

Charter House Journal

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Farewell To Stephanie Tighe

Hello everyone. It's been a while since our last newsletter and quite a bit has happened at Charter House. To start, we have several staffing updates. After 26 years of working for CMH, Stephanie Tighe retired on September 10, 2020. Stephanie was a fantastic coordinator who worked at Charter House for 16 years. Although Stephanie is no longer in the building, we get to benefit from her knowledge and wisdom as she continues to be one of the members of Charter House's Advisory Board. In November, George Hatter was hired on to be the new coordinator. George has worked for CMH for 27 years and has worked at Charter House for a total of nine of those years. In February, Denice Hetrick hired on as a Clubhouse Generalist filling in the position that George vacated. Denice has worked for CMH for about 22 years. She spent the last 10 years working at Bridges Crisis Unit and was looking for a change of venue. We certainly look forward to all the knowledge and experience

that she brings with her.

Just like the rest of the world, Charter House has had to adapt to the changes that Covid brought. Last March, Charter House closed down its in-person services. We quickly adapted to having a virtual clubhouse. We set up 9 AM and 1 PM conference call times where members and staff could talk with one another, keep up with current events, and have some social contact with people. This was something that many of our members said they needed since they were following the stay home stay safe policies that were in place. In addition to the conference calls, we had 2 PM call in committees, 3 PM call in meditation, and some virtual activities where we took tours on Zoom of various places people would like to visit.

We re-opened our doors in August to have in-person clubhouse. It was limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8AM-2PM. We limited the number of members to 5 members and 2 staff on each of the Upper

and Lower Level Units. Everyone was required to wear a mask and follow the 6 foot social distancing rules. In September we increased the number of members who can attend daily to 7 members per unit for a total of 14 members possible each day. In October, we decided to be open on Tuesdays. That had us open four days a week from 8AM-2PM. In October we also started doing in-person activities on Wednesdays from 2PM-4PM. Our next step is to be open Monday through Friday from 8AM-4PM. Depending on the social distancing rules at that time, we may still only allow 7 members and 2 staff on each of the units. We certainly can't wait until we can fully open and not have restrictions on the number of people who can attend.

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Stephanie Will Be Missed

I want to begin by saying that Stephanie Tighe is very kind and understand person. When I first came here in 2015, after so many things that have happened to me down through the years, I wasn't sure if I would like this place or not. Stephanie Tighe made me feel at home and I was very unsure at the time and then slowly I started doing things around the Club House that made me feel useful and needed. After all

I went through in 2017 and bouncing back after getting out of the hospital. I slowly came back to Charter House. Stephanie Tighe is an awesome person and I will always miss her – her smile and laughter and the many other things I have enjoyed that I will miss are – going on trips and vacations and arts and crafts and movie night and Christmas programs and bon fires. It all tends to run together and it was all a lot

of fun and Stephanie made it even better. I don't think I have met a person like Stephanie Tighe and I probably never will again. Stephanie Tighe, you will be missed by a lot of people and I will miss you always.

Welcome and Congratulations to Our New Coordinator

Charter House Colleagues want to wish our esteemed colleague George Hatter an enormous congratulations on his recent promotion to Coordinator. Although we were sad to see Stephanie go, we are happy that the position was passed on to someone who is genuinely kind and has taken the time to develop meaningful relationships with many of us. George has taught us all a lot during his years working Charter House. He is always willing to chat and brainstorm ideas on how to solve a problem. We all know of his expertise in the Culinary arts, and have been fortunate enough to have experienced some of the delicious meals and deserts he has helped make over the years. Each of us has a story to Tell about an instance in which George has shared knowledge and ideas. We surveyed some of Our colleagues to see what they like about George and/or something that George has helped them with.

