

Charter House Journal

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September– November 2017

Family & Friends Picnic by James R

Charter House picnic was last Wednesday July 26, 2017. We had cheese burgers and grilled chicken to eat. Before lunch all the members played bingo for prizes. Josh and Adam played their guitar before the meal and after the meal. Adam and George grilled the hamburgers and chicken. My dad came to the

picnic. Ryan's sister and nephews showed up at the picnic. Stephanie's mom came and George family came and took part in the picnic. They had games like ladder golf, bean bag toss. Over all it was a beautiful day for a picnic.



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Charter House Journal

Interview-Bezuye

Why did you come to Charter House? Spend time around people.

What unit do you work on? Upper Level

What days are you coming to charter house? Monday, Wednesday and Friday

When did you come to Charter House? July 23rd.

What is your favorite part of Charter House? Everybody is friendly. I learn a lot.

What do you like to do on your free time? Clean up, cook, house keep and read.

What have you been doing with your life lately? Taking care of myself

What are your hobbies? Volleyball, crocheting and knitting

What kind of music do you like? Gospel

What are your goals? To work better and my lifestyle

Where do you want to go in life? Finish school, have a

regular job after school

What is your favorite food? Pizza

Are you interested in working? Yes What kind of work have you done in the past? Nurse aid, cashier, packing job and mending lockers.

Interview with Moni B.

Why did you come to Charter House? Solid recovery.

What unit do you work on? Clerical.

What days are you coming to Charter House? When I have transportation.

When did you come to Charter House? Several times.

What is your favorite part about Charter House? The great people.

What do you like to do on your free time? Music/exercise.

What have you been doing with your life lately? Prioritizing.

What are your hobbies? Sports, music, poetry, flowers.

What kind of music do you like? All nationalities.

What are your goals? Where do you want to go in life? Solid recovery. Forward to the right (with) friends and family.

What is your favorite food? Soul and Mexican.

Are you interested in working? **What kind of work have you done in the past?** Government work, waitressing, cleaning, and babysitting.

Interview – Karen H. – Snack Shop by Daniel

How long have you been serving in the snack shop and why?

I think 2 years. When I first started, I started right here at the snack shop. It's my favorite task. I like to interact with people. I like math. I like money.

What is your favorite part of working in the snack shop?

Interacting with people.

What is the hardest part of working in the snack shop?

Totaling the money. Sometimes I have to do a count of the money a couple of times.

What types of things do you sell in the snack shop?

Sodas, chips, crackers, granola, ice cream, candy bars

What is your favorite leftover sold at the snack shop and why?

They have those big chicken steaks. They're big and they're really good. 25 cents is a really good price.

Interview with James R.

Why do you choose to do front desk volunteering at Charter House? I like to be the first face people and I to put a smile on people's faces.

What is your favorite part of volunteering behind the front desk? I get to talk to Stephanie T. once in a while.

Do you have any trade secrets to volunteering behind the front desk? Be patient with people and listen.

How often do you volunteer behind the front desk? 4 to 5 times a month

How have your communication skills improved since volunteering behind the front desk at Charter House?

I get to talk to people more. I encounter more people—new faces. I give locks for the lockers. I helped a new person get signed in.



Tiger Game by Ryan

When we went to the tiger game it was a nice day. The weather was perfect. The seating was great. There was a lot of action. There was two fights and I did not know what happened at first because it was like you blink it was that fast. It was so hot and sunny. I wish I brought my sun-screen. I walked the stars in the parking garage. Detroit won against the Yankees.



AT



In Remembrance of Arven P.

Arven Prude (AKA BUCK WILD) was a true one of a kind .He brought fun and energy to the clubhouse every day he attended. He was often controversial and pushed the limits of the rules at Charter House and in society in general. His smile and laughter were contagious. He could easily get a dance party going at any given time. Arven touched us all to some extent. Is loved and will be missed. May Arven Rest In Peace.

Arven was and is a real cool guy to hang out with and he can make you laugh. R.I.P. good buddy.

~Adam M.

As Arven would say "If anyone ask you if you need anything, you say A MILLION DOLLARS!"

~George

I will miss Arven the way he played his guitar and his funny laugh.

Arven and I would always discuss our ages. I am 5 weeks older but Arven would say "Gail I'm older then you". Either way we decided we were in the 50s club. I Will miss you my friend.

~Gail C.

I didn't know Arven very long as I just started working at Charter House before he got sick. He was always nice, and had a contagious laugh. He was a good guy and will be missed by many people.

