

# G.O.C. GAZETTE

The NEWSPAPER FOR THE  
GANINESVILLE OPPORTUNITY CENTER



## OUR FIRST EMPLOYMENT DINNER

On Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, from 4:00 to 6:00pm, GOC had an employment dinner. About 18 people attended. We first introduced ourselves, and then Pam talked about what the dinner was for. We learned about T.E. (transitional employment) and how it works. TE's are kind of like part time jobs, except that instead of it being your own job, the jobs belong to the clubhouse. Members are placed in jobs for 6-9 months, then they move off that job and a new member is placed in the job and given that same opportunity. Each clubhouse staff is assigned to a TE as the "Placement Manager". This staff is responsible for learning the job and then training and supporting the members in the job.

Once the Placement Manager learns the job they look to the clubhouse for a member who might be interested in working there. Members each get a tour of the job site and then the Placement Manager chooses the mem-

ber who will have that job for the next 6-9 months. You don't have to interview for the job because the staff at the club already know what kind of worker you are and what you are good at and not so good at. This takes a lot of stress off us members, because many of us don't do well in interviews.

The Placement Manager trains the member on the job, works with them at that job until they are comfortable in it, and then will visit the member at the job site about once a week. If the member can't go to work, regardless of why they can't, the Placement Manager will go into work for them. Before your time at the job is up the Placement Manager will start talking to you about what you might want to do next. Many members will choose to go to another TE, others may choose to go to their own job in the community, some will choose to go to school, and a few even decide to just come back to the club

for a while.

I explained to the people at the dinner, what a T.E. job is. Pam asked everyone who had a job to raise their hand. Surprisingly to me, about seven or eight people have jobs already. Sandy is a peer specialist at Meridian; Victor has a job as an accountant. Crystal has a job as a dishwasher. Andy has a job washing dishes at Meridian. And other people have various jobs.

We had a delicious meal of spaghetti and meatballs, with garlic bread and a salad. I think the dinner was also a success because we had the opportunity to meet new people and get to know them. Overall it was a great success.

-by Mike Leyman



**A CLUBHOUSE WITH TEMPORARY WALLS... what we are doing while working on a home..**

- Publish a newsletter
- Outreach to other potential members.
- Speak to community leaders and programs about the clubhouse.
- Visit other clubhouses to get ideas and inspiration.
- Have meetings to educate ourselves about clubhouse, support each other and help develop the club.
- Setup a support system for each other.
- Help with fundraising
- Socialize
- Attend conferences and workshops



Gainesville Opportunity Center, Inc.



A World of Growing Opportunities  
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## Clubhouse Employment

### Employment Interview of Mike Leyman



Where do you work and what do you do?  
I work at Catholic Charities, and I shred paper.

How long have you been there? I've been there for about

one month.

How did you get this job? I got this job through the clubhouse, specifically through Pam Demers.

How long have you been coming to the clubhouse and how did you hear about it?

I've been coming to the club for about a year. I met Pam Demers when she was working at Meridian and she told me about it. I decided to check it out. I used to meet with Mike, Andy and some other members at Mike's house then we got so big we moved to the Millhopper Branch Library. So I guess I'm one of the original members.

Did you work before you came to the club? I worked ten years ago at Perkin's restaurant, where I was a dishwasher. I also have had a few other jobs but I hadn't worked since 2000.

What was your biggest fear when you thought about going back to work? Los-

ing my health benefits.

What has been the most rewarding about going back to work? Job satisfaction, I like what I do and I really like going to work

What do you do here at the club? Lots, I coordinated the fund raising campaigns that just ended I also work on the newsletters and on the computer.

How has the coming to the club helped you?

It helped him to make friends, to get a job, and help to be responsible.