Paul M. reports that George has had encouraging things to say about his work ethic and continued work at Clubhouse. Ryan S. remembers going to the Clubhouse Conference in DC with George, Gary And Stephanie. Ryan reports that it was a lot of fun. Ben W. recalls that George was the first person he met at Charter House and that he has always been kind and encouraging. Mike P. noted that George has encouraged him to communicate more. Gail C. recalls playing paintball and putt-putt with George and his friends from the military. She also noted that George taught her how to cut a pineapple. Josh K. recalls many times that George has had helpful advice for how to prepare things in the kitchen. One particularly useful technique George taught him was how to quickly and effectively dice an onion. Kim M. Likes that he is often the first one to volunteer for anything. He does not shy away from responsibility. There is not job that he would ask you to help with, that he himself would not do. There is a quote from The Rock that reminds Kim of George: "Be the hardest worker in the room." George exemplifies hard work and dedication to the clubhouse and clubhouse model. Another value that rings true with George is Respect. He is committed to treating everyone with respect. This combination of kindness, Respect, and a superior work ethic, makes George an ideal leader for our Clubhouse. George is kind and thoughtful. He listens to the ideas and opinions of colleagues and always considers these before making a decision. He has grown as a person and a leader since he started at Clubhouse many years ago. We are lucky to have George in this position. I expect true growth and advancement Of our Clubhouse and the individuals in the Clubhouse under George's leadership.

Congratulations George!! You earned this position and we look forward to the years ahead with you at The Helm.

Meet Shelly >> Daniel Arnold

Q: Why did you choose to start coming to Charter House?

A: Well my case manager said something about it. A short girl with dark hair who used to go to my Bible Study comes here.

Q: What is your favorite hobby?

A: I like sport—all kinds of sports: Football, Basketball, Tennis, Horse Racing, Golf.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Chocolate.

Q: What do you want to do at Charter House?

A: My ultimate goal is to get put into a position where I can do my job and do it well and get paid for it.

Q: What is your best talent?

A: I am very organized. If I think of 10 ways of doing something I will to make it come out right every time.

Q: What is the hardest difficulty you face in life?

A: My Health. I have emphysema, COPD. I am dealing with that every day. It's a struggle.

Q: What kind of job position are you interested in?

A: Any kind of medical office position—jack of all trades.

Meet Jeff

Jeff grew up in Mason, Michigan. In his free time, Jeff likes doing karaoke, playing board games, exercising, and watching movies. Jeff's family had cats and dogs while growing up. He likes watching MSU football and basketball, as well as watching the Olympics, and the World Cup of soccer. Jeff likes listening to indie rock and

new age music, The Killers, being one of favorite bands. He like the television series, The Mandalorian and Cobra Kai, favorite movies, The Matrix and Austin Powers. Jeff likes skating, biking, and visiting with his family. Jeff has travelled to Europe, more specifically, Germany and Spain, in 2002. Barcelona Spain was his favorite.

He enjoys the activities, the food, and the people at Charter House. Jeff as an Associates Degree from LCC and would like to go back to school for Psychology and Spiritual Counseling. Jeff likes to journal and sing.

It's great to have you here Jeff!

Meet Richard

Richard, who likes to be called, "Ricky" lived in Denver, CO until fourth grade, when his family moved to East Lansing, MI. In his free time, Ricky likes to build models and do word searches. Growing up his family had dogs. Ricky likes follow-

ing all Detroit sports teams, especially the Red Wings. Ricky likes listening to classic rock, like Led Zeppelin. He likes watching sitcoms and really likes Happy Days. Ricky likes puzzle books and going on shopping sprees. When he

was younger, his family went to Disney World in Orlando, FL. He loves the delicious lunches at Charter House. Ricky also likes to play guitar, draw, and write.

Welcome to Charter House Ricky!

Meet Mike

Mike grew up in Eaton Rapids, MI. He enjoys working on model cars and riding bicycles. He follows MSU sports. Mike enjoys listening to jazz and rock n roll, but not hard rock. Mike has a son in Texas. Mike enjoyed

watching Gilligan's Island and Different Strokes. Mike likes the food and the people at Charter House. Mike went to LCC and MSU and studied computers. Mike likes to dance and write.

Nice to have you here, Mike!

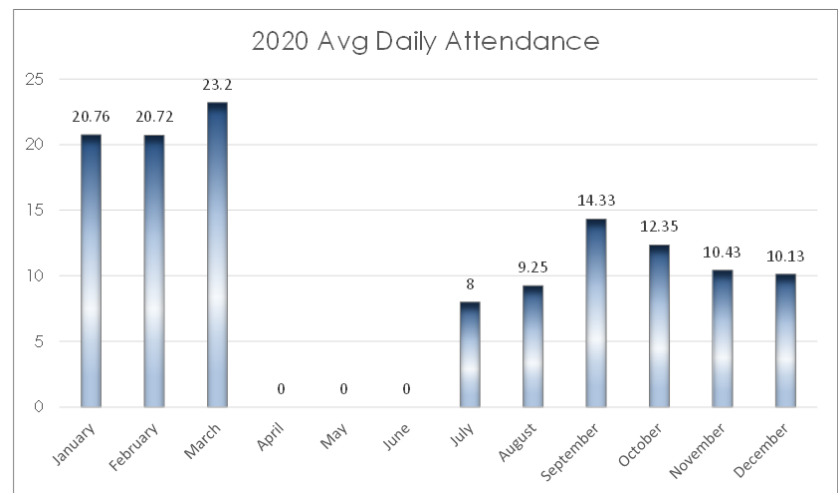
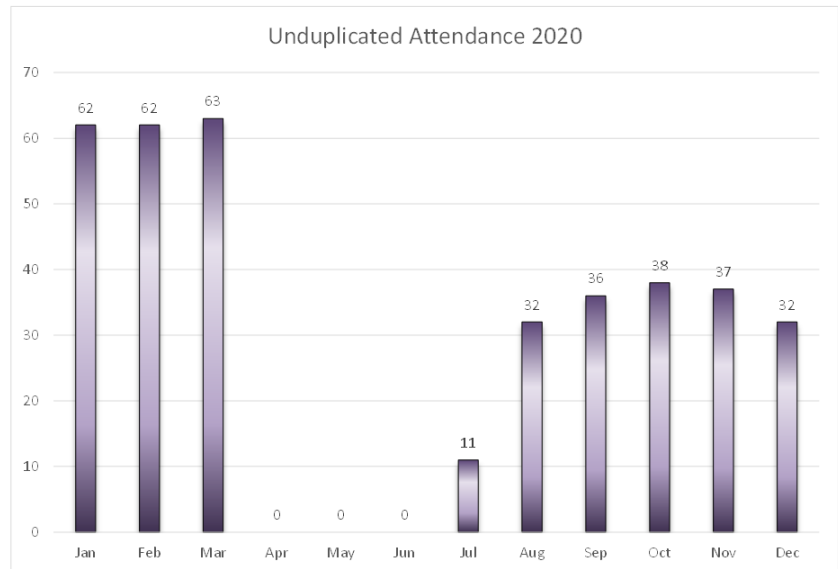


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"Where Everyone Has A Voice "



Holidays Done Different

Charter House usually throws a great family style Thanksgiving meal and a Christmas Brunch where we have lots of fun, eat great homemade meals, and enjoy each other's company. Unfortunately, we were not able to do that this past year due to Covid and the stay home stay safe social distancing rules. We didn't want our members to miss out on our traditional homemade meals, so we decided to deliver a meal to any member that wanted a meal delivered to them.

With the help of many members, staff were able to cook up a traditional Thanksgiving Turkey dinner and delivered almost 40 meals to our members. For Christmas, we decided to do a traditional Christmas Ham dinner. We delivered another 40 meals to our members.

In addition to the meals that we made, we had several people donate their time, resources, and energy in making treats to be delivered along with the Christmas meals. I would like to thank

Marcia Henry for making some candies and peanut butter cookies. Thank you to Stephanie Tighe and Mary Kohnuensch for making butter cookies and fudge. And thank you to Maureen Carpenter for all the wonderful cookies and treats that she had baked. Every single member said that they really enjoyed those sweet treats! Thank you to everyone that helped make our holidays a little brighter.