~Kimberly

I remember Arven's warm and inclusive personality. He loved people. He had a vibrant and out spoken personality. He cared about his fellow clubhouse members and also about the clubhouse. He also put his whole self into his task for the day. He always went the extra mile when it came to keeping the clubhouse looking good. I remember how he made me and others laugh and a good belly laugh it would be I think his love of family and friends, his fellow clubhouse members and staff, his love of life, all could tell what Arven was about. Arven has a gigantic heart and soul. I will remember him any time I hear a song by James Brown.

~Jerri Nicole Wright



Accreditation!

We are proud to announce that our Clubhouse International Accreditation has been extended for another two years!! Our Colleagues worked hard to make Charter House the best possible clubhouse. Many thanks to all of you who were a part of the Clubhouse Accreditation Committee.

Our certificate reads "Charter House embodies and exemplifies the philosophy and practice of Clubhouse as codified in the International Standards for Clubhouse Programs, and in so doing is recognized for creating a vibrant community of support and meaningful opportunities for its members."

Excerpts from our letter include:

"Thank you for the documentation you have provided that addresses the conditions for Accreditation upgrade. The Clubhouse's focused advocacy is most impressive!"

"Congratulations on your successful advocacy with your auspice agency in regard to the space permeability issue. We are delighted that the Clubhouse will soon have its own space that does not include other programs. We believe this will help to strengthen the Clubhouse community and deepen the Charter House colleagues' sense of ownership."

Being accredited means that Charter House is providing the best possible service to its members and its community. We are part of an international community, where persons around the world are doing what we do and are helping their members live better lives.

Summer Trip by James R.

I arrived at Charter House a 7:45am. We all had yogurt and a banana for breakfast, We did clean up and passed out snack bags. We all boarded the Dean Transportation Bus at about 8:15 AM. We were on the road heading to Detroit by 8:30AM. Some people took a nap on the bus. Most member's counting myself, watched the movie "Sing". Other member's enjoyed each other's company and talk. We

arrived at the Great Lakes Crossing Mall by 10:00 AM. The Sea Life Aquarium was



located in the mall. I took a lot of pictures at the aquarium. They had a lot of fish there. They had a few turtles, shark and many different ex-

otic fish. We got to touch some crabs and star fish. The next stop on our journey was the Rain Forest Café. I had the blacken filapia with rice and vegetables. Then we went shopping with the \$20.00 that Charter House gave us. I bought a toy spinner with the lions logo. Then we went to cracker barrel for dinner. I had the chicken and mashed potatoes. We arrived back in Lansing around 8:00 PM. Overall it was a great adventure.

Old Town Scrap Metal & Chick Fil A

Charter House went to Chick A Fil and scrap fest. I met them at chick A Fil. I was waiting outside when they came in the parking lot and they said they saw me when they got inside. I liked seeing the other member's there. I rode with them to old town. I saw the different statues made out of scrap metal they were really cool. We went by Craving's popcorn and some of us went in. They had a deal \$1.00 for regular popcorn so I got it and bottled wa-

ter that I drank the water down fast. There was music playing and some fenders selling different things but I didn't buy anything else. I took the regular CATA bus back.



Regal Cinemas and Lunch at Chick Fil A

About 9 members and some staff went to Regal Cinemas on July 4th. I saw Baby Driver. It was a great movie. There was a lot of action. Baby was the getaway driver when others went in and robbed

different places. I like Chick Fil A their chicken was good and there shacks are great.



World Buffet by Diane R.

Dan and 5 members went to world buffet. The food wasn't as good as before. The desserts were not good at all. I suggest a different buffet. It was nice to get out and get to know each other better.



Charter House
606 W. Shiawassee
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Phone: (517) 371-2077
E-mail:
charterhouse78@gmail.com
Site: charterhousemi.org

Up Coming Activities

Oct. 12 *Uncle John Cider Mill*

Oct. 27 *Bon Fire*

Oct. 31 *Halloween Party*

Find Us On The Web: www.charterhousemi.org

And on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Recovery.Begins

NAMI Walk by Jerri Nicole W.

The day of the NAMI walk in Grand Rapids is getting closer. I am hoping for a dry, warm, and crisp autumn day on Saturday October 7th. So far I have raised 1,943.88 dollars. I am looking forward to reaching my goal of 2,000 dollars. Actually I have surpassed that goal if I count the cash and checks I have received so far. I want to thank everyone who has donated. So many good people out there who understand how important NAMI is

and what great work they are doing for the mentally ill through support, education, advocacy and research. I just want to give a shout out to Community Mental Health and especially to Annette Shields who coordinated the donations from CMH. You gals reached deep in your pockets out of the loving kindness in your hearts. May you be blessed from above for your generosity. Thank you for help and support.

5000 Steps

We did a fundraiser that members and staff got a pedometer to walk 5000 steps and get people to sponsor them when they walked. We made \$300.00 on it