*By Shirley Sheffield*

#### Transitional Employment Placements

Employer	Position	Schedule	Hours	Member
Catholic Charities	Shredder	M, W, F	6	David Stevens
Catholic Charities	Shredder	M, W, F	6	Mike Leyman

#### Supported and Independent Employment

Member	Position/Employer	Hrs/Week
Andy Bernard	Dishwasher/Meridian	15
Dave Byrd	Peer Specialist/Meridian	20
Shirley Sheffield	File Clerk/Meridian	3
Sara Olney	Fiscal Clerk/Meridian	8
Theresa Mack	Office Clerk/Meridian	3
Sandy Callan	Peer Specialist/Meridian	20
Greg Umlauf	Dishwasher/Burger King	20
Angie Miller	Client Advocate/Peaceful Paths	20
Mike Simmons	Health Care Worker/Independent Contractor	40
Tony Jacobsen	Wellness Cart/Meridian	1.5
Jane Paige	Cashier/Win-Dixie	20
Crystal Aycock	Dishwasher/Meridian	5.5/eow

Having difficulty getting a job? Don't have a resume, don't know what to say in an interview, then come to the **Job Club on the first and second Wednesdays of each month from 3-4pm**. We address all these issues and more. See the calendar on page 5 for details.



Looking for a good meal, some good conversation and a reason to celebrate? Did you know that many members

are already working? Come to an Employment Dinner and enjoy some food and friends and celebrate employment. **The Employment Dinner takes place on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4:30-6 pm**. See the calendar on page 5 for details

#### Employment quote of the month:

"When I was young I observed that nine out of ten things I did were failures. So I did ten times more work."  
- George Bernard Shaw

**New Member Highlight - Sara Olney**



Sara at a clubhouse computer

**How did you find the clubhouse?** I was a client with Meridian’s Rehab Services where at the time, Pam Demers was employed as a Job coach. Pam informed me

about the GOC, where her husband Mike, was the Executive Director. I thought it sounded interesting so I went.

**How long have you been here?** Since May 2008

**What do you hope the club can help you with?** Assisting me with managing my mental health by being around other members, being involved in club tasks and outside activities, as well as providing me with some assistance with problems.

**What skills do you have that could be used here?** I enjoy entering data into the computer and assisting with fund raising and publicity such as writing email letters to people in the community that might help spread the word concerning clubhouse.

**What were you doing before you came to the club?** I was mainly a client of Meridian’s Rehab Services and going to their daily groups.

-by Andy Bernard

**Member View**  
*This area provides members with an opportunity to share on a matters important to the author about the world*

**The Inauguration!**



president.

Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup> members, and friends crowded the room to witness the Inauguration of our 44th

in history this day would bring. We all knew people would be looking back on this day for the rest of time. As he was sworn in everyone cheered, captivated by the moment and his words resonating hope for peace and much needed change. You could just feel the hope in peoples hearts as they cheered for this new beginning .

been hurting for some time now. I along with millions believe President Obama will follow through with his word and change the course of this nation for good. His integrity and firm belief in this country is inspiring and I am truly proud of being part of an American decision to nominate such a wonderful man.

- by Alexis Henderson

An entire day was devoted to this special event. Everyone that came and millions more all understood what a pivotal point

As you all very well know our country has

**23 YEAR DROUGHT HAS ENDED!**

A Story 23 years in the making. Ever seen that movie “23”? ; about the guy who doesn’t know what message he will find on the 23rd word of each page of a book? It was kind of like that with Philadelphia’s sports teams. Nobody knew which sport would end the championship drought.

The Phillies finally ended the drought this past October, 2008. Game 4 was the best baseball team I have ever seen. Ryan Howard hit a home run as well as 2 other Phillies.

Many people asked where they could get one.

The MVP voting might change next year because they gave it to Albert Pulos, who had slightly higher numbers; but Ryan Howard’s team, and my team, and all of Philadelphia's team, won the World Series.

The last time the city of Philadelphia had a championship was in 1983. It was the ‘76ers with “Dr. J” The next try was the Flyers in ‘87, then the Phillies in ‘93, then the Flyers again in ‘97. The Sixers in 2001, then the Eagles in 2005. Try, try again huh?

