around. The Academy has provided me with structure and purpose. I can now calmly contribute my skills and talents in meaningful ways.” – Preston Zorn

OCTOBER

PARTNERSHIP IN MOTION

The Palmer Ranch YMCA, has kindly established a membership plan for the Academy. This enables our members to use their beautiful facilities. This is a great move forward with our Wellness program.



TWO CAMPUSES, ONE COMMUNITY



“I was quite depressed, having come from a dysfunctional family. But now I have the good fortune to attend both Academies. After making many changes in my life, including losing 65 lbs, my depression has gone. I have become fearless and strong.”

– Rima Ghalieh

NOVEMBER

100 YEARS OF HISTORY

We welcomed Judge Gilbert Smith of the 12th Judicial Circuit in Manatee County as a new Academy Ambassador. His unique gift of a Shadow Box that contains 100-year-old artifacts from the original building where the Academy at Bradenton now stands. His gift is on display on our “Wall of Fame.”



TRY-UMPH, GRATITUDE AND COMMUNITY

Our TRY-Athlon fundraising series ended with an elegant dinner hosted by Academy staff and members. We extend our gratitude to our esteemed event sponsor, Williams Parker Attorneys at Law, and the Hand-Up Empowerment fund for their 1:1 Match Opportunity. Special thanks to our eloquent keynote speaker, Ed Brodsky, State Attorney of the 12th Judicial Circuit.



DECEMBER

NEVER ALONE ON THE HOLIDAYS

The Academy pays special attention to the challenges of loneliness and isolation during traditional festive holidays. On December 25th we hosted our 9th annual holiday buffet. We open our doors on every major holiday, providing a home away from home for members, staff, families and friends to enjoy each other’s company.



LAUNCHING TO SUCCESS

Thanks to a generous grant from the Bishop-Parker Foundation, the Academy at Bradenton will implement a “Launching Young Adults to Success” initiative for members ages 18-29, who are at a critical juncture in their lives. The Academy will offer a special focus on social integration, supported education and employment.



Would you like to tour the Academy?

To schedule a tour or for more information, please call:
Academy at Bradenton: 941-929-2800
Academy at Glengary: 941-921-9930
or email info@academysrq.org
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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