

Spring 2014

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Rea of HOpeline

Spotlight on

Melissa T., Katie D., Kristin A., Amber M., Savannah R., and Amanda D.

By Elaine Secrist

We are thrilled to have six more graduates from Rea of Hope sharing the spotlight this quarter. **Melissa T., Katie D., Kristin A., Amber M., Savannah R., and Amanda D.** all arrived at Rea with different stories but desperate for the same outcome. The outcome these ladies wanted was to stop hurting and start healing. Addiction whether drugs or alcohol leaves us with broken lives; broken homes, broken dreams, broken relationships with God...everything in our lives just seems broken. The hope that Rea offers is that our lives CAN be fixed, relationships renewed and spirituality restored and/or discovered. Admission that you need help is a start but doing something positive about it is a monumental step in recovery.



Melissa T. came to us stating that "this is it; I am going to get recovery this time because I am so tired and sick of how I have been living". She had been in treatment several times before and had a taste of recovery and wanted more. Melissa had been in a long term treatment center and meant she was willing to go to any lengths this time to remain sober. She got a

job, a sponsor, became very involved in her recovery and has been a model resident since her first day. Melissa continues to work on relationships that

her addiction helped destroy with a positive yet realistic outlook. Melissa realizes the wreckage of her past did not end up in shambles overnight and it will not be restored overnight. We are very proud of Melissa and wish her the best as she continues her journey at New Life Apartments.



Katie D. is a soft spoken, intelligent and lovely young lady who came with a plan and nothing could deter her from her "mission". Katie displayed a level of determination in her recovery that is rare. Never a bad attitude or problem and always willing to try things our suggested way was Katie's approach. The road was rough but anything was better than the way she had been existing (not really living); Katie's diligence paid off as she dedicated herself to sober living! Katie moved into our New Life Apartments and is progressing nicely in her recovery, employment and relationships.



Kristin A. arrived here energized and ready to complete her 6 month program in one week! Teaching Kristin to slow down and stay focused on today was the first thing we had to help her with. Always sweet and smiling, Kristin worked very hard on "one day at a time" and soon Kristin learned to relax and realize that recovery did not come in a week! Much of Kristin's eagerness stemmed from her anxiety to regain

custody of her precious son. Kristin's dedication to have her son in her life, remain employed and sober slowly became a reality! She graduated and moved into our New Life Apartments as she continues to work on reunification with her son and her new life of sobriety.

Amber M. is another very soft spoken young mother who has prevailed against all odds. Amber arrived here with her head down and had almost no self-esteem. Her three small children had been put in foster care and Amber was desperate for recovery. She realized what she needed to do and worked hard on changing her circumstances. Amber got a job, a sponsor, and began working the 12 steps diligently. Amber appreciated the foster parents who cared for her children and continues to work on her recovery at New Life Apartments in anticipation of being the mother to her children that she wants to be.



Savanna R. continued her journey of recovery at Rea of Hope. Savannah had been in a treatment facility for a year before becoming a resident here. Savannah was so desperate to live a sober life that she was very apprehensive about NOT living in a sober environment. Savannah tried to work the 12 steps with her sponsor and not be a part of this group. As Savannah grew in recovery, so did her trust. Savannah began to be a part of the Rea of Hope and gained the confidence she needed to continue on her journey. We wish Savannah the best as she graduated and moved closer to her child.

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Amanda D. came to us with the attitude that she was sick and tired of her addiction robbing her of every aspect of her life. Amanda had attempted recovery before and not been successful. She learned to accept responsibility for her circumstances while working the 12 steps with her sponsor. Amanda's willingness to try a new way developed into a desire to live a new way! Amanda moved into her own apartment and visits regularly- giving hope to the new residents that they too can achieve happiness in sobriety!



Four of these women moved into our "New Life Apartments" and the other two are living in their own apartments/houses. God is great; He continues to bless us all as we aspire to lead an honest life. These women have chosen to be willing to work the program at all costs and are great inspirations to us all. Ladies, we are very proud of you and wish you the best on your individual journeys.

Dear Rea of Hope Supporters,

We are ready to put Winter behind us and welcome in Spring with our Annual Miracle on Lee Street Dinner and Silent Auction, May 8, 2014. I hope you can all join us for a wonderful evening celebrating 112 successful graduates and their families. We are off to a great start with support from our sponsors and donations of auction items from individuals and businesses. It is always a memorable evening with heartfelt stories of hope and recovery from graduates and their family members. Fortunately for Rea we sold out of tickets last year with 200 guests, so buy your tickets early and save the date. Thank you for all your support; we could not serve our residents and their children without you.

Sincerely,
Marie Beaver
Executive Director

The Rea of Hope Board of Directors hosted their annual Christmas party for staff and residents. There was lots of food and laughter, as the residents were in charge of entertainment and did a skit imitating staff. It was an opportunity for all to get to know each other and the residents each wrote a letter of thanks to a particular board member and presented it at the party. We thank our very dedicated board and their families for all their support.



REA OF HOPE'S ANNUAL MIRACLES ON LEE STREET DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2014

6:00 PM

EDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

Celebrating 112 successful graduates
and our 9 year anniversary of serving women

Tickets are \$75 per person, tables are \$750
(ALL PROCEEDS GO TO REA OF HOPE, INC)

SPONSORS TO DATE

Platinum Sponsor: Unicare Health Plan of WV, Inc., Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, AEP Appalachian Power

Gold Sponsor: Putnam County Bank

Silver Sponsor: Brickstreet Insurance, Gaddy Engineering Company

Bronze Sponsor: Nick and Mary Casey, St Francis Hospital, Rick & Alison Wolford, Ramsey Insurance Agency, CR Damron Electric, WesBanco, Magellan Complete Care, Huntington Bank

SILENT AUCTION DONORS TO DATE

Lakeview Golf Resort	Edgewood Country Club
Sleepy Hollow Golf Club	Pugh Furniture
Sunshine Farm & Gardens	Ace Raft
Robin Demarchi/Spa Bliss	Sarah Parsons/Massage
WV Power	Coach "Doc" Holliday
CrossFit	Laura Jennings/Lia Sophia
Stone Art Studio	Stewart & Thaxton
Embassy Suites	Executive Air
Duffy's Dry Cleaners	Valley Gardens
Brickstreet	Waterfront Place Hotel
Glade Springs	Canaan Valley Resort
Mardi Gras Casino & Resort	Lynn Payne
Marriott	Pat King/Hairport
Stonewall Resort	Clay Center
Holl's Chocolates	

Opportunities for sponsorships and auction items are available, please contact Marie Beaver. The last four years have been a huge success and we look forward to seeing many of you there this year. Thank you so much for your support.

Board News

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to personally thank Mary Selinger, Mary Skeens and Rick Wolford for their time, commitment, service and contribution to the Board of Rea of Hope. This organization could not be such a success without the help of all of you and your energy, enthusiasm, and dedication to the mission of Rea of Hope. You will be missed - thanks for all the hard work you have done!

Welcome new board members Sharon Iskra, Shirley Hyatt and Randy Richardson.

Brad Sorrells, Board President

Resident's Sobriety Achievements

1 year or more	2
9-1 year	3
6-9 months	3
3-6 months	4
30-90 days	2

Other Goals Met

Employment	93%
AA/NA sponsors	100%
Graduates	5

Monthly Needs List:

Bath towels (white)
Dishwasher detergent
Toilet bowl cleaner
Lysol Kitchen-Aide
Paper towels
White kitchen trash bags
Small umbrellas
Hand towels (white)
Single bed sheets (white)
Toilet paper
Bleach

Board Members and Officers 2013

President, Brad Sorrells Vice President, Wayne Hypes

Mary Elisabeth Eckerson, Secretary Laura Ellis, Treasurer

Jennifer Harper	Sally Holliday	Mitch Collins	Kelly Cielensky
Sarah Holroyd	Vickie Cunningham	Roger Baird	Ruth Joseck
Tammy Harper	Ann Urling	Joan Baldwin	Sharon Iskra
Shirley Hyatt	Randy Richardson		

Immediate Past President, Richard D. Wolford Nick Casey, Ex Officio

Staff: Executive Director, Marie Beaver

Associate Director, Elaine Secrist

Program Case Manager, Amanda Dietz

Program Admissions Coordinator, Haley Herron

Part-time Bookkeeper, Beth Robey

House Tech, Sandy Fisher

House Tech, Amy Vance

House Tech, Melissa Thompson

House Tech, Kim Polling



Girls Night Out

By Elaine Secrist

"Girls Night Out" continues to be a highlight every month. Laughter is good for the soul and building friendships. It always seems that the ladies get a little closer after every monthly event

December's GNO was celebrating Christmas with our steadfast and loyal supporters "the Lakeview Christian ladies group". Everyone enjoys this special time every year as we sit in a circle and share what's on our hearts. Some share where they were last Christmas, some share that this is the first Christmas they will be sober, some share that they are alone, but all are grateful for this Christmas. As always, it was a very special time and we thank Lakeview Christian ladies for their love and devotion to our ladies.

January's GNO was Mexican food and the movies. It is always fun eating at the Mexican restaurant but it reminds me of how much I take for granted. There are many of our ladies that are not familiar with eating out or Mexican cuisine. We are aware and always suggest items on the menu so not to ever make anyone feel insecure. Then all 30 of us bombarded the movie theatre with laughter; there is never a dull moment!

February's GNO was our Annual Cedar Lakes Roundup. Every year we have ladies who don't want to go but upon return they are brimming with gratitude and hope. They are already asking if there are any other retreats in the near future. Everyone needs hope and encouragement and we are blessed to introduce these



ladies to this awesome and spiritual weekend.

Most of our ladies have not experienced a healthy outing in a very long time, if ever. We truly appreciate those who continue to help make these monthly events possible.

Thanks to all of you who support our Girls Night Out and I pray this support continues as this is such a vital part of their recovery.

Heroes Among Us

It is so rewarding to experience gifts of love and kindness in our own community; here are two wonderful examples.

Grace Frame, age 8, read the book, "The Hundred Dresses" and was inspired to collect dresses for women and children in her community. She chose to donate to Rea of Hope some beautiful dresses. Thanks to Grace, there are some very happy little girls in our New Life Apartments.

Roseshalla Holmes of the Marriott was in the parking garage and witnessed a guest stumble off the elevator and fall face first on the pavement, breaking his glasses and a couple of facial bones. She was a good Samaritan and called 911, helped him and notified his business partner at the hotel and waited with him for the ambulance. A few weeks went by and Roseshalla was recognized by her boss with the reading of a letter from the guest who fell. He was from Baton Rouge and here on business; he was so impressed with her kindness that he sent a check to be made out to her charity of choice and Rea of Hope was the proud recipient.



Congratulations to our Rea of Hope grads on their sobriety anniversaries and financial accomplishments:

- Amanda D. '09 on 6 years
- Ashleigh S. '11, Kristin S. '09 and Stacey B. '10 on 4 years
- Elly A. '12 on 3 years
- Kim P. '12 and Jenny R., '12 on 2 years.
- Charlie H. '13 paid off \$3,182.00 fines, DUI class, Reinstatement fees, and arrears in child support
- Sara M. '13 paid off \$ 2,534.00 fines and reinstatement fees
- Jenny R. '12 paid off \$1997.14 DUI class, fines, and reinstatement fees
- Jenny R. for speaking in the Rotunda on Housing Day

WAY TO GO, WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!!





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Special Thanks to the following for their generous financial support:

- *The Daywood Foundation* for their continued support and the grant of \$6,000 to in support of our programs.
- *United Methodist Temple, Beckley* for their continued contributions of \$750 to support Rea of Hope in providing safe housing for WV women and their minor children.
- *The Wehrle Foundation* for their continued support and the donation of \$5,000
- *Mildred Snyder* for her generous personal donation of \$5,000.
- *Civic Affairs Council of CAMC* for their continued support and grant of \$2000.
- *The CRC Foundation* for their donation of \$1000 for our resident's needs.
- *WSAZ* for selecting Rea of Hope to be one of their Children's Charities and the check for \$500
- *Four Points Sheraton, Charleston* for their considerate donation of towels.
- *United Way* for thinking of Rea during the water crisis and providing water and other necessary supplies.
- *Kay Hillbold and the Desks & Derricks Club WV* for selecting Rea of Hope to receive \$500.
- *Kanawha City Lions Club* for their donation of \$250.
- *Lisa Rappold of A Cut Above in Hurricane* for donating her time and expertise by coming to Rea of Hope and giving free haircuts.



Rea of Hope was fortunate enough to receive WV Tax Credits through the Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP), WV Development Office, again this year. This is a fantastic program to encourage charitable giving and a way to get back up to 50% of your donation on your state; personal or business taxes. A minimum donation to receive CREDIT is \$500.

Please contact Marie Beaver 304- 344-5363 for more information.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit our website and follow the directions to subscribe.