In game 5 the Phillies won it all at home as Ryan Howard gently tackled the pitcher. Champagne and lots of partying went on all night.

I went to the Oaks Mall to get my Phillies hat and there were 3 left. Then my grandmother sent me a 2008 Championship hat.

We were underdogs in the series. Long live Rocky!

By Mike Leyman



### The Clubhouse Connoisseur

#### CHOCOLATE CHIP AND NUT BAR COOKIES

**INGREDIENTS:**

- ½ cup butter
- 1(18.25) package white cake mix
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 egg

**DIRECTIONS:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9 times 13 inch baking pan.  
 In a large bowl , cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Mix in water and egg, then stir in cake mix. Fi-

nally, mix in nuts and chocolate chips. Spread mixture into pan.

Bake for 30 to35 minutes in the preheated oven. Cool completely before cutting into bars.

- by Alexis Henderson



### WHAT DID ABLE TRUST DO FOR US? TAKE A LOOK!



### THANK-YOU ABLE TRUST!

### HELLO CAPP...GOODBYE ABLE TRUST



come to January we are quickly reminded that the Able Trust Grant is ending. It seems like just yesterday when we were at Grill Masters enjoying a steak dinner, and talking about all the trips we were going to go on. We did do some, such as the Circus, visits to Vincent House, Sedona House, Lighthouse and Club Success. We ate well,

As we pizza parties (for moving day), and some great lunches at the club, not to mention lunches after “Clubhouse Without Walls” meetings. Able Trust brought us an Administrative Assistant (Molly then Sasha), and helped us continue to run a club 3 days a week. Thank you Able Trust, you have carried us through some tough times and provided us with needed fun and food! However, on the horizon I see a new ship coming called CAPP. The CAPP grant has brought employment to our lives and facilitated the hiring of Pam Demers to oversee

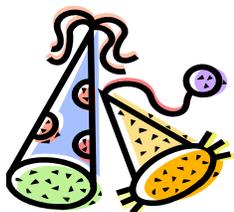
our employment program. We have two TE’s at Catholic Charities, 10 people in Supported and Independent Employment, a weekly Job Club and people completing applications for jobs weekly. Congratulations and as we look forward to a successful year with CAPP and lots of jobs we say a fond farewell to Able Trust.

-by Pam Demers





<span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-left: 10px;">FEBRUARY 2009</span>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2  BOD Mtg 6—8 pm Club open 9-5	3	4 Job Club 3-4 Club open 9-5	5	6 Bowling at Alley Katz 4pm—6pm  Club open 9-5	7 Board of Directors Retreat 12-4
8	9 Club open 9-5 Birthday: Debbie Osborne	10	11 Crystal A. Job Club 3-4  Club open 9-5	12	13 Club open 9-5	14 
15	16  <b>Club Closed</b>	17	18 Employment Dinner 4:30 -6:30 pm Club open 9-5	19	20 Club open 9-5	21
22 Mark H. 	23 Club open 9-5	24	25 Club Ed. 3-4 pm Club open 9-5	26	27 Club open 9-5	28



Birthdays this month:  
 Crystal Aycock (February 11th)  
 Mark S. Herriot (February 22nd)

Tax help will be available at the club by Appointment **ONLY**. Call to schedule one.



**Please note the club will be closed on Monday February 16th in observance of Presidents Day**



- Meaningful opportunities in Gainesville community
- Important work
- Restorative environment emphasizing abilities and talents
- Help with education & college degree programs
- Access to services, supports, housing
- Friendship

The Gainesville place where people whose lives have been drastically disrupted by a mental illness come to rebuild their lives.

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We're on the Web at:  
[www.GoClubhouse.org](http://www.GoClubhouse.org)

**Clubhouse Standard of the Month**  
Standard # 9:  
"Clubhouse staff are sufficient to engage the membership, yet few enough to make carrying out their responsibilities impossible without member involvement"

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*Clubhouses from all over the world will be converging on St. Pete Beach to attend its bi-annually international conference this October 2009!*