

Fall 2021



Through the Window

A newsletter for our friends and supporters.

From the Director's Desk Herb Carpenter

In a couple of months it will be a full year of serving in the role of Executive Director here at FHO, Inc. Like all employers during this past year we have been suffering from high turnover, struggling with remaining competitive on pay rates and with finding qualified applicants for open positions. As a result the current staff has been working long hours, multiple shifts and training new staff only to have them leave after a short time. Despite all this, the staff has continued to focus on the tasks at hand, successfully worked to enhance programs at the Community Residence, face challenges with smiles and most importantly work with residents to give them the best experience possible in an often discouraging environment. Every so often however, something happens which restores our faith in mankind, renews our purpose in life and in fact gives us the strength to power on. We were recently part of such an event which I would like to share with you so that you too may share in our revelation.

As part of the programmatic aspect of life at our Community Residence, the staff works with residents to plan and prepare meals, shop for ingredients and clean up after the evening meal. On Tuesday 10/5 Gretchen, our Assistant Manager at the Community Residence, was grocery shopping with one of our residents at a local grocery store when an employee behind the deli counter yelled that a fellow associate had passed out and was not breathing. Without hesitation, Gretchen made her way behind the counter and asked if anyone had called 911. Staff was in shock and non-responsive, the associate on the floor was blue in color and not breathing. Immediately Gretchen called 911 and while cradling the phone on her shoulder under her ear started CPR while requesting someone retrieve the AED in the store. Guided by the 911 Operator, Gretchen maintained compressions and her composure. Steadfast in her lifesaving efforts until the Concord police and first responders arrived to whisk the employee off to Concord Hospital, Gretchen was vigilant. Shortly thereafter, the shock of what she had done hit her and two customers, strangers to Gretchen said to her, "You saved his life." Although she wasn't sure that was the case, Gretchen called her Director, recounted the event and asked if he could come to the store as she wasn't sure she could finish the grocery shopping. It wasn't until two days later that we found out the employee was recovering at Concord Hospital. Imagine, saving a life! It makes me very proud to be part of an organization such as ours that makes a difference to those we serve and employs people like Gretchen.

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UPDATE: Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops

Unfortunately we have had to postpone our plans for a Film and Panel Discussion at the Red River Theater. We had hoped that by this time the venue would be fully open and functional however, that is not the case. We want to hold an in person event and do not want to be hindered by masks, space limitations and assembly restrictions if at all possible. Despite the extensive cooperation of the venue, our sponsors and Joe himself, the decision was made to postpone the event. All of our sponsors, and Red River Theater as well as the panelists and Joe have agreed to continue their support for which we are grateful. We are now looking to the end of Winter or beginning of Spring as a new date for this event. Please stay tuned and we look forward to seeing you in person for this event. Thank you.



Always remember you matter, you're important and that you are loved. You bring to this world things no one else can.

-The Horse



Welcome New Employees

Bethany Talon

Samuel Newton

Aphrodite

Papadoliopoulos

Paula Harvey

GIVING TUESDAY

Take part in one of the world's biggest day of generosity on
11/30/2021

Please give to Fellowship Housing Opportunities and become part of our mission to provide safe, affordable housing to those living with mental health issues.